

The Rabbit Report

By Gregory T. Burns

NOTES

The Rabbit Report is a satire and may be performed by either a male or female and be entered in Humorous Interpretation. Another option is to divide Jonathan's narrative transitions among two performers and consider entering this play in Duet Acting or Duo Interpretation. With so many characters, this play will really showcase the performer who is vocally dynamic enough to portray the multitude of characters. There are several reporters in this selection, and each could have a very distinct personality. With its obviously fictitious story-line, *The Rabbit Report* should be performed as an over-the-top spoof. The performer might recognize several real-life characters in this play. How 'realistically' these particular characters are portrayed is the choice of the performer. The most important aspect to consider when performing this particular selection is to have fun!

Cast:

Jonathan, a young boy

The Media, either radio or television

Jonathan's Mom

Jonathan's Dad

Reporter #1, a reporter

Mr. Fudd, a cartoonish President of the Agricultural Union

Liz Holdenstock, a reporter

Lance Looker, a reporter

Talk Show Host, a talk show host

George, a groom-to-be

Sarah, a bride-to-be

Lenny Kravitz, a singer

Bobby McFerrin, a singer

Richard, a fitness guru

Miss Carmichael, a teacher

Principal Thatcher, an elementary principal

Entertainment Reporter, an entertainment reporter

Animal Rights Activist

Reporter #2, a reporter

Timmy's Mom

Timmy, a young boy

Reporter #3, a reporter

Jonathan: *(To audience.)* I guess, all in all, it was one of the weirdest years ever. You see, for a while, cities across America were seeing more and more rabbits running loose. Rabbits were everywhere! And no one really knew where they came from or why they were suddenly taking over the country! Some people thought maybe it was a publicity stunt, while others thought maybe it was a 4H project that got out of hand. No one really had an explanation. A lot of people were blaming the government, but the media just kept reporting:

The Media: The recent increase in the rabbit population is a direct result—of *global warming!*

Jonathan: *(To audience.)* Everytime you turned around, it was *global warming* this or *global warming* that. It must have been pretty important though, because I'd hear my parents arguing about it after dinner.

Jonathan's Mom: *(To Jonathan's Dad.)* Honey, do you agree with the media? Do you really think the rabbits are here because of global warming?

Jonathan's Dad: *(Reading the newspaper.)* Absolutely not! These rabbits aren't a *result* of global warming, Sweetheart. These rabbits are the *cause* of global warming. You know, all that *rabbit* fur.

Jonathan's Mom: Then, why do you think all of these rabbits have abandoned their homes and are taking over *ours*?

Jonathan's Dad: The way I see it. These rabbits are taking over American *homes*, because they got fed up—with the '*hole*' thing! *(Dad laughs.)*

Jonathan's Mom: Laugh now, funny man, but you mark my words. Someday, you won't think this is so funny!

Jonathan: *(To audience.)* Dad loved making Mom, what he called, *hopping* mad. Dad could always make a joke out of just about anything, but it wasn't so funny. Those rabbits were affecting everything! It got to the point where you couldn't turn on the TV without seeing a breaking news story.

Reporter #1: Just moments ago, the President of the Agricultural Union announced that the recent shortage of fresh vegetables and produce is largely due to the rash of rabbits ravishing the latest crops. This news has health conscious consumers rushing to the stores, and dieters holding candle-lit vigils for the loss of their beloved veggies. We now join the press conference in progress.

Mr. Fudd: *(Taking questions from the reporters.)* Yes, the young lady in the red dress.