

Packard Play 2003 – Snakes and Lizards

An actor walks into the middle of the acting area. In his hands he carries a round ball. He sits looking at the globe and turning it in his hands. He notices the audience.

Narrator: [**He turns the globe again.**] It's so big.. the world. So big...Ahh..Here we are! This tiny dot here! [**He shows it to the audience.**] This tiny little dot. And all around Vast seas... Nothing but sea and a few tiny islands for thousands of kilometers. But then there's a big continent. South America.. and what's all this green up the top? Ahh the Amazon Rainforest! You've heard of it haven't you? The greatest forest in the world. They say there are more kinds of animals and plants there than in any other place in the world! There are butterflies as big as this...[**He shows with his hands.**] Anacondas swimming in the rivers.. they're snakes. They can be five meters long! Ohhh!

So many beautiful birds. Creatures you can't find anywhere else. But they're cutting the Amazon down now. They're burning it, because there are many many poor people in Brazil.. and the numbers are growing all the time. They need land.. to live on .. to grow food. You know, every day they burn an area of forest, bigger than our little island! [**He turns the globe.**] Maybe there was some leaf medicine amongst all those trees they've burnt, a medicine that could have cured cancer! But they'll never find out now. The forest is going all over the rest of the world too. In America, in Europe, Asia .. in Australia. They say the forest in Australia is going quicker than in any where else. People cutting wood.. burning forests... Here .. in Indonesia... a big country with more than a hundred million people! In the hot season they burn the forests and the smoke from those huge forest fires pollutes the air as far away as India! [**He shows where the area is.**]

Yes.. human beings are changing the whole world. [**He turns the globe again.**] See this big yellow area? Do you know what it's called? The Sahara Desert. The forests are shrinking, but the deserts are growing. The Sahara grows two kilometers every year. Nothing grows in the desert. Well almost nothing. The earth is like sand. A beach without any water! The sun shines down all day.. you could fry an egg by just leaving it on the sand. But at night the temperature drops right down! All the heat escapes because there are no clouds to hold it in. It freezes! Do you think people live in the desert? They do.. because there are a few places where you can find water.. Oasisis they call them. But you wouldn't want to drink the kind of water you find there. It's dirty..like water you find in a puddle.. But desert people drink it. They don't stay in one place the desert people. They have to move all the time, to find water and food for their animals. People in the desert are rich if they have lots of animals. They don't have land. Who'd want to own a bit of desert? They keep sheep and goats and they walk around looking for dry grass and dirty water for their animals.

A hard place to live ah? But there are lots of big countries and lots of people all round these deserts. Here.. Cairo. The capital of Egypt. More than 10 million people live there. Ten million.. That's more than every man, woman and child in the whole Pacific! And this city is a city on the edge of a desert .Where do they get enough water to drink and to wash?

Actor 1: SSSSSS..... SSSSSSSSSS [**He is looking over the backdrop.**]

Narrator: Ahh?

Actor 2: Why are you asking them all those stupid questions? [**He also comes out.**]

Narrator: What?

Actor 2: They've come to see a play, not sit through a geography lesson!

Actor 1: That man's too old to be at school!

Narrator: I was just looking at this globe and I thought...

Actor 2: We want then to come and sit down, not get up and leave!

Actor 1: Egypt..Cairo! 10 million people! Enough!

Actor 2:What do you think you're doing?

Narrator: I'm trying to explain how the numbers of people are growing and ..

Actor 2: Why should I care about Cairo and how many people live there? It's nothing to do with me! I've come here to act in a play! So why aren't we doing it? [**The other actors all appear from behind the backdrop.**]

Actor 3: What's going on?

Actor 4: Are we doing the play or not?

Actor 1: He wants to do it all himself!

Narrator: No! No I don't!

Actor 2: He started on his own.. saying all sorts of stuff that..

Actor 1: No one knows anything about! He's making us look stupid!

Narrator: I'm trying to explain...

Actor 1 Explain what?

Actor 2 What are you trying to explain?

Narrator: About the world and how all the forests are disappearing..

Actor 2: Ahhh! Forests aren't disappearing here! There are big trees everywhere!

Actor 4: What about the small sawmills. They're everywhere too.

Actor 2: He was talking about *Cairo*! [**He is checking the narrator.**]

Actor 1: There are ten million people in Cairo.. How do they get water?

Narrator: There are more than 6 billion people alive today. More people than there have ever been. The population of this country is growing very quickly..

Actor 2: So what!

Actor 1: We aren't even 200,000 yet! We haven't got a population problem!

Narrator: We're growing more quickly than most other countries in the world. It will be a problem one day.

Actor 4: Everyone's got land.

Narrator: Do you think it will still be like that when you're sixty?

Actor 2: I've had enough! Stop! Hear me?

Actor 1: It's getting late! We have to put on the play! Now!

Actor 3: Come on, lets do it.

Narrator: But what about all world's problems?

Actor 2: I don't want to know!

Narrator: Okay! Okay!

Actor 1: Get rid of that globe! [**The narrator walks away from him.**]

Actor 4: Do you think they'll be people without land one day?

Actor 2: He just wants to make us feel bad!

Narrator: That's not true! But you have to understand what's happening! Human beings are destroying the environment! The forest! The animals! Don't you care?

Actor 1: We aren't like people in other countries. We care about our land. We don't burn the trees and fish out the seas! According to the constitution it's our duty to look after our environment!

Actor 2: That's right!

Narrator: The population's growing..

Actor 2: Shut up can't you?

Actor 4: SSSSSSS! [**He faces the audience.**] They're all here! Looking at us! They'll throw us out of the village if we carry on like this! [**They all look at the audience.**]

Actor 3: We'll lose our jobs!

Actor 2: Lose our jobs? It's all your fault! I'll stop you right now! Give me that stupid globe! [**He grabs the globe.**]

Narrator: Leave it alone! It's mine!

Actor 2: Give it here! [**They fight over the globe.**]

Actor 3: Stop it! Let him go! Stop! [**Actor 3 and 4 stop them fighting. The globe rolls away and actor 3 picks it up.**]

Actor 4: You two!

Narrator: He wants to use his fists.. he can't talk about things! Where's the globe?

Actor 3: Here it is..

Actor 2: I'll break it into pieces!

Actor 4: Are you crazy! Stop this fighting!

Actor 3: They look really cross now. Say sorry to them! Look at that old lady. You've frightened her!

Actor 1: Look ummm... we're really sorry about this... We'll get everything ready and start now.. just a couple of minutes. Okay! [**He talks to the other actors.**] You go and get ready! Now!

Actor 2: I'm not working with him!

Narrator: You saw what he did!

Actor 1: [**In a stage whisper.**] We'll sort it all out afterwards! Everyone behind the backdrop now! Now! I'm going to tell them what the plays about okay? Get behind! And stop them fighting! [**The other actors all leave. Actor 2 tries to push the narrator, but actor 3 and 4 stop him. They can heard arguing behind the backdrop.**]

Actor 1: Shut up! [**He turns to the audience trying to smile as if everything is okay.**] Hello everyone! We've come to perform play. I'll explain one or two things to you before we start. There are only five of us. If you see one actor wearing a hat [**One actor comes up behind the backdrop wearing a hat**] or if they put on a different shirt [**An actor comes up with a shirt and puts on a different one.**] he's someone different now, OK? We hope you enjoy the play. If you want to laugh, laugh [**The actors behind the backdrop start laughing.**] but stop laughing when the actors talk. [**The actors stop laughing.**] Then everyone can hear what they're saying.

Our play today is about life in town... and a woman whose name is Alice and her husband Harry. Alice is a good woman... Just like you Auntie. She works hard to provide for her family ... there she is! [**Alice comes out behind the backdrop she carrying a cloth and she starts to wipe a pretend wall.**] Alice lives in town with her family and she works as a house girl...

Actor 2: That's enough! Get off!

Actor 1: Hmm... We'll start now then.. enjoy the show! [**He runs behind the backdrop and Alice starts to talk.**]

Alice: Hard work.. cleaning the house everyday.. every single day.

Song: Clean the house

Like it's your house

Each day

Each and every day

Wash the walls

Sweep the floor

Clean the toilets

To earn a little money

Money that runs away.
 You have a dream
 Your daughter
 Will go to Secondary School
 Give her a chance
 A better life than yours
 She'll sit in an office
 Have a nice place to live
 A better life
 A better life than your own!

[**As the song finishes Alice hears a person calling her and she puts the cloth down. There is no real person and the audience does not hear them call.**]

Alice: Yes Misses? I've finished everything Misses. The walls look nice don't they? Yes Misses... I'm going home now...but ...ummm...Misses. Can I ask you something? I need to borrow some money, just a little. My daughter's school fees.. I promised to pay this month.. but my husband's brother is getting married ... He doesn't work and I have to pay for everything. So I... Can't my husband help his brother? But my husband isn't working now Misses. He doesn't have any money. And he's got such a big family! They come and ask for help all the time. I can't look after my own children Misses! If I don't pay the school fees now, my daughter will have to leave school... How much? Fifteen thousand Misses. You can take it out of my salary...[**She is waiting as if the Misses is thinking.**] Oh! Thank you Misses, Thank you! [**She runs out. People call out behind the backdrop and Harry enters. He is waving to some people behind the backdrop and a song starts. He mimes the actions of the words of the song.**]

Song: He's got nothing to do
 Just walk up and down
 Hang around
 With his friends all day!

There are no jobs
 No jobs in Vila town
 There are no jobs
 In Santo town
 There are no jobs.

How are we going to live?
 We all need money
 You've got to keep looking
 Maybe one day.
 Walk round
 Every yard
 Hey Misses! Got a job?
 No work today thank you very much!
 And now you're tired
 And you don't know where to go
 Can't face another
 No

People say there's always work
 In this country
 Work your garden!

Everyone has land
 But you need soap to wash
 And keresine
 You want to bring money home
 But there's no way you can
 So just sleep all day
 And dream
 You'll find a job someday

There are lots of jobs
 In Vila town
 There are jobs
 In Santo now!
 There are jobs!

[He falls asleep on the ground and Alice comes inside. She is cross that Harry is sleeping.]

Alice: Harry! Harry! Get up!

Harry: I want to sleep....

Alice: I can't sleep all day! I have to go to work! **[She throws her bag on the ground.]**

Harry: There's nothing to do...

Alice: You could cut firewood ... work in the garden! You want me to work and do everything here as well?

[Harry gets up and starts to go out.]

Alice: Where are you going?

Harry: To get fire wood!

Alice: It's nearly dark! You can go tomorrow.

Harry: First you tell me to go and get firewood and then ...Man...

Alice: Harry, I had to ask the Misses for money to pay for Lizzie's school fees. She doesn't like it when I ask for an advance.. **[She takes out an envelope and shows it to Harry.]**

Harry: Did she give it to you?

Alice: here..look! I'll pay her back out of my salary.. but that's alright. 15 thousand!
 Lizzie can go to school now!

Harry: Fifteen thousand...

Alice: I'll go to the bank tomorrow and send this money straight to the school... Don't tell anyone about the money!

Harry: Stop worrying! No one's going to ask for money.

Alice: Hmm.... Where are the children?

Harry: They're helping to cook for the wedding...

Alice: Ohh.... I'm so sick of weddings.

Harry: Sick of weddings?!

Alice: They have no moneybut they want to get married and ..have children. Whose going to pay to buy bread in the morning and send the children to school?

Harry: **[He shakes his head.]** We didn't work when we got married! You're always blaming my family! What about yours?

Alice: I don't know... **[She starts to grate coconuts. Harry stands watching her and then looks out at the audience watching the sun go down. He walks out past Alice hoping she doesn't see him.]**

Alice: Harry! You're not going to drink kava?

Harry: No.. I've got to see a man.. about a job.

Alice: Liar! You're going to drink kava!

Harry: Alice! I'm the boss here! Not you! I'm going to see a man about a job OK? Do you want me to work or not?

Alice: Go then! [**Harry starts to leave.**] Don't buy your friends kava on account! There's no money to pay for all the kava you drink at the end of the month.

Harry: I don't have an account at the kava bar! [**He exits**]

Alice: Pheww... [**She starts looking for somewhere to hide the money**] I'll put it somewhere safe.. [**Another woman walks in and Alice is holding the money in her hand. She tries to hide it behind her back as the woman talks. The woman tries to see what she's holding.**]

Mary: Alice...

Alice: Ahh!

Mary: Sorry! I frightened you..

Alice: No... I...

Mary: You just got home?

Alice: Yes

Mary: And Harry's gone to drink kava?

Alice: Yes.

Mary: Where are the children?

Alice: Do you want something Mary?

Mary: Alice, I need help... I've got a problem..

Alice: Problem?

Mary: Just a little money to buy...

Alice: I haven't got any money Mary!

Mary: The children are hungry... but the storekeeper won't let me take anything..my account's too big. Alice ..just a little money... for rice and kerosene.

Alice: Rice? What about food from the garden? It's better than rice and it's free!

Mary: Alice...

Alice: Here! Take my rice. I don't have any money but I have a little rice! You and your children can eat it.

Mary: But what about you?

Alice: Just take it!

Mary: Thankyou Alice... I'll pay you back when I...

Alice: Your husband doesn't work. You have five children. When will you have money? [**Mary goes out with the rice. Alice looks at the money and goes to hide it again. There is a knock on the door.**]

Actor 3: Alice .. got any sugar?

Actor 4: Got some tea?

Actor2: A handful of rice?

Actor 3: Alice, I need soap...

Actor 2: 100 vatu for a bus!

All: Alice!

Alice: It's finished! [**Alice shuts the door on them she hides the money and leans against the backdrop, breathing heavily. There is another loud knock. Alice is very cross now.**]

Alice: What?!

Actor2: Alice, your sister sent me. She's gone into labour!

Alice: The baby's coming!

Actor2: She wants you now!

Alice: I'm coming I'm coming! [**She goes to lock the door**]

Actor2: We need money for the taxi... I haven't got any...

Alice: Pheww... [**She runs inside to get her bag and they both run out.**]

[The Globe rolls into the acting area. The Narrator runs after it and Actor 2 watches him over the backdrop.]

Actor2: That stupid thing.... Get it back here quick!

Narrator: Sorry! I dropped it and then...

Actor 2: ...you made us look stupid again!

[The globe is at the front of the audience now. The narrator goes and picks it up. He looks at the person it has landed close to and speaks to them.]

Narrator: It's a picture of the world...every country in the world is on this globe. It looks like our world is just a little ball ah?

Actor 2: Say sorry and come back!

Narrator: Sorry, I didn't mean too spoil things.Umm... do you like the play? Are you sorry for Alice? Lots of people have the same problems as she does... ah? Only ten out of every hundred people have a job in this country. One person has to help 90 other people. The pressure on people who have a job gets worse all the time. Especially in town.

Actor2: Sssss, Ssss **[He is trying to call the narrator but the narrator does not hear him.]**

Narrator: Towns are growing bigger all over the world. People come to towns looking for work, a good education for their children ...the chance to see a doctor at a hospital. They want running water and electricity ..And where do you get these things?.. Yes! In town. Some cities in the world are so big.. You can't imagine! Here...Mexico City... over 26 million people! And in Rio the biggest city in Brazil, there are over ten million people too. Things are much worse in those big towns than they are here. There are huge areas of make shift houses.. they make them out ofplastik and cardboard. But that's better than sleeping on the street. Thousands of children sleep on the streets.. they have no homes or families.. They call them street kids.

Actor2: SSS! Stop it!

Narrator:It's even happening in the Pacific...In Fiji ... **[He shows Fiji on the globe]** here... people sit on the pavement asking for money. There's not enough work for everyone and the indian people there don't have land. **[Some actors from the next scene come in.]**

Actor 2: Come back here! Harry is going to the kava bar!

Narrator:Ohh yes...Sorry! We'll get on with the play now! **[The Narrator runs to his place and throws the globe behind the backdrop.]**

[Some men are drinking kava in a kava baar. A girl is serving a man. Harry walks inside, someone calls him.]

Frank: Ssss, Harry! **[He is talking quietly.]**

Harry: Is he here yet.

Frank: Not yet.

Harry: Want a shell?

Frank: Yes

Harry: Fifty or 100?

Frank: A Hundred. **[Harry walks up to the girl serving.]**

Harry: 2 for 100, put it on my account.

Girl: **[The girl looks in a book.]** You didn't pay last month...

Harry: I'll pay this month! Don't worry! Two for 100 **[She gives him the kava but doesn't say anything.]** Thank you! **[He walks back to Frank with the two shells.]**

Frank: Thank's Harry. **[They stand up to drink.]** To the new year! Hope it's better than last year!

Harry: Yeah, **[They drink. As they drink a man walks in.]**

Frank: That's him!

Harry: He's looking for people to work?

Frank: Yes.

[The man goes up to get kava, he looks around and sees Frank.]

Dick: Frank! **[Frank and Harry walk towards him.]** You've brought a friend. Good.

Harry: I'm Harry.

Dick: Good to meet you Harry. Want a shell?

Frank: We just had one thanks.

Dick: Okay..one ..for 100. **[He puts money on the counter. Harry is watching.]** Sit down, I'll drink this **[He walks away with his shell.]**

Harry: Man, I wasted my money!

[Frank laughs and they both sit down. Dick comes and sits with them.]

Dick: So Harry.. You haven't got a job?

Harry: Frank said you were looking for people. If you have work .. I'm your man!

Dick: You'll do anything?

Harry: Yes.

Dick: Both from the same island?

Harry: We're brothers.

Dick: You can do the job then!

Harry: I'll start anytime.... I can start now if you like!

Dick: Now? Don't you want a shell first? **[He laughs and slaps Harry on the back.]**

Harry: I'll drink one more if there's time!

Dick: One hundred?

Harry: Yes.. thanks! **[Dick goes for the kava.]**

Frank: He's a good man Harry! He's going to help you!

Harry: Yeah.. but what kind of work is it?.

Frank: Work for money!

Dick: Come on! Kava's here!

[They go to get their kava and all drink together. They are still standing when Harry starts talking.]

Harry: What am I going to do Dick?

Dick: You'll be my agent on the island.

Harry: Agent? Agent for what?

Dick: **[He puts his arm round Harry.]** Let me explain ...

[They freeze and Dick and Frank exit. Harry is walking back to the house. He is drunk on kava. Alice walks round the backdrop and is surprised to see him. She is getting the dish to wash the plates in, she takes it and starts washing- she does not want to look at Harry.]

Alice: One shell! We ate hours ago! Your's is in the saucepan. **[He goes to get it and Alice starts talking again.]** I'm sick of your family! They come for sugar, for tea, soap! I don't get any peace! **[Harry ignores her.]**

Harry: We were talking with this man..

Alice: What man?

Harry: Dick.... He's looking for someone... to work.

Alice: Did he give you a job?

Harry: If I want.

Alice: Ah? **[She is very happy now.]** He gave you a job? Harry? A job? That will help so much!

Harry: It's on the island.

Alice: And?

Harry: He wants me to go the island...to collect snakes and lizards .. lots of them.

Alice: Why?

Harry: I don't know.. he didn't say..

Alice: He'll pay you for it?

Harry: Yes...around thirty or forty thousand a month.

Alice: Oh Harry! This is it! At last!

Harry: I don't know if I want to it Alice.

Alice: What?

Harry: Why does he want these creatures? What am I going to tell the people on the island? He wants me to talk with them ...to ask the chief to let us take them but... I don't know if we should take these animals out of the bush. **[Alice can't believe what he's saying.]**

Alice: If you don't want to work, that's your business!

Harry: I want to work Alice. Alice! I want to work... but I can't do a job that's going to hurt my people ...on the island.

[Alice goes to the other side of the stage. Harry is sitting down looking at her. The Narrator walks in with the globe, the two other actors freeze. Actor 2 is watching him.]

Narrator: Africa...South America...Asia...

Actor2: What are you looking at now?

Narrator: All the developing countries, like ours. Countries that don't have much industry and where people still grow their own food. In these countries about half the population is under 15. Because there are so many young people, the population is growing even faster. Our population will reach 400, 000 by the year 2021.

Actor2: So?

Narrator:Look at how people live now! If the number of people doubles, how many will be able to find work in the future? How many will have land to grow food?

Actor 2: Stop worrying about the future! We've all got land now... It's hard to find work but...**[Frank comes in.]** Quick! Get behind! **[Harry and Alice come alive when Frank calls out.]**

Frank: Harry!

Harry: What?

Frank: Grandfather's dead! I got home and people were everywhere..crying! Grandfather's dead Harry!

Harry: He's in hospital... I saw him yesterday... The Doctor said he was getting better...

Frank: He died this afternoon...as the sun went down.

Harry: Grandfather!

Alice: Oh no! Another death.

Harry: He was a big Chief on the island...

Frank: We have to go to the hospital now Harry. Come on...there are lots of things to do. We'll send his body back to the island tomorrow.

[Everyone runs out. Alice and Harry come inside again. Alice comes inside, she is upset.]

Harry: We have to give them money. I can't say no.

Alice: What about Lizzie's school fees? They will send her out of school!

Harry: He's my grandfather Alice! I have to pay for the funeral!

Alice: He's dead. Lizzie's alive!

Harry: He looked after me when I was a child. Do you know what people will say if I don't pay for anything?

Alice: What about the rest of your family? Can't they do something? Frank works... You don't'!

Harry: We've got fifteen thousand vatu sitting in the house! Go and get it!

Alice: I can't do anything with the little money that I earn! The day I get my money, people come asking for it. For bread, tea, sugar. And now I have to give away

Lizzie's school fees! Harry.. please.. don't give it to them. I advanced from the Misses and I can't advance again.

Harry: Go and get that money Alice.

Alice: I want her to finish school! Harry, she's a clever girl...

Harry: Alice... I'll take that job.. Now go and get the money.

[Alice looks at Harry and smiles. Alice goes behind the backdrop and Harry picks up his bag. He goes to the middle of the acting area. The Narrator comes up behind the backdrop.]

Narrator: He has to take that job now.

Actor2: All he has to do is collect some snakes and lizards, what are you worried about?

Narrator: If you take lots and lots of snakes and lizards out of the bush.. what's going to happen? Everything that lives has work to do. What work do these creatures do in the bush? We don't know..

Actor 2: People on the islands aren't crazy for money like people in town! They won't give their snakes and lizards to Harry.

Narrator: Umm...Harry is on the island now... we'll see what happens there.

[Other actors come out to meet Harry.]

Actor 3:Harry! Brother! How are you?

Actor4: Good to see you!

Actor 3: Man! You've got fat!

Harry: No! Maybe a bit.. round the waist.

Actor4: You'll lose it all if you lived on the island!

Harry: I'm staying here! I've come to work...

Actor 3: Work? Cutting copra?

Harry: No.

Actor 4: There's no money in copra now! You're planting kava?

Harry: No.

Actor 3:Kava's gone through the floor! What have you come for Harry?

Harry: Ummm...I've come to work .. and to...help all of us!

All: How?

Harry: I'll go and see the chief first and then we'll talk.. **[He exits.]**

Actor 4: He looks different ah?

Actor 3:People in town have everything.. He'll find it hard here!

[They exit. A booboo shell blows. The narrator comes out from behind the backdrop. He stands listening to Harry's speech.]

Harry: I'm glad to be back on the island again. It's good to be here with you all. And I can help all of us! I'm here as an agent for a man ...ummm... who wants to buy snakes and lizards....They're just sitting out there in the bush .. and he wants to buy them .. from you.

[The narrator is looking at his globe now.]

Narrator: Hmm...snakes and lizards... They should be all over the world right up to the cold countries.. Snakes ..adders they're called, even live up here in Scotland!

[Actor 2 comes out and pulls at his shirt.]

Actor 2: The meeting scene.. aren't you in it?

Narrator: Oh no! I was dreaming.....**[He stands to go, but Actor 2 stops him.]**

Actor 2: Harry's still talking, wait til he's finished. **[He talks in a stage whisper.]** If you go in now, you'll spoil the scene!... what are they doing with the snakes and lizards?

Narrator: Send them overseas...

Actor2: Why?

Narrator: Sell them to people... ..people keep lizards and snakes in their houses! Like dogs or cats

Actor2: They pay money for them?

Narrator: Lots of money!

Actor2: Don't they have their own snakes and lizards?

Narrator: They used to... but there are more people now and more towns.. You can't find many creatures where there are lots of people. All sorts of animals around the world are dying out...look...**[He picks up the globe and Actor 2 looks a little cross but he has to see what he is being shown.]**

Actor2: That stupid globe again!

Narrator: There used to be elephants living all over this area..... but now they live in game parks or people keep them for working animals. In some countries all the elephants have died. Big cats are in danger too. There used to be tigers here but now they only live in zoos. There are only xxx tigers alive in the world today. People are scared that soon the only tigers alive will be in zoos in the big cities.

Actor2: Are there some animals that have all died?

Narrator2: Lots of species around the world have died out! There is a big bird from New Zealand called the Moa that doesn't exist anymore, the Moari's killed them all hundreds of years ago. The Moa is a bird that can't fly.

Actor2: If it can't fly then it can't run away from people. It's easy to kill them all!

Narrator: Not only birds are extinct, There used to be lions in Europe starting from here through to England! But people killed all of them nearly a thousand years ago. Animals around the world are dying out. Big animals die out first and then the small ones. People have to kill them because they need food or they sell them to get money.

Actor2: Maybe in other countries, but not here! We are a Pacific Paradise! We aren't like other countries where people have forgotten their custom and culture. Here on the island we don't need money to stay alive!

Actor3: **[He pushes his head up from behind the backdrop)** The Chief says Harry can take the lizards and snakes, but he has to pay the money that we promised us. If he doesn't pay us the amount he promised then they'll stop him. We have to be ready to go on with the play now!

[The people behind the backdrop clap. Narrator and Actor2 are quiet and go close to the backdrop. Harry is talking)

Harry: Thankyou Chief, I'm very glad that you let me do this work here on the island. We all need to earn money. I'm glad that I have work now and I hope that all of us on the island can benefit from this job!

[everyone claps again. Some call out Harry! Narrator and Actor2 go behind the backdrop quickly and the other actors come out)