

The Antelope Party
By Eric John Meyer

***THE ANTELOPE PARTY is produced
by special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc, NYC
www.broadwayplaypublishing.com***

SETTING: various locations in and near the western Pennsylvanian town of Washington
SHOW LENGTH: The show runs for approximately 2 hours with one 15-minute intermission.
CONTENT WARNING: *The Antelope Party* contains strong language and violence.

The Primary Cast (performing November 6, 8, 9, and 10)

(in alphabetical order)

Shawn: Zackery Banish

Doug: Brandon Price

Ben: Bakari Prigg

Maggie: Jaeda Smith

Rachel: Destiny Steele

Jean: Clara Weldon

The Understudy Cast (performing November 7)

(in alphabetical order)

Maggie: Kennedy Benson

Rachel: Kristine Head

Shawn: Oliver Klarer

Doug: Laura Anne Ling

Ben: Bakari Prigg

Jean: Alexandria Theros

Additional Cast Ensemble

Ayania Hunter as Ben's Stand-In

The Creative Team

Director – Amy Guerin

Assistant Director – Matthew Brown

Stage Manager – LeAnne Bradford

Assistant Stage Manager – Ruby Smith

Costume Designer – Heather Baumbach

Wardrobe Head - Cora Prescott

Lighting Designer – Matt Reynolds

Master Electrician – Jace Nixon

Scenic Designer & Technical Director – Nick Clifton

Sound Designer -- Eztil "Ez" Pounders

Director's Note

As soon as I read *The Antelope Party* for the first time last fall, I knew I would be directing it this fall. It is a commentary on our current moment like no other play I have read recently, and I spent my spring reading around 80 plays written in the 21st century.

The Antelope Party is a play about what happens to a group when loyalty is its primary value. When loyalty is valued over honesty, integrity, or reason, people can act in ways that can be hilarious, concerning, or downright scary. This group of friends may be Bronies and Pegasisters (the in-group terms for male-presenting and female-presenting adult fans of the cartoon *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic*, respectively) but their need for loyalty and safety will take them into some very dark places within contemporary American society. This play is premiering the day after Election Day, and will either serve as a warning, or as a bullet dodged (at the writing of this note I don't know which), and I'll let you decide which it is for you. I know which I hope it is.

It is my privilege to be a part of this company and my honor to present our work to you.

For Killian Brooke, my joyful heart, and to Matt Carey: super tremendous.

--Amy Guerin, Director

The Cast

Zackery Banish - Shawn

Zack Banish is a Junior Physics major with a concentration in Astronomy and Astrophysics. This is his second play with UAH Theatre, the first being *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy* as the understudy for George Seward. Zack has had a great time rehearsing the show with all of his friends, and is grateful to the director Amy Guerin for this opportunity. He enjoys going on hikes or playing games with friends during his free time, and would like to thank his friends, family, and everyone involved in *The Antelope Party* for all their support.

Kennedy Benson - Understudy Maggie

Kennedy Benson is a student at UAH who is Cybersecurity Major, Artist, Actress and a Musician. In school, she have participated in Theater, space hardware club, and Many events around campus. Off campus, Kennedy is a Registered Behavioral Technician who pursues a career in acting and takes acting classes, violin lessons, and plays the Piano. During her free time, she loves Aerobics and Reading books.

Kristine Head - Understudy Rachel

Kristine Head is a Sophomore Art Major with a concentration in Sculpture and a minor in Film and Media Arts. This her third performance with UAH, her first being *Airness* and *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy*. She enjoys helping backstage and doing special effects makeup when not on stage. In her free time, Kristine enjoys spending time with her friends and playing video games. Kristine would like to thank her family, friends, and the UAH Theatre Community!

Ayania Hunter - Stand-In for Ben

Ayania Hunter is a Sophomore Secondary English Education major at UAH. This is her first production with the university, but she was an avid member of her high school's theatre department. On campus, Ayania works with Housing as a Resident Assistant and is an active member in Greek Life. In her free time, she loves reading, listening to music, and rewatching her favorite shows. Ayania would like to thank Amy for giving her this opportunity to get back into theatre and everyone who supported her during this time.

Oliver Klarer - Understudy Shawn

Oliver Klarer is a Sophomore at UAH. He is a Theatre major with a concentration in both performance and technical theatre, with the addition of a minor in Music. He has previously performed in *Airness* and worked on *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy*. He also participates in UAH's concert and chamber choirs. Oliver would like to thank his friends and family for the support which allows him to follow his passion for performance!

Laura Anne Ling - Understudy Doug

Laura Anne Ling is a junior at UAH, who is studying Russian and Spanish and has been working with the Theatre department for two years. She has worked on *Airness* and *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy*. In her free time she enjoys writing and playing D&D with her friends. She would like to thank her family and friends for all the support she's had along the way.

Brandon Price - Doug

Brandon Price is a Junior Theatre major at UAH. He is a retired military war veteran with professional entertainment experience. He has performed in *A Christmas Carol* at the Rylander Theatre, *The Foreigner*, *Earl in the Yellow Shirt*, etc. He also has done industry work for police/fire departments and professional voice acting. Brandon enjoys his retirement as a professional DJ/KJ, working with DJ Jammin Jeff Entertainment. His free time is spent with the love of his life of more than 20 years and his 4 wonderful children.

Bakari Prigg - Ben

Bakari is a professional puppeteer with a career spanning 20 years. He's trained by puppeteers from Sesame Street, The Jim Henson Company, and Disney's The Muppets. In 2017, he created an Alabama-based puppet troupe, Under His Strings. In 2019, he performed at Sesame Place as a puppeteer for the inaugural year of their first puppet-based show "Our Street is Sesame Street." In addition to his puppetry career, Bakari is a concert and theatre light designer in the IATSE union. He's been a professional designer since 2015. Patrons will see most of his work at the VBC here in Huntsville where he collaborates with local community theatre companies such as Theatre Huntsville, Fantasy Playhouse, and Lyrique Music Production. Other venues and organizations he's worked with include places such as The Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, Oakwood University and its affiliates, Dream Theatre, and companies such as That Audio Co.

Jaeda Smith - Maggie

Jaeda Smith pursuing a dual degree in Theatre and Secondary Education. She has been passionate about theatre since she was little girl. She has been involved in UAH Theatre since her freshman year and she is ecstatic for everyone to see *The Antelope Party*. She would like to thank her daughter, family, and friends for their love and support as she follows her passion.

Destiny Steele - Rachel

Destiny Steele is a senior theatre major at UAH. This is her capstone production, and she is excited to get to perform one last time before she graduates. She has performed in *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms* and *Our Town* at UAH. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her boyfriend, playing with her dog, and watching Netflix. Destiny would like to thank her family, boyfriend, and best friend for continuing to push her to be the best she can be and always sticking by her side. Destiny would like to dedicate this performance to her dad who is watching from heaven.

Alexandria Sofia Theros - Understudy Jean

Alexandria Sofia Theros, a sophomore at UAH majoring in music, is excited to participate in her second UAH Theatre Department production. After her role in *Airness*, she eagerly anticipates future engagements with the department, starting with *The Antelope Party*. Sofia enjoys her involvement in both the campus's theater and music departments and values her experiences with Huntsville's local organizations like Opera Huntsville and Fantasy Playhouse Theatre. Beyond her studies, she commits time to learning Russian, her chosen minor, while continuing her music practice. Sofia is deeply thankful to her family, friends, and UAH colleagues for their support, offering special appreciation to her mother, Traci Theros, and her twin sister, Faith Theros, who is undergoing Army SIT, for consistently attending her performances no matter how small the part. She loves them very, very much.

Clara Weldon - Jean

Clara Weldon is a Freshmen at UAH with a double concentration in Film/Media production and Performing Arts. She has a background in mostly musical theatre productions. Doing roles like Yente from *Fiddler On The Roof*, Lottie Child from *Crazy For You*, Cora Flood from *The Dark At The Top Of The Stairs*, Laura Wingfield from *The Glass Menagerie*, etc. If you can't find her on stage you'll find her surfing on the water, hiking in the woods, and playing volleyball on the sand/court.

The Creative Team

Amy Guerin - Director

Amy Guerin is an Associate Professor with the UAH Theatre Program. Amy is also the co-founder and co-Artistic Director of Huntsville Shakespeare. She previously taught at Texas A&M University. In 2009, Amy's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a collaboration with A&M's Department of Computer Science & Engineering showcasing flying fairy robots alongside human actors, was featured in Wired Magazine, Smithsonian Magazine, and on NPR, and NBC News. She has also directed *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *The Conduct of Life*, *Bus Stop*, *Measure for Measure*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Tartuffe*, *Machinal*, *I and You*, *Neighborhood 3: Requisition of Doom*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Tempest*, *tempOdyssey*, *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms*, *Oh The Humanity And Other Good Intentions*, *Our Town*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *The Revolutionists*, *Henry V*, *Airness*, and *The Winter's Tale*. Amy received her BFA in Theatre from the University of Oklahoma, and her MFA in Directing from the University of Houston. She blogs about theatre at: discoballtartuffe.wordpress.com

Matthew Brown - Assistant Director

Matthew is thrilled to be a part of his first show with UAH Theatre. Matthew is a graduate of Sparkman High School, and Calhoun Community college. Some of his most recent theater credits include Charles Bingley (*Mrs. Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*), Mr. Boddy (*Clue*), Boy (*Waiting For Godot*), Bert (*Mary Poppins*), Cat In The Hat (*Seussical*), Lumiere (*Beauty and the Beast*). Matthew would like to thank his friends and family who still continue to support him in his pursuit of theater and performance. Matthew has enjoyed working with the cast and crew on this production.

LeAnne Bradford - Stage Manager

LeAnne Bradford is a Senior Theatre major at UAH. This is her Capstone and she has enjoyed all the friends she has made through the show. She has worked on *The Revolutionists*, *Airness*, and *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy* for UAH. LeAnne also enjoys working with The Huntsville Ballet Company and has served on the crew of their productions of *The Nutcracker*, *Cinderella*, and *Swan Lake*. In her free time, she enjoys rewatching some of her favorite T.V. shows and taking ballet classes. LeAnne would like to thank her family, friends, and the community she has found with UAH Theatre.

Ruby Smith - Assistant Stage Manager

Ruby Smith is a freshman chemical engineer. She has previously been in *Frozen the Musical*, and in *Standing tiptoe*. Ruby likes to draw and play videogames as her hobbies, and loves socializing and meeting new people. She also enjoys acting and learning new things.

Heather Baumbach - Costume Designer

Heather holds over 30 years of design and production experience in stage, television, and film, her credits including The Cherry Lane Theatre, The Theater Outlet, The Santa Fe Opera, The Los Angeles Opera, Maine State Music Theatre, Center Theatre Group, Carsey-Warner Productions and Comedy Central. She is devoted to working with her hands, creating works notable for their deft finish and tactile nature. Additionally, her visual art has been exhibited at The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, The Wiregrass Museum of Art, The Gadsden Museum of Art, The Georgine Clark Alabama Artists Gallery, The Charles W. and Norma C. Carroll Gallery at Marshall University and Revolve Gallery, Asheville, NC. Heather holds a BFA in Costume Design from UNCSCA and an MFA in Visual Art from Lesley University

Matt Reynolds - Lighting Designer

Matt Reynolds serves as Associate Professor of Lighting, Sound, & Digital Design at The University of Alabama. UAH: *The Antelope Party*, *The Revolutionists*, *Dido & Aeneas*. International: *Dance-Forms* (Edinburgh), *Ninja Ballet* (Tulum). Off-Broadway: *59E59 Theatre*, *Anita's Way*. Regional: *Actor's Express*,

Horizon Theatre, Red Mountain Theatre Company, South Carolina Children's Theatre, Pan American Dance Institute, American Southwest Theatre Company, Phoenix Theatre, Bloomington Playwright's Project, Scaffolding Theatre, Buskirk-Chumley Theatre. Educational: UA, UAH, New Mexico State, Michigan State (M.F.A. '12), Indiana (B.A. '08). Matt dedicates his life to his loving wife of 22 years, Mollie, and his kids Lucy and Hugo. MattReynoldsDesigns.com

Master Electrician - Jace Nixon

Jace Nixon is a senior double majoring in Theatre and Engineering Technology. He has worked a number of roles with the UAH Theatre program, including acting in *Our Town*, lights board operator for *The Revolutionists*, and assistant directing *Airness*. Jace has also worked professionally with Huntsville Shakespeare as an Assistant Director. He would like to thank *The Antelope Party* cast and crew for the work they put into this show and his friends for their support.

Eztil "Ez" Pounders - Sound Designer

Eztil "Ez" Pounders is a Junior Theatre major with a minor in Audio Production & Sound Design at UAH. This is their first foray into sound design for theatre; previously, they performed in UAH Theatre's productions of *Airness* and *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy*. In his free time, Ez is a writer, musician, and cat dad. They'd like to thank director Amy Guerin for giving them this opportunity, their friends for being there for them, and their lovely partner, Kristian, for pushing them to be the best they can be.

Scenic Designer & Technical Director - Nick Clifton

Nicholas is a senior at UAH, majoring in Theatre. This is his first show as Scenic Designer with UAH but has worked on other shows such as *Airness*, *The Revolutionists*, *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms*, and *Everyman*. Nicholas is also the Technical Director for The Huntsville Ballet Company and invites you to attend the upcoming performances of *The Nutcracker*. Nicholas would like to thank his family, pets, and the amazing cast and crew. Enjoy the show!

Special Thanks

Kamryn Smith, thank you for letting us borrow your mom