

# **BOTTLE OF COLA**

## **By Bradley Walton**

Copyright © 2008 by Bradley Walton, All rights reserved.  
ISBN: 1-60003-334-2

**CAUTION:** Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that this Work is subject to a royalty. This Work is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America and all countries with which the United States has reciprocal copyright relations, whether through bilateral or multilateral treaties or otherwise, and including, but not limited to, all countries covered by the Pan-American Copyright Convention, the Universal Copyright Convention and the Berne Convention.

**RIGHTS RESERVED:** All rights to this Work are strictly reserved, including professional and amateur stage performance rights. Also reserved are: motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound recording, all forms of mechanical or electronic reproduction, such as CD-ROM, CD-I, DVD, information and storage retrieval systems and photocopying, and the rights of translation into non-English languages.

**PERFORMANCE RIGHTS AND ROYALTY PAYMENTS:** All amateur and stock performance rights to this Work are controlled exclusively by Brooklyn Publishers, LLC. No amateur or stock production groups or individuals may perform this play without securing license and royalty arrangements in advance from Brooklyn Publishers, LLC. Questions concerning other rights should be addressed to Brooklyn Publishers, LLC. Royalty fees are subject to change without notice. Professional and stock fees will be set upon application in accordance with your producing circumstances. Any licensing requests and inquiries relating to amateur and stock (professional) performance rights should be addressed to Brooklyn Publishers, LLC.

Royalty of the required amount must be paid, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged.

**AUTHOR CREDIT:** All groups or individuals receiving permission to produce this play must give the author(s) credit in any and all advertisement and publicity relating to the production of this play. The author's billing must appear directly below the title on a separate line where no other written matter appears. The name of the author(s) must be at least 50% as large as the title of the play. No person or entity may receive larger or more prominent credit than that which is given to the author(s).

**PUBLISHER CREDIT:** Whenever this play is produced, all programs, advertisements, flyers or other printed material must include the following notice:

*Produced by special arrangement with Brooklyn Publishers, LLC*

**COPYING:** Any unauthorized copying of this Work or excerpts from this Work is strictly forbidden by law. No part of this Work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, by any means now known or yet to be invented, including photocopying or scanning, without prior permission from Brooklyn Publishers, LLC.

## A BOTTLE OF COLA

by  
Bradley Walton

**CAST: RED and BLUE. Either can be male or female. RED wears a red shirt. BLUE wears a blue shirt. A male as RED and a female as BLUE is recommended, but not required.**

***AT RISE: RED is drinking from a bottle of cola with a red label. BLUE enters. If performed for competition, the bottle can be mimed.***

BLUE: Why are you drinking that?

RED: It tastes good. I like it.

BLUE: Is that all you can think about? Your own immediate gratification?

RED: Can we please not discuss this?

BLUE: Maybe we need to discuss it.

RED: No. We don't. Definitely not.

BLUE: Then why are you drinking it?

RED: I think I already answered that question.

BLUE: And do you remember what your answer was?

RED: I said that it tasted good and that I liked it.

BLUE: Well, that's why I'm asking you the question again.

RED: Wait. You're asking me the question again now? For the third time?

BLUE: No. That's why I asked the question the second time.

RED: Because you already knew what the answer was?

BLUE: Exactly.

RED: If you already knew the answer, why did you ask the question a second time?

BLUE: Because you said we didn't need to discuss this.

RED: And we don't. So stop.

BLUE: If you're thinking like a mindless animal, then maybe we need to keep talking.

RED: Excuse me?

BLUE: How can you take that into your body?

RED: I put it in my mouth and I swallow it. It's real easy. You should try it sometime.

BLUE: What's in your hand is a literal and symbolic microcosm of corruption and decay.

RED: Even if you could explain to me what you just said, I wouldn't want you to. Look, it's a bottle of cola. It's a simple little thing. Don't make it out to be more than it is.

A BOTTLE OF COLA - Page 3

BLUE: There's a lot more to it than you think.

RED: You're entitled to your hang-ups, neuroses, and visions of paranoia, but please don't try to push them off on me.

BLUE: I'm trying to help you.

RED: That's your problem. You see something that bothers you—you—and you think that because it bothers you that it's inherently not right, and you take it upon yourself to fix it even though it's not really broken.

BLUE: There's plenty here that's broken.

RED: That's your opinion.

BLUE: It's not just my opinion. There's hard science to back me up.

RED: I'm not saying the science is wrong, just that you're taking it way too seriously.

BLUE: This is a matter of health.

RED: My health is fine.

BLUE: Maybe now. But if you keep drinking that stuff, you'll get fat. Your teeth will fall out. You'll get diabetes.

RED: It's not like I drink it all the time.

BLUE: How often do you drink it?

RED: Once or twice a day.

BLUE: How big is that bottle?

RED: I don't know. It's a—it's a bottle. An average-sized bottle.

BLUE: It's a twenty-ounce bottle.

RED: Right. An average-size bottle.

BLUE: And you're drinking it all right now?

RED: Yeah.

BLUE: That's two and a half servings of cola.

RED: So what?

BLUE: So the calories and the sugar listed on the side panel—that's for one serving. You drink all that and you're getting two and half times that amount!

RED: The makers of this fine beverage have conveniently placed that information right here on the label as well. (*showing her the bottle*) See? It's listed by serving and by bottle. Two hundred and forty calories for the whole bottle. They went and did the math for you. How's that for honest, up-front service?

BLUE: There's nothing honest about it.

RED: There's no fat. There's no saturated fat. There's no trans fat.

BLUE: Just because there's no fat doesn't mean it's health food.

RED: Just because it's high in calories doesn't mean it's poison.

BLUE: Two bottles of this a day—that's almost one fourth of your USDA recommended daily calorie intake.

RED: The United States Department of Agriculture does not dictate my calorie intake.

A BOTTLE OF COLA - Page 4

BLUE: No. They don't dictate it. But they made a recommendation and it'd be smart of you to follow it.

RED: Would you blame me terribly if I said I didn't have one hundred percent faith in a government agency?

BLUE: It's the Department of Agriculture! They do food! How can that be political?

RED: How can that not be political? It's one of the basic necessities of life!

BLUE: That stuff you're drinking is not a basic necessity of life.

RED: Depends on your life.

BLUE: Obviously you don't think much of yours.

RED: It's mine. I'll do with it what I want.

BLUE: That's what they want you to think.

RED: What?

BLUE: You know how they advertise! They appeal to your vanity. They make you think you're expressing your individuality by drinking their product—but it's the exact same product that millions of other people are drinking!

RED: Just because I'm drinking the same thing as millions of other people doesn't mean I'm not my own person.

BLUE: Just because you think that you're thinking for yourself doesn't mean that they haven't brainwashed you!

RED: Do you enjoy this?

BLUE: Of course not! I'm watching you slowly kill yourself with a plastic bottle of liquid sugar, one agonizing sip at a time, and you're completely apathetic.

RED: I wouldn't say that I'm apathetic, more like I just don't care.

BLUE: It means the same thing!

RED: You do enjoy this, don't you?

BLUE: I don't like watching people kill themselves and think it's okay because it's what they've been conditioned to believe.

RED: Yeah, you're having a blast.

BLUE: Do you know how much thought goes into every advertisement you see?

RED: I bet you don't have any hobbies.

BLUE: Do you know how hard they try to twist your brain to their will without you realizing it?

RED: No hobbies except this.

BLUE: Look at the color of the label on that bottle.

RED: Saving people from themselves and their evil culture of mass consumption.

BLUE: What color is that?

RED: It's red.

BLUE: That's right.

***Thank you for reading this free excerpt from BOTTLE OF COLA by Bradley Walton. For performance rights and/or a complete copy of the script, please contact us at:***

**Brooklyn Publishers, LLC**

**P.O. Box 248 • Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406**

**Toll Free: 1-888-473-8521 • Fax (319) 368-8011**

**[www.brookpub.com](http://www.brookpub.com)**

**Do Not Copy**