

Excerpt from
NO PERFORMANCE TODAY

A clown theater play with puppetry
for 10 years and older

written and translated
by Ingeborg von Zadow

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Saffo looks out of the window of her trailer.

SAFFO Kanda? Kanda. Kanda!

KANDA *in the other trailer* Hmmm?

SAFFO Do you think there will be a performance tomorrow?

KANDA Oh, come on. How?

SAFFO Of course, the rope is still gone.
Teiro is amused.
But I have an idea: let's find another one.
Teiro is alarmed.

KANDA Another rope?

SAFFO Of course.
There isn't just one in the world.
There are hundreds.
The old rope has run away.
So let's replace it.
We can't be stuck here forever,
because of a stupid rope,
that suddenly has other plans.

KANDA But we're not supposed to go out.

SAFFO Says who.

KANDA The screen says "Please stay inside!".
I'm going to stick to that, Saffo.
I don't want something to happen.

SAFFO What do you think will happen?

KANDA What do I know.
Tornado, famine, a visitor from outer space.

SAFFO At least there would be something going on here for a change.

KANDA You're always in such a frenzy.
 Isn't it nice, for a change, to not always have to go outside?
 To not always have a performance?
 To be free?
 Why don't you just wait.

SAFFO Kanda!
 I'm fed up with waiting.
 I'm going outside to find us a new rope.
 And then it's showtime today.
 Like in the past.
 Like always.
 Like in the past always.

KANDA No, Saffo, don't. Don't go outside.

SAFFO I'm already out of practice.

KANDA Trust me, there's something out there. We'd better stay inside.

SAFFO Do I still know our numbers?

KANDA The screen isn't just saying that. It really means it.