

THE OTHER ANIMAL RIGHT

By Deborah Karczewski

Copyright © 2002 by Deborah Karczewski, All rights reserved.
ISBN 1-931805-64-4

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.

THE OTHER ANIMAL RIGHT

by
Deborah Karczewski

CAST: one female

I object! I object! Yes, Your Honor, I certainly do! (*listens*) Well, why not? How come the lawyers can object, but I can't? (*SHE obstinately listens to the "Judge" who evidently explains that SHE cannot object because SHE is a minor.*) Minor-shminor! I don't give a bat's behind that I'm a minor! Are you telling me that I have to wait until I'm eighteen to tell the truth? That's – like – immoral! I'm supposed to let this (*looks at her "lawyer" beside her*) weasel with hair plugs defend me when he wasn't even there? I'm supposed to trust a lawyer who wears a polyester suit to court? I mean, be real! Are you trying to tell me that it's against the law for me to tell you what really happened all by myself? I mean, HELLO! This is America. The land of – like – the free. You know? (*listens and then smiles broadly*) You will? Oh, thank you, Your Highness – I mean Your Honor! (*to her lawyer*) Stay seated, Plug-boy, and watch democracy work! Minor, my aspirin! (*SHE says "ass-pirin" to avoid sounding inappropriate.*)

Well, you see, Your Worship – um – Your Honor, there are two facts that you need to know about me from the very start. The first is that I consider myself to be a Fashion Artiste. Vera Wang, Tommy Hilfiger – move over! Some day the name Breezy Summer will be synonymous with good taste! How do you like that name, judge? I know in your records there, it says Betty Summer, but – what were my parents thinking? A drab name like Betty could scar a girl for life, don't ya think? So, I go by – Breezy. Sounds so light and airy, doesn't it? Well anyway, getting back to the point – my most important quality is my sense of fashion which you, of course, can tell just by looking at me. And the second aspect of my personality – probably the very reason I was, like, put on this very earth – is my belief in Animal Rights.

It dawned on me a few weeks ago, Your Judgeship, that there is one right that we of the human persuasion have forgotten entirely. Everybody is always complaining about how cruel it is to use animals for medical experiments. And you always hear about saving endangered species. And every day on the news someone else has been arrested for picketing a movie star's house because she was seen wearing fur. And don't even get me started on the vegetarians! Now, don't get me wrong. I agree with those animal rights activists 100%. Well 99% to be perfectly honest because I really do crave an occasional cheese burger. But you see, Judge, we all tend to overlook one major animal right...dignity. The right to look good. The right to be fashionable. I mean, think about it. You see a beautiful woman walking her dog, right? There she is in her high heels and her expensive jewelry, and what's the dog got? A collar if he's lucky. How degrading is that? You see a wealthy business man, in a \$5000 suit, stroking his cat during a multi-billion dollar meeting. Look at the cat. It's naked! Humiliating. Animals have feelings, too! Animals deserve the right to feel good about the way they look. It's a basic necessity for all of God's creatures. All of the inhabitants of this world deserve the same inalienable right – the right to fashion.

When I finally realized my calling – my very reason for being, I headed straight for my brother's albino pit bull, Manly. After evaluating his personal fashion deficiencies, I decided that I needed to soften the stereotypical muscle-bound look. I wanted to awaken Manly's feminine side. Nothing impresses the females like a guy who is unafraid of showing his sensitivity, who is courageous enough to show his vulnerability through fashion. Lavender hair rinse did the trick. Manly seemed genuinely touched.

But this was just small potatoes, Your Honorship. I needed to go for the gold. Why waste my talents on the family dog when right outside of town...just fifteen miles away...only an hour and a half by bike...lay the county zoo.

Thank you for reading this free excerpt from THE OTHER ANIMAL RIGHT by Deborah Karczewski. 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**

Do Not Copy