

Dialogue sample from
Metatheatre

by DJ Sanders

(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 have 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.

To obtain a full copy of Metatheatre,
please contact Brooklyn Publishers
<https://www.brookpub.com> or 1-888-473-8521

Ask for script #131A

For more information on other scripts by DJ Sanders,
please visit <http://www.djsanders.com>