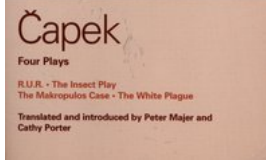


## R.U.R. by Karel Čapek



Revolutionary for its time and giving birth to the word robot into the English language, Čapek's dark play explores technology and what humans can create. It is set on an island in the middle of nowhere, where the factory of Rossum's Universal Robots is stationed. These robots are sold to the world as cheap labour, but when Lady Helen Glory comes to the factory, she insists on freeing the robots, enabling them to become more like humans. This, however, has disastrous consequences as it leads to the robots declaring war on people, and wiping out all but one of the human race.

*R.U.R.* premiered in Prague in 1921.

**'There is no writer like him – no one who so blithely assumed that the common realities were not as fixed and irrevocable as one imagined.'**  
**Arthur Miller**

<b>Genre:</b>	Futuristic drama	<b>Fee:</b>	£40 plus VAT, per performance
<b>Cast:</b>	m7 f3 (plus robots)	<b>Scripts:</b>	ISBN 9780413771902 £14.99
<b>Set:</b>	an island	<b>Length:</b>	4 acts
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:UaUrYiflfj@hg4Vcca.gVi.fmcom">UaUrYiflfj@hg4Vcca.gVi.fmcom</a>		

### EXTRACT

**Gall** Look, there's more of them! They're lining the perimeter fence! Surrounding us with a wall of silence!

**Domain** (*comes to the window*) I wish I knew what they were waiting for. It'd start any moment. We've had it, Gall.

**Alquist** What's that Lady Helen's playing?

**Domin** I don't know, some new piece he's practising.

**Alquist** Still practising?

**Gall** You know, Domin, we've made one terrible mistake.

**Domin** (*stops pacing*) What was that?

**Gall** We made their faces too alike. A hundred thousand identical faces staring at us.

A thousand expressionless bubbles. If they'd been different it wouldn't be so horrible. (*Turns from the window.*) Good job they're not armed.

**Domin** Hm. Yet. (*Scans the harbour with binoculars.*) I wish I knew what they were unloading from the *Amelia*.

**Gall** No weapons, I hope.

**Fabry** (*enters backwards through the tapestry doors dragging two lengths of electric cable.*) Excuse us, we've got to connect these!

**Hallemeier** (*enters following Fabry*) Phew, that was a job and a half! What's new?

**Gall** Nothing. We're completely surrounded.

### If you enjoyed this, you might like:

- *The Truth* by Terry Pratchett (m25 f10)
- *Early Bird* by Leo Butler (m1 f1)
- *Going Postal* by Terry Pratchett (m16 f17)