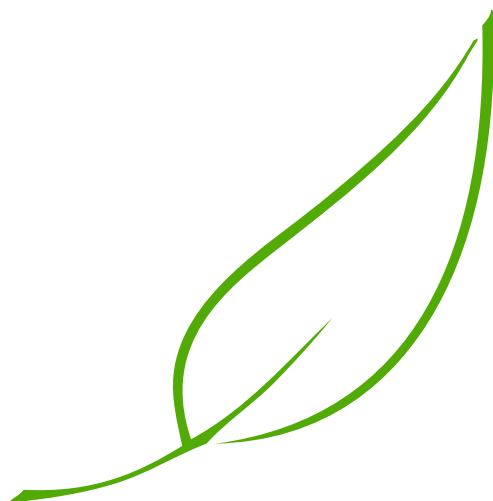


EXTRA INNINGS

by Robert L. Crowe



GREEN ROOM PRESS

greenroompress.com

Copyright Notice

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 Green Room Press. No amateur or stock production groups or individuals may perform this play without securing license and royalty arrangements in advance from Green Room Press. Questions concerning other rights should be addressed to Green Room Press. 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 Green Room Press.

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 Work must give the author(s) credit in any and all advertisement and publicity relating to the production of this Work. 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 Work. No person or entity may receive larger or more prominent credit than that which is given to the author(s).

PUBLISHER CREDIT: Whenever this Work is produced, all programs, advertisements, flyers or other printed material must include the following notice: ***Produced by special arrangement with Green Room Press.***

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 Green Room Press.

EXTRA INNINGS

by Robert L. Crowe

EXTRA INNINGS

by Robert L. Crowe

(the scene is outside a major league baseball stadium on the day of the big game. Duke is standing with his back to the audience as Ralph enters.)

RALPH: *(rather shallow and flighty person)* *(to the audience)* Wow. There it is. The baseball stadium. In a little while this street will be so crowded you can't see anything except the back of someone's head. I better go in and get my seat. I'm lucky to have a ticket to the biggest game of the year. World Series here we come! In fact ... I'm so lucky, I have two tickets to the game. Too bad James couldn't make it. "Work is the curse of the leisure class!" I hate to waste this extra ticket. *(Duke turns and starts to walk by)* Excuse me ...

DUKE: *(scholarly and sophisticated)* You're excused. *(keeps walking)*

RALPH: Wait! *(Duke stops)* "You're excused." That's a good one. *(to audience)* A chap with a sense of humor. That's important if you're going to spend the afternoon sitting next to someone. *(to Duke)* Are you going to the game?

DUKE: Sorry. I don't have any tickets to sell you.

RALPH: Oh, I'm not trying to buy a ticket. I have a ticket.

DUKE: *(pause, then sarcastic)* I'm very pleased for you. There's no need to try to impress me with your ticket. I don't care that you have a ticket. If you just want to *talk* with someone who's going to the game, just wait. There will be plenty of them along in a few minutes.

RALPH: No. I don't want to talk with anyone ...

DUKE: Then why did you stop me?

RALPH: This isn't going very well. Maybe we should start over.

DUKE: That won't be necessary because we have already reached the end. *(turns to leave)*

RALPH: Wait! I asked if you were going to the game because I have an extra ticket.

DUKE: Just out of curiosity, how much are you ticket scalpers asking these days?

RALPH: Oh, I'm not trying to sell the ticket. I'm trying to give it away.

DUKE: *(pause)* What's the catch?

RALPH: *(gives a little laugh then says in a Fat-Albert voice.)* Hey! Hey! Hey! *(he circles the stage like a baseball player under a fly ball, then pops his fist into an imaginary glove and catches the "ball")* Got it!! You said, "What's the catch?" Very clever. Get it? *(Duke stares)* Catch ... baseball game. *(Duke shakes his head and turns)* No. There is no catch. It's free.

DUKE: Is your name "brook"?

RALPH: No, it's ...

DUKE: Let me see if I can sort-out your babbling. You are trying to give away a ticket to the biggest baseball game of the year

RALPH: Yes.

DUKE: Free.

RALPH: Yes.

DUKE: What's the catch? *(puts out his hand to stop Ralph)* Ah ... no need to circle. Where's the seat?

RALPH: It's right next to me.

DUKE: Oh. There's the catch.

RALPH: Hey, you're pretty funny. I think that's important. You know, in a 3 hour ball game there's a lot of time to talk. You know I went to a game once and sat beside a fella who didn't want to talk to me. Rather rude, I thought. It was one of my worst afternoons. I had to just sit there and watch the game.

DUKE: That must have been sheer torture. Tell me something. Is it because I'm dressed a tad shabbily today? Do you think I can't afford a ticket?

RALPH: No! Really! I don't stereotype people just because they're poor and homeless. *(Duke puts hand to his head and gives a little shake)* I just had this idea of giving away the extra ticket and I saw you walking by. *(pause and smiles)* Yep, you were just walking right on by.

DUKE: Why do you have 2 tickets if you're alone?

RALPH: Well, you see ... (*sees a vendor selling pennants*) Oh, hey! I'll take a pennant. (*Gives money, receives a pennant on a long stick, then waves it*) Go Team! Well, you see the extra ticket belongs to James who works in our office but he had an emergency at work. He's kinda important. It was a last minute emergency ... the worst kind. [*He sticks it in the ground ... but don't forget where it is.*]

DUKE: (*squares and looks at Ralph*) What do you do?

RALPH: I'm an assistant in the catalogue department of ...

DUKE: I would guess that you have been an assistant for a long time.

RALPH: Hey. How did you know?

DUKE: Lucky guess.

RALPH: (*sticks out his hand*) My name is Ralph but my friends call me ... Ralph. (*gives a feeble laugh*)

DUKE: (*no smile*) Yes. (*shakes hand with Ralph*) I'm Duke.

RALPH: (*does his best John Wayne impression*) (*hitches up pants and says*) "I'll tell you what, pilgrim. Don't even think of reaching for that pennant!" (*laughs*) So. You want to go to the game?

DUKE: I'm on my way to the Socratic Coffee House. I meet some very informed people there for conversation on Saturday afternoons.

RALPH: What do you talk about?

DUKE: Oh, of many things. Of cabbages and kings.

RALPH: Huh?

DUKE: It's a literary reference. We talk about a variety of topics: political philosophy, the origin of man, reconstructive history ...

RALPH: Reconstructive history? Wow. Is that anything like reconstructive surgery? Put a new face on history? (*laughs*)

DUKE: Yes, exactly.

RALPH: It is?

DUKE: You know, you are hard to stereotype, Ralph, because you do have a few good moments every once in a while.

RALPH: (*proudly*) Thanks.



GREEN ROOM PRESS

Thank you for reading this free excerpt from:

EXTRA INNINGS

by Robert L. Crowe.

*For performance rights and/or a complete copy of the script,
please contact us at:*

GREEN ROOM PRESS, INC.

customerservice@greenroompress.com

www.greenroompress.com