



2013

Save the Human

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Author: Wood, David; Husband, Tony; Pontzen, Peter

Title: Save the Human

Year of Publication: 1990

Publisher: Samuel French

ISBN: 9780573050909

of pages: 62

Rating: Dependable

Reading/Interest Level: Primary; Intermediate

Keywords: Animal rights; Post-apocalypse; Tolerance; Adventure plays

Production Requirements: Several basic movable set pieces

of Acts: 2

Estimated Runtime: 90 minutes

of Characters: 14

Cast Requirements: 8+, male or female

Time Period: The Future

Review:

Set in a futuristic world where nearly extinct humans are kept as pets by animals with human-like qualities; Becky Bear and her animal friends fight to save the humans, who are being used like lab rats, from total extinction. Fighting against the evil Professor Rhino and his Securiboards, Becky starts a movement with petitions, press conferences and money-raising concerts. Despite all Becky's success and efforts, when her friend stage a break-in and release more humans from Professor Rhino's testing facility, the freed humans start a riot which

escalates to worldwide chaos. Eventually Becky and her friends and her two friendly pet humans leave together to start again on a deserted island.

Like most of David Wood's plays, this script contains well-written dialogue, well-developed characters and an exciting plot that will keep children interested. The musical score and use of animal characters will also serve to entertain them. The script tackles several heavy topics such as animal cruelty, human nature and hard choices when fighting for a good cause. Without careful staging of this script these topics could come across very heavy-handed and preachy – especially to the adults in the audience. Audience participation, especially the use of animal masks in the audience, helps to keep the subject matter light. The use of minimal staging and costumes and moveable set pieces make it easy to tour this show.

Reviewers Name: Rebeca Wallin

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