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English 2XL
Section 4
PV Theater CM #3

Beauty & the Beast

Beauty & the Beast was easily the most poetic play I saw this year, comparing it to plays I've logged for Poetic Vision as well as plays that I haven't. The amount of beauty, perfection, and emotion packed into a high school performance was just crazy. This play is about a girl who loves to read and a beast that was cursed for not being hospitable falling in love and getting married. It takes a lot of work, and the beast's crude nature causes many roadblocks, but eventually, they fall in love and break the curse.

This play was probably the most well-done high school play I've ever seen. It included great acting, amazing singing, fun humor, and serious meaning. One of the most poetic things about it was how few props there were. The only props were two large metal stepladders, scaffolding, and a crazy bike invention. The ladders/stairs became everything from large doors leading into a castle to the edge of a rooftop. The audience had to imagine the set, and that was what made this play ultimately so special. Everyone was indirectly *forced* to relate to the play through participation because everyone had to imagine his or her own set. On top of this, a combination of Broadway-status singing, movie worthy acting, and great comic relief pushed this play to the next level. If I had no context and somebody told me this play was professional, I would completely believe them. The play touched me in many ways, partially because I knew people in the play, and partially because I was shocked at how great the singing and acting was. Everybody has a little beast in them, and the key to true love is finding a beauty who can appreciate the beast in you and love every aspect of you completely.