

Whale by David Holman



This powerful and large-scale play for 7-12 year olds takes as its story the time in 1988 when three Grey whales, that became known as Putu, Siku and K'nik, became trapped under ice at Point Barrow in North Alaska. The play recreates the massive rescue operation that ensued and which united American, Russian and local Inuit people. Steeped in the Inuit culture, this play provides both a challenge and a joy for children who will be captivated by the story of these three whales that have gone down in history and the relationship of those involved in trying to save them.

Whale premiered at the Lyttelton Theatre, London, in December 1989.

David Holman has an 'international reputation for young people's work with adult impact and quality' *Guardian*

Genre:	family audience play (multi-racial)	Fee:	£40 plus VAT, per performance
Cast:	m/f12	Scripts:	ISBN 9780413630902 £8.99
Set:	North Alaska	Length:	2 acts
Contact:	amateur-rights@bloomsbury.com		

EXTRACT

Fourth Inuit Kid Need someone to take you to the whales?

Aussie Journo No. Yes. Yes. How long before they're free?

Fourth Inuit Kid Our Dads are gonna free the whales by tonight. But you're gonna need a snow mobile or you won't see anything. My big brother's got one.

Aussie Journo Yea. Yea. Yea. How much?

Fourth Inuit Kid Two hundred a day.

First Inuit Kid My sister charged TV Italy three hundred.

Fourth Inuit Kid Two hundred. Oh cripes. I'll take it.

Second Inuit Kid You hungry Miss?

Aussie Journo I'm starving. Hey but –

Second Inuit Kid The only restaurant's booked out. Ya want to eat at my sister's hut?

Aussie Journo Do I have any choice? How much?

Second Inuit Kid Twenty dollars a plate.

Aussie Journo Ok. Ok. Is it traditional Inuit cooking?

Second Inuit Kid Yea. Inuit Hamburgers.

Aussie Journo (*to the heavens*) Get me out of here! No take me to the whales. I got to send a story back to Oz.

If you enjoyed this, you might like:

- *Going Postal* by Terry Pratchett (m16 f17)
 - *Fifth Elephant* by Terry Pratchett (m16 f8)
 - *Peter Pan* by JM Barrie (m28 f17)
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