

Original One-Act Play Scripts Available for Production Rights

INDEPENDENCE pop. 301

By K. W. Rush

Independence, Louisiana in 1919 was a small segregated Southern Louisiana town about 70 miles north of New Orleans with a population of 301. Friendships were made on the color of your skin or your particular race. Lizzie Wales was a young teenage girl who was born deaf and mute. Her family were strawberry farmers, and they sold their crop at a makeshift stand on the side of the road. Lizzie trusted people and did not see a difference in anyone because of their race. When she was 16, she met Mathias Alexander, a 16-year-old black boy who was well mannered, intelligent, hardworking, and respectful. They became friends until their friendship was threatened by the jealousy of her white, redneck boyfriend, Jackson Varnado. One night Lizzie was raped and in this predominantly white town, Jackson accused Mathias. A makeshift trial was created, and Mathias was found guilty until Lizzie took matters into her own hands and in a climactic scene struggles to tell the town who the rapist actually was. In a fit of rage, Lizzie also dealt the punishment to her one-time boyfriend with the help of a revolver.

Lizzie is Caucasian but I have written the character of the boy so he could easily be adjusted to fit any race or nationality with a few easy line adjustments. INDEPENDENCE was the first play I had ever written and the first time it was mounted for competition it went all the way to nationals where it took the top honors. The script is moving, thought provoking and intense with a beautiful closing monologue guaranteed to bring the audience to their feet!

Mature Drama

6m/9f (Texas Competition Edition)

8m/15f (Original Script Edition)

Advanced High School and older

35 – 40 minute running time

1st Place Southeastern Theatre Conference / 1st Place Florida Theatre Conference/

Florida State Thespian Featured One-Act / Numerous acting awards at all levels

THE FORGOTTEN ONES

by K. W. Rush

The year is 1933 and the place is Independence, Louisiana. Sara Harper has come to know four remarkable individuals that no one wants or has time for. They are all different in some way with either a physical or mental disability. But Sara sees past this to what is on the inside of these individuals; something that has no hope of ever getting out. When their families don't want them or situations arise that leave them without a family, Sara is there to step in. When we meet these forgotten ones, they are on an

adventure to find new hope and a new home. What they find is a town where people talk the talk but don't walk the walk.

Drama

11m/16f (easy to downsize to half this size or more)

High School and older

35 – 40 minute running time

Florida Thespian Winner / Numerous Acting Awards

MISSISSIPPI WOODS

by K. W. Rush

The year is 1934 and the citizens of Tylertown, Mississippi are oblivious to a dark and horrifying secret hidden within their community. Over the last several years six young girls have vanished and were never found. Some believe they ran away; some believe they drowned in the Pearl River and their bodies just washed away. People went as far as believing something "unhuman" was the cause. Horace Franklin was a local hermit that lived deep in the woods.....all alone. But he was not alone. The man existed living in a barn that was inhabited by the spirits of his late wife and three of the young girls that had never been found. In addition, he kept the other four young girls alive but chained within the dilapidated walls of his barn. Today, Sara, a young girl of twelve would join the group but not for long. Sara's determination to live would bring about a conclusion to this nightmare.

Drama

4m/14f (several female roles could be played by male or female actor)

Advanced High School and older

35 – 40 minute running time

Florida Thespian Winner / Numerous Acting Awards

VICTORIAN SILENCE

by K. W. Rush

In Victorian England homosexuality was a crime. For one professor at an all-girl's school this was not a concern. John Forrester was engaged to the love of his life, Elizabeth Anderson and they were to be married as soon as John settled into his new position at Saint Agnes School for Young Ladies as a professor of British Literature. His health and his heterosexuality would soon be challenged by his soul and his physicality. The progression of his illness is seen by all and eventually John is bedridden and dependent on the love of his life. However, his fiancé, for one reason or another, is not always there to offer her support. A co-worker of his, Patrick Thomas, remains true to his friend and ask nothing in return. In the final moments of his life, John Forrester faces the reality that true love is not always between a man and a woman.

Drama

5m/10f + varying catholic nuns (minimum 2-3)

Advanced High School and older

35 – 40 minute running time

1st Place Florida Theatre Conference / Finalist Southeastern Theatre Conference

Numerous Acting Awards

A BROKEN PROMISE

by K. W. Rush

In the early 1900s emigrants flocked to New York City past the Statue of Liberty with dreams of a new life.....a new beginning. New York was a melting pot of all races and religions. They worked hard to survive in a world they did not know but they trusted would not do them harm. This is the story of a young Jewish couple that met and fell in love on the voyage from the old country. Their dreams were becoming a reality until Saturday March 25, 1911. They became part of the deadliest industrial disaster in the history of the city. While at work at the shirtwaist factory, a fire would break out on the top three floors and 146 individuals would lose their lives. Dreams were shattered and promises of a new life were broken. This is the story of one promise that was broken and the struggle of those who survived.

Drama

5m/4f + female ensemble of factory workers (minimum 8-10)

Advanced High School and older

35 – 40 minute running time

1st Place Florida Theatre Conference / Finalist Southeastern Theatre Conference

Numerous Acting Awards

Florida Thespian Winner / Numerous Acting Awards

ALICE!

Adapted by K. W. Rush

This retelling of a timeless adventure is brought back to life in today's world. As a teenager, Alice, discovers a wonderland of characters and creative places that have been with her, in her mind and in her dreams, since she was born. She could never have imagined the adventure that awaited her in her attic.

A great script for a creative director, cast and crew. The characters we have seen before. The places we have all created in our childhood games and adventures. Now, it's time for your cast and crew to make this story their own. A white rabbit can be just a rabbit, or maybe a blue rabbit or maybe a punk rock rabbit! Let your actor's imagination run wild as your team creates a theatrical piece to showcase their talents and their teamwork.

Children's show for teens and adults

4m/5f/9 m or f/ensemble minimum of 2

In this cast the majority of roles are not defined by gender. Also, the size of the ensemble would be determined by the director.

All ages

90 – 110 minute running time (full two acts or easily reduced to a 40 minute one-act)

Great show for teen audiences!

Contact me, K. W. (Ken) Rush for more information.

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