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
NICHELLE 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