

## A Guide for Parents, Teachers, and Learners

The Festival of One Act Plays was centered around a theme of relationships. The two plays revealed the truth that we are able to choose, moment by moment, toward or away from relationship. We saw that separation brings distortion and death, and that right relationships lead to truth and life. Real relationships require active movement toward the other person. Every word we speak, every interaction we have, every goal we pursue: Every choice we make is a choice toward life or a choice toward death. “Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.” (Proverbs 18:21)

The first one-act play was the story of The Velveteen Rabbit’s relationship with a young child. Through this relationship, the rabbit discovered what it is to be real, to find truth and life. This play was particularly suitable for young children -- and children of all ages.

### Questions for Around the Dinner Table

How does the velveteen rabbit become real?

What does it mean to be loved?

A morality play, Aria da Capo warns against the dangers of shallowness, selfishness, and apathy in our relationships. In this play-within-a-play, two clowns, putting on a frivolous scene, are interrupted by two shepherds who build a wall between one another just to see what happens. They found that the wall created a real separation in their relationship, bringing mistrust, distortion, and death. This play was well-suited for children and adults ages 7 and up.

### Questions for Around the Dinner Table:

How do we put up walls in relationships? What are possible consequences?

Why do we ignore the troubling realities around us?