

Adventure Cabaret

Finale

Please Take Offense

[1:34]

Screen: Please take offense.

The only thing humanity should ever be offended by is itself.

Call the Thought Police Hotline if you must.

The actor who had left the stage to vomit quietly rejoins the group.

The MC moves toward stage right, in confusion and despair.

MC: Adolph Hitler came to power ninety two years ago this year, and it's as though we've made no actual progress at all. We keep choosing horrible leaders, and doing horrible things to each other, and horrible things to all the other creatures on the planet. We are just making a horrible mess of absolutely everything, and we ourselves are not getting better in any way at all.

Screen: The Worst Species Ever

We just plain suck.

The three other actors are on stage, around the embrace of Lola and the Professor. They are in despair.

Actor 1 (Josh): We really are a shitty species.

Actor 1 picks up the depleted planet from the floor and holds it up, disgusted. He brings the depleted planet over to stage right and sets it down carefully.

Actor 2 (Anhelina): Man, we absolutely suck.

Actor 3 (Jacob): We are just the fucking worst.

Actor 1 (Josh): I've never said this before, but I am ashamed to be a human being.

Actor 3 (Jacob): So am I.

Actor 2 (Anhelina): Me too. Man, this hurts.

Actor 1 (Josh): Why do we continue to be so horrible?

Actor 3 (Jacob): What can we do?

The three actors move toward Lola and the professor, and join in the sad embrace. The actors eventually are all holding hands in a way that will later unfurl to form a line across the stage.

The Mistress of Ceremonies is a bit off to the side of the group embrace, lost in thought.

On the screen, the abstract image of a brain that opened The Empire of the Mind segment slowly fades in.

Screen: [abstract image of a brain]

After a while, the Mistress of Ceremonies notices what is on the screen, and is puzzled by it. Something begins to happen in her mind. She gradually moves downstage center, occasionally looking back at the brain. One of the cast members notices the MC looking at the screen, and he looks up at the screen.

Actor 1 (Josh): Hey, what's that?

Actor 2 (Anhelina): I don't know. It looks like a brain.

MC: It's not just a brain, it's *The Empire of the Mind*. It's the answer.

Actor 3 (Jacob): The answer to what?

MC: What is the most important issue in the world?

During the following, the group of five actors gradually unfurls, so that they are all holding pinkies in a line across the stage.

Metanoia

[0:37]

Screen: metanoia

A realization so profound that you are quickly transformed.

MC: Our friend the professor had a good answer, but not the *real* answer, not the *deeper* answer. The most important issue in the world is humanity improving itself. Without that, planetary suicide is inevitable. We must work to become better, first individually, then in groups, then as a species. There is no valid alternative. We must work to become better as a species. Our entire future depends on it.

Metamorphosis

[0:10]

Screen: metamorphosis

A better future is already available.

We just need to adopt it.

The low opening note of the symphonic music of the overture begins. The MC joins the line holding pinkies, toward the middle.

Finale

[3:55]

Cast: *(The words are distributed.)* We...are...all...in...this...

Cast full: Together! *(They raise their linked pinkies.)*

Actor (Cynthia): We must work together toward solutions.

Actor (Adam): We must cooperate.

Actor (Paula): We must change.

Actor (Jacob): We must become much better than we have been.

The cast lowers their linked pinkies.

Screen: metahuman

Do you have what it takes to turn this mess around?

Are you willing to try?

An actor steps forward. For each line below, an actor steps forward. Thus the entire line gradually moves downstage.

Actor (Anhelina): There is no such thing as *(air quotes)* “human nature.”

Actor (Josh): We can become as good as we want to become.

Actor (Cynthia): There is nothing stopping us except ourselves.

Actor (Anhelina): How can we start?

Pause. An actor steps forward strongly, and turns toward the group.

Actor (Adam): I have a suggestion. We need to become much, much more honest with ourselves, even if it’s painful.

Another actor steps forward.

Actor (Paula): Definitely. True honesty with ourselves is the only way to start. *(Lola speaks from recent experience of profound remorse.)*

One by one, the cast members step forward, with positive ideas and suggestions and ideals, until the cast is toward the edge of the stage, and then steps down into the audience area, as described below.

On the screen, a beautiful video collage of Earth’s biodiversity begins to play, timed to the music.

Actor (Josh): We can adopt much better ideas, and put those ideas into action.

Actor (Anhelina): We can work every day to improve our minds.

Actor (Jacob): We can delete outdated and defective software in ourselves.

Actor (Cynthia): We can install much better software in our minds, and use it for good.

Actor (Adam): Always be ready to adopt new and better ideas, attitudes and outlooks.

Actor (Paula): Deepen our curiosity.

Actor (Josh): Choose truly important subjects, and study them deeply.

Actor (Anhelina): Learn much more about the glories of nature.

Actor (Jacob): Develop and strengthen our courage, and always apply it toward the good.

Actor (Cynthia): Make lists of our faults, and do everything we can to correct them.

Actor (Adam): Always be ready to admit openly *that we were wrong*.

Actor (Paula): Aspire to be superior to only one person, and that is our previous self.

Actor (Josh): Tell someone that you love them, because you do.

Actor (Anhelina): Apologize to someone you have harmed.

Gradually the members of the cast move into the audience area, and continue expressing positive ideals from the audience area, mingling with the audience, occasionally offering a pinky handshake to an audience member.

Actor (Jacob): Give someone who needs your attention your absolutely full and complete attention.

Actor (Cynthia): Learn some wonderful new words and share them with other people.

Actor (Adam): Choose understanding before judgment.

Actor (Paula): Choose natural solutions first.

Actor (Josh): Fall in love with your local and regional ecosystems, and learn much more about them.

Actor (Anhelina): Work every day to improve yourself in every way.

Actor (Jacob): As much as possible, pay attention only to what is truly important.

Actor (Cynthia): Wherever you are walking, pick up some litter.

Actor (Adam): Cultivate productive openness.

Actor (Paula): Every day, do something that surprises even you.

Actor: (Josh) Choose wonderful ways to be an inspiration to others.

Actor (Anhelina): Make friends with a new species every week.

Actor (Jacob): A tree...

Actor (Cynthia): A bird...

Actor (Adam): An amphibian...

Actor (Paula): A fish...

Actor (Josh): An insect.

Actor (Anhelina): Imagine every day how great life could be, then go out and do it.

Actor (Jacob): Read inspiring books, and pass them on to other people.

Actor (Cynthia): Get some fun exercise, and try to couple it with something else that's good.

Actor (Adam): Evaluate your diet, and improve it.

Actor (Paula): Become your own most perceptive and accurate critic.

Actor (Josh): Choose walking more.

Actor (Anhelina): Develop views that are truly your own, based on evidence and reason.

Actor (Jacob): Become a citizen of the entire planet.

Actor (Cynthia): A much better future is already available.

Actor (Adam): We just have to adopt it.

Actor (Paula): As much as possible...

Actor (Josh): ...in every situation...

Actor (Anhelina):...and with every person...

Cast: Choose love!

Actor (Jacob): And whoever you meet...

Cast: ...do the Linky Pinky with them!

Each cast member chooses a member of the audience, and brings them on stage to dance the Linky Pinky together in front of the rest of the audience. The cast members can choose to "cut in" with another pair, and dance with a different audience member on stage, depending on the timing.

On the final chord of the symphonic music, the entire cast puts their arms forward as though to hug the audience and says loudly:

Cast: We love you!

The Earth appears on the video screen. The cast turns around and says loudly to the Earth:

Cast: We love you!

The cast turns around to face the audience again, and bows.

A dog is brought on stage, and is greeted by the cast. Is that The Talking Dog? He sure looks friendly.

Outro

[1:30]

Screen: Adventure Cabaret
SEATBELTS

The SEATBELTS sign blinks off, but remains on screen.

Announcer: At this time the captain has turned off the seatbelt sign and you are free to disembark. We thank you once again for flying Adventure Cabaret, and we hope you will join us on future journeys to other exciting destinations of the mind, the spirit and the imagination.

Together, we can create a much better reality.

The cast thanks their dancing partners from the audience, walks again into the audience area with their dancing partners, mingling with the audience as they get up to leave.

Audio: Empire of the Mind music

Screen: End credits

THE END

The cast continues interacting with the audience, completely open and kind and loving with them. If a hug is offered or requested, a hug is given. If a smile is sent, another smile is returned. If a question is asked, an honest answer is given.