

# PERUSAL SCRIPT

## DREAMERS

a 10-minute play by  
**Eric Samuelson**



Newport, Maine

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## **DREAMERS**

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS (3m)

**X, Y, & Z** — three young, multi-ethnic friends looking for a way up

One Interior — at least three chairs

Modern Costumes

Three electronic devices

**DREAMERS** a ten-minute play by Eric Samuelsen 3m. One Interior. Modern Costumes. About 10 minutes.

Three English speaking friends, newly arrived in America, are searching the web for a school, an internship, a job — a something to get them up and out and moving forward. **ORDER #3277**

**Eric Samuelsen** taught at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio before joining the faculty at Brigham Young University in 1992. He became head of the Playwriting program at BYU in 1999. He has also taught as an adjunct faculty member in the Religion department. He retired from BYU in 2012.

As a playwright, Samuelsen has had twenty-seven plays professionally produced in Utah, Indiana, Louisiana, New York, and California. Some of his plays include *Gadianton*, which has seen three professional productions across the country, *A Love Affair with Electrons*, *Family*, *The Plan*, and *The Way We're Wired*. He is resident playwright at Plan-B Theatre Company in Salt Lake City, who designated their 2013-14 season a 'Season of Eric, including productions of six of his plays.

He is a member of the Playwrights' Circle, and the Dramatists Guild. He is three-time winner of the Annual Award in Playwriting offered by the Association for Mormon Letters (AML) and he became president of AML in 2007. In 2013 the organization awarded him the Smith Pettit Award for his lifetime work as a playwright.

He has been a staff writer for the on-line satirical magazine *The Sugarbeet*. He was also featured in the book *Conversations with Mormon Authors*, edited by Chris Bigelow. He is a noted Ibsen translator, and has also published scholarly articles on 19th and 20th century Scandanavian Theatre, and more recently, on LDS drama and film. He blogged at *Mormoniconoclast.com*. Eric died in September of 2019 after a long battle with polymyositis. This has left a huge hole in the Theatre Community within, and outside of, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

## **DREAMERS**

*(X, Y and Z, sit in various awkward positions, mismatched furniture, each with a different electronic device: a computer, a phone, an I-Pad. A long pause.)*

**Y:** So...

*(Pause.)*

**X:** Huh.

**Z:** Crap. Crap!

*(They stare at their screens some more.)*

**X:** This website *sucks*.

**Z:** I can't get it. I can't even apply. Letters of recommendation, straight As, test scores even. No. No internship without a Social.

**Y:** There's gotta be a form, or ... some kind of of of appeal process, or or committee...

**X:** I lookin' here. Question: we undocumented resident aliens, or permanent residents, or conditional permanent residents ...or?

**Z** Like it matters.

**Y:** Wait, no, that's a good question. Maybe we belong in a different, like, official category, and all we have to do. . .

**X:** Hang on, hang on. Form I-829...

**Y:** No, but what *are* we?

**X:** We Dreamers.

**Y:** I know *that*.

**X:** And ...nope. They not a form for Dreamers.

**Z:** *(Points to a screen.)* And here I am. "While we are deeply sympathetic to your situation"

**X:** Good thing you checked your email.

**Y:** *(Still searching.)* Everything on this site's a PDF.

**X:** 'Course. They don't want us doin' crap on-line. We hackers, yo.

**Y:** I'm saying, there has to be a-a-a . . .

**Z:** Why? Why does there have to be any kind of of recognition or...

**Y:** I'm not giving up.

**Z:** I'm giving you permission to.

**X:** *(Checking out her screen.)* Check it out. Form I-829-A.

**Z:** I-829?

**Y:** A. The form to tell you how to fill out the other form.

**X:** This is great, man: they also got this...

**Y:** A-EZ. The form that explains the other form.

**Z:** Which is the one that explains the other form?

**Y:** Yeah.

*(Pause.)*

I think.

**Z:** So there's a form that explains the form that explains which form...

**Y:** So helpful.

**Z:** This doesn't help us at all; why did you show us this?

**X:** I thought it was funny.

*(Reading, mumbling aloud as she reads just audibly.)*

Petitioner ...submit this petition ...within 90 days of ...second anniversary of...obtaining...What's this word?

**Y:** What word?

**X:** This word. Enter...

**Z:** Entrepreneur. French word for like someone who starts a new business.

**X:** Yo, we should totally do that! Like, borrow money, from a bank!

**Z:** Apply for a business license. And, I know, an E--verify account! And...

**Y:** I'm trying to help.

**Z:** When you're screwed, you're screwed. And I'm screwed.

**X:** So quit.

**Y:** *(Picks up device.)* Dude, we don't have time for you to play Boguee!

**X:** *(Reasonably.)* If we're done here...

**Y:** We're not done. I'm not done.

**Z:** So ?

**X:** Hang on, I need these bananas yes!

*(They glare.)*

What? I was low energy.

**Y:** I'm saying. We have to go back to that place. Ask again. Get more, like, paper forms, to fill out with, like, a pen.

**Z:** Why?

**Y:** Because there has to be a way.

**Z:** Why? Why does there have to be a way?

**Y:** Because there does.

***1.5 more pages to the end:***

**Z:** Drive safe.

*(Tosses keys. Y leaves)*

**X:** This 'sposed to be easier.

**Z:** It's what it is.

***(THE END)***