

BRIGHTON AND HOVE

Genre/Themes: A Comedy of Apocalyptic Proportions

Tagline: Life is tough. Extinction is tougher!

Logline: Hiding in a walled compound with survivors, decades after a pandemic wiped out most of humanity, a decent man who tends court for the despotic leader seeks meaning to it all by switching places with a rebel hero he was forced to lock up.



Synopsis: (with script page reference)

ACT 1

- 1 We begin with a tour of the New World: A small city overgrown and devastated, lush and silent except for one waddling chicken, years after a world-wide pandemic decimated Humanity. Arriving at a big compound, sounds of machines are heard, then voices.
- 2 PROF. REGINALD PHILPOT, 70, sets up for a video for posterity, in the hopes of explaining what happened to future survivors, if any, or even to alien visitors. He describes sarcastically Man's stupid industrial farming of chickens, which bred the virus. With Philpot is DR. MAAAYA MICHIKO, 65, and handling the camera is silly ROGER MACCHITORE. He's a doctor, but only in Music Theory.
- 5 The video shoot is interrupted by a loud p.a. announcement. In a government office, the dictator, PROCTOR, 55, who goes by a different vain title each day, nibbles fine food as he announces falsely-uplifting news of "Topia" - what they call this place. Dreaming up a new title for himself, he calls for his Magistrate to enact it, wherein he accidentally steps on his dog CHI CHI's tail. This causes the dictator to scream into the microphone...
- 7 The scream awakens CHARLES FREEMAN, 45, in his suite. Charles then heads to work as Magistrate of the court. This gives us a tour of beleaguered Topia: There's evidence of a heavy police presence, but also some political resistance. And it seems the population is mostly men, with the only women being old ladies.
- 8 Charles pauses to watch TULLIO and WALLACE, both 50, guards up in a watchtower. As Charles enters the court building, the guards torment a solitary survivor, SCABBY, 30ish, beyond the gates. Somehow, Scabby lives outside the compound and makes do with hunting rabbits, though he is terribly lonely and likes to talk to the guards despite the fact they make fun of his ugliness.
- 11 Inside the Court, Charles faces one silly, trumped-up case after another. Though he's sympathetic to them all, the Prosecutor (often on the phone to Proctor) always forces a conviction.

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