

We Don't Smoke

by
Benjamin Stanford

April 26, 2021

A staged reading by
The University of Utah Department of Theatre's **New Plays Workshop 2021**

Susannah Castleton, Associate Director
Amona Faatau, Stage Manager
Dramaturgy by **Wilam Handy**
Production: **Amona Faatau**

CAST

NARRATOR	Amona Faatau
MIRA	Alexis Pullen
NOVA	Danny Borba
TRACY/YOUNG MIRA	Lexie Thomsen
NICHELE	Elise Dunaway
GRACEN	Victoria Wolfe
MR. KNOTS	Max Villa
MS. JAMES	Jayne Moyes
RAZI/CUSTOMERS	Grayson Kamel
SPEEDER/CLARENCE	Wilam Handy
SUZANNE/CUSTOMERS	Ethan Hernandez
MAN	Marco Say

Thanks to **Alexis Pullen**, **Ethan Hernandez**, & **Marco Say** for publicity.

From the Playwright...

I have never owned a small business. I have also never participated in speech and debate, never smoked, never lost my parents, never had a step-brother, never served on a city council, and never been particularly good at taking the road "less traveled." I have, however, seen the blood, sweat and tears that goes into keeping something or someone alive. I have also spent many hours mulling over the meaning and value of legacy and convenience. To paraphrase this play's meaning concisely is perhaps impossible, as it probably should be. However, to attempt to do so: this play hopes to spark an interest in a reexamining of how we live our lives. That is, how we work and what we work for, how we treat ourselves and others, how we remember, and how we forget. Workshopping *We Don't Smoke* this semester has been a joy from start to finish, and I want to give a special thanks to Tim and Jamie for the many masterful insights they have provided. Enjoy the reading.

- **Ben Stanford**