

I feel that "The Zoo Story" is a play about the need for true communication, contact, and therefore, real human involvement. Love? "Sometimes a person has to go a long distance out of the way in order to come back a short distance correctly".

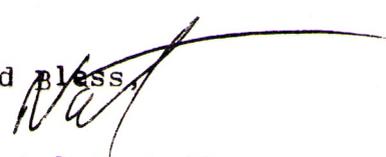
What was at first an interesting one-act play that I read and loved, suddenly became a means of truly expressing a message. An old message, but an important one. The part became vitally more important to me. People started to sit in on our rehearsals at the Tracy Roberts Actors Theater, and they were extremely moved by the play. At the time, I was heavily involved in a TV soap opera, so we rehearsed at nights and on weekends. Then, wanting to show it to the public, I contacted various organizations.

We first performed it at the BLA BLA Cafe. There, the play received a thunderously successful ovation even though the audience, at first, expected to hear a rock group. I feel that something important was conveyed. We then performed it to an audience of five hundred people at Barnsdall Park for the Garden Theater Festival. Again, the response was highly tremendous and emotional. I did a couple of TV gigs, continued to rehearse the play, and then, decided to show it one last time to get it out of my system. I contacted the California Institute for Men, better known as Chino Prison, USC, UCLA, Valley College, and Pierce College.

We were warned at "Chino" that the inmates didn't care to see anything that didn't include women. Some did see it. They said that they were touched, very moved, and they wanted us to come back again.

I feel that the audiences, wherever they are, will benefit from this play.

God bless


Nathaniel Christian