



The Little Prince

Presented by The Scoundrel and Scamp Theatre

Adapted from the novel by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Directed by Holly Griffith

————— Synopsis —————

An aviator reveals a story of how he crash-landed his plane into the Sahara Desert and encounters the mysterious Little Prince from a distant planet. The two strangers, both far from home, share adventures and become friends. The Little Prince needs the Aviator to draw him a sheep so that he can protect his Rose and tiny planet from the baobab trees. While the Aviator tries to fix his plane and survive in the desert, he learns many lessons from the Little Prince's adventures. The Prince tells him stories of his planet, his Rose, and the people he met on the other planets. He also shares his adventures on earth, particularly his encounters with the Snake and the Fox. When the Aviator's plane is finally ready, it is also time for the Little Prince to leave Earth. In the end, we learn the most important lesson: "*It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.*"

————— Cast of Characters —————

Aviator: our narrator, who tells us about meeting the Little Prince

Little Prince: a child visitor from another planet, he shares the lessons he learned with the Aviator

Rose: the flower whom the Little Princes loves, despite her vanity

Fox: a wise and wild animal that befriends the Little Prince

Snake: speaks in riddles, hints of danger

King: he is a king without any subjects



————— About the Book's Author —————

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

June 29, 1900—July 31, 1944



Antoine de Saint-Exupéry was a French writer, poet, aristocrat and pioneering aviator. He flew for the first time at the age of twelve and decided right then to become a pilot. When he was seventeen, his younger brother, Francois, died after being ill for a long time. It is thought Francois' death likely influenced Saint-Exupéry's views on life and death and may have even served as inspiration for the Little Prince.

In 1921, Saint-Exupéry began serving in the French military as a pilot. Five years later he published his first short story, *L'Aviateur*, in 1926. A few years after his first publication, Saint-Exupéry married Consuelo Suncin Sandoval, and she became the inspiration for the Rose in *The Little Prince*. In 1935 he tried to break the speed record for flying from Paris to Saigon and crashed in the Libyan Desert. He and his copilot had to walk for three days to find help. During World War II he flew reconnaissance missions for France and wrote *Le Petit Prince* (*The Little Prince*) in 1943.

On July 31, 1944, a year after the publication of *The Little Prince*, Saint-Exupéry set out on a mission from the island of Corsica to fly over occupied France. Sadly, he was never seen again.