

METATHEATRE

A Ten-Minute Comedy Duet

by
DJ Sanders



Brooklyn Publishers, LLC

Toll-Free 888-473-8521

Fax 319-368-8011

Web www.brookpub.com

Copyright © 2003 by DJ Sanders
All rights reserved

CAUTION: Professionals & amateurs are hereby warned that *Metatheatre* is subject to a royalty. This play is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America, Canada, the British Commonwealth and all other countries of the Copyright Union.

RIGHTS RESERVED: All rights to this play are strictly reserved, including professional and amateur stage performance rights. Also reserved are: motion pictures, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video and the rights of translation into non-English languages.

PERFORMANCE RIGHTS & ROYALTY PAYMENTS: All amateur and stock performance rights to this play 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. If necessary, we will contact the author or the author's agent. PLEASE NOTE that royalty fees for performing this play can be located online at Brooklyn Publishers, LLC website (<http://www.brookpub.com>). 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. You will find our contact information on the following page.

Royalty of the required amount must be paid, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged. Only forensics competitions are exempt from this fee.

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

<http://www.brookpub.com>

TRADE MARKS, PUBLIC FIGURES, & MUSICAL WORKS: This play may include references to brand names or public figures. All references are intended only as parody or other legal means of expression. This play may contain suggestions for the performance of a musical work (either in part or in whole). Brooklyn Publishers, LLC have not obtained performing rights of these works. The direction of such works is only a playwright's suggestion, and the play producer should obtain such permissions on their own. The website for the U.S. copyright office is <http://www.copyright.gov>.

COPYING from the book in any form (in whole or excerpt), whether photocopying, scanning recording, videotaping, storing in a retrieval system, or by any other means, is strictly forbidden without consent of Brooklyn Publishers, LLC.

TO PERFORM THIS PLAY

1. Royalty fees must be paid to Brooklyn Publishers, LLC before permission is granted to use and perform the playwright's work.
2. Royalty of the required amount must be paid each time the play is performed, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged.
3. When performing one-acts or full-length plays, enough playbooks must be purchased for cast and crew.
4. Copying or duplication of any part of this script is strictly forbidden.
5. Any changes to the script are not allowed without direct authorization by Brooklyn Publishers, LLC.
6. Credit to the author and publisher is required on all promotional items associated with this play's performance(s).
7. Do not break copyright laws with any of our plays. This is a very serious matter and the consequences can be quite expensive. We must protect our playwrights, who earn their living through the legal payment of script and performance royalties.
8. If you have questions concerning performance rules, contact us by the various ways listed below:

Toll-free: 888-473-8521

Fax: 319-368-8011

Email: customerservice@brookpub.com

Copying, rather than purchasing cast copies, and/or failure to pay royalties is a federal offense. Cheating us and our wonderful playwrights in this manner will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Please support theatre and follow federal copyright laws.

METATHEATRE

by
DJ Sanders

CHARACTERS: ONE and TWO

TIME: Right now

PLACE: Right here

(ONE and TWO are on the stage. No set or special costumes are required.)

ONE: Ladies and gentlemen,

TWO: Welcome to today's presentation of

ONE: "Metatheatre"

TWO: A ten-minute play

ONE: By DJ Sanders

TWO: A playwright that neither of us has met

ONE: Nor do we care to!

TWO: Metatheatre is a genre of theatre where the actors—

ONE: That's us—

TWO: Are fully aware of the audience—

ONE: That's you—

TWO: In a theatrical presentation—

ONE: Such as the one you are watching right now—

TWO: That is fully aware of its own existence and therefore talks about itself.

ONE: This play will last about ten minutes,

TWO: Be played out in four scenes,

ONE: And contain one short intermission.

TWO: At this time, we will begin.

ONE: Act One.

TWO: Scene One.

ONE: "Meta-Pre-Show Announcement."

TWO: Ladies and gentlemen,

ONE: The performance is about to begin—

TWO: Actually, it already has, but for the purposes of this scene you need to pretend that it has not begun yet—

ONE: At this moment we ask that you take a moment to switch off your cellular phones,

TWO: Silence all pagers,

ONE: And turn off that annoying beeping function on digital watches.

TWO: **(to ONE)** Why do people still wear those annoying things?

ONE: **(to TWO)** I don't know.

TWO: Also, if you have any hard candy or cough drops,

ONE: Please, be kind enough to unwrap it before the performance begins.

TWO: In this case, the show has already started, so please do us all a favor and wait another eight minutes till we're done—

ONE: *Then* you can unwrap your candy.

TWO: But if for some odd reason you can't wait that long—

ONE: Please—

TWO: Please, do everyone the favor to unwrap it very quickly,

ONE: With one quick pull on both ends,

TWO: Don't sit there and try to slowly unwrap the thing!

ONE: That doesn't make it any quieter!

TWO: That just prolongs the annoyance.

ONE: We also ask that you not talk during the performance.

TWO: Not even whispering.

ONE: I don't care if you're saying, "hey, that performer's really good!"

TWO: Or, "This play is so good, it's even better than *Cats*! I'm going to see it again, and again!"

ONE: We appreciate your kind thoughts.

TWO: We will be available after the performance for you to share your raving review.

ONE: In summary, we have requested three simple courtesies from you, the audience.

TWO: Number one. Turn off all electronic noise-making devices.

ONE: Number two. Leave all hard candy in your pocket or purse till after the curtain call.

TWO: Number three. Please refrain from speaking during the performance.

ONE: If at any time during the performance you should engage in one of the three prohibited activities,

TWO: We do request that the people sitting in front of you do this:

(ONE and TWO turn with their backs to the audience. Both turn around making a disapproving scowl while making a “shush” gesture. ONE and TWO return to facing the audience.)

ONE: Thank you, and enjoy the rest of the show.

TWO: This concludes Act One, Scene One.

ONE: We ask that you hold all applause till the end of the show.

TWO: Continuing on to the next scene we present:

ONE: Act One.

TWO: Scene Two.

ONE: “Meta-Airline Safety Demonstration.”

TWO: Greetings, we would like to thank you all for choosing Sanders Airlines.

END OF FREE PREVIEW