

Cast

Mark – Carn Truscott

Caroline – Libby Boyd

Crew

Director/Writer – Nikki Hill

Co-Producers – Kati Hall & Harriet Lowe

Shadow Director – Max Miller

Technical Director – Joseph Heil

Shadow Technical Director – James Fox

Lighting Designer – Tyler Gordon

Technical Operators – Joanna Manning, Alex Tribley,

Nathan Penney, Adam Humphries & Ali Uzair Lalani

Set Designer – Nikki Hill

Stage Managers – Ellie O'Donnell, Kate Fisher,

Omid Faramarzi & Darcey Graham

Poster Designer – Nikki Hill

Special Thanks – Tom Selves, Harry Bridge

Harriet Lowe – Co-Producer
BA Sociology (3rd Year)

Previous Experience:
Producing: Doubt, Molly Sweeney
Acting: That Face, Frankenstein
(Nottingham New Theatre)



Producer's Note:

Let's Just Pretend is such a relatable and naturalistic play about two childhood sweethearts trying to make their relationship work in adult life. I had heard Nikki speak about Let's Just Pretend before the proposal, but I could never have anticipated falling in love with a play and its characters so much. I feel very privileged to be part of such an intimate production, and to give life to something so dear to Nikki.

To Carn and Libby, I have absolutely loved working with you. You have both taken this short (and sometimes difficult) period of rehearsal time in your stride, always showing professionalism and enthusiasm.

To Kati, my partner in crime, thank you so much for keeping me sane and always supporting me. It's been a dream working with you and I couldn't have imagined doing this without you. Finally, to Nikki, thank you so much for letting me be a part of your baby and I hope I have been able to help you create something you can be proud of. You are such a talented person and I have confidence that you will go on to do amazing things in life. I hope you all enjoy the show as much as I have enjoyed producing it.

Kati Hall – Producer
BA English & History (3rd Year)



Previous Experience:
Producing: 40%
Acting: That Face, Doctor Faustus
(Nottingham New Theatre)
Jekyll and Hyde (Musicality)

Producer's Note:

Nikki told me about 'Let's Just Pretend' in the summer and instantly I fell in love with the entire idea. I am in awe of Nikki's ability to write such beautiful characters that you both love and hate simultaneously. Even more so the careful thought put into every sentence. I couldn't have dreamed of a better play to produce as my first In-House show (even if my role is purely pastoral!) Harriet, thank you for being there for Nikki when I couldn't be and for always being one step ahead. Libby and Carn, enjoy it, you're both amazing. But most importantly, please, 'Reel it in'.

Nikki Hill – Director
BA English & History (3rd Year)



Previous Experience:
Directing: 40%
Producing: A Servant to Two
Masters, Habeas Corpus
(Nottingham New Theatre)

Director's Note:

I started writing Let's Just Pretend in the summer, when I was on the verge of starting my last year of university. It began as a short story, but the more I wrote the more I fell in love with the characters and wanted to see it come to life. I wanted the audience to see two separate phases of their relationship and to show their love as a constant, but to ask the question what if love is not enough to sustain a relationship? I loved this idea that what endeared Mark to Caroline and the audience in the first Act, this fixation on unabashed creativity, is the same thing that breaks their relationship in Act 2. The blurred line between reality and fiction is something I wanted to play with both in the set and in the relationship between the characters, emphasising the idea that a past does not necessarily make a future.

Bringing these characters to life has been the most wonderful experience as I have watched them grow in ways I never thought imaginable. Libby, the sheer amount of work and dedication you gave to this role astounded me. From her complex relationship with her family through to what items she had in her bag, you gave Caroline a voice and a mind so strong I think sometimes even we forgot she wasn't real. Carn, you brought such a natural sweetness to the role and were always ready to indulge in Mark's creativity, and truly bring his imagination alive. I am so proud of the play we have created together.

And finally to my wonderful producers, Kati and Harriet, without whom this show would never have even been a possibility. Your flawless ability to get everything and everyone organised is something I will always be grateful for. You reeled us back in whenever we inevitably went off on a tangent and kept rehearsals on track, which was a feat in itself. I most definitely owe my sanity to you both as you were always there to remind me 'we can do this' with coffee, hugs and trips to Toys R Us. We make a great team.

I hope you enjoy watching the show as much as I have making it.