

SPOILER ALERT!

What's Actually True

(Please wait to read until after you have seen the play.)

Here is a list of facts about Walt Disney, a list of plot points and details in the play that are actually true:

Lemmings do not throw themselves off cliffs. This is a myth popularized by Disney's Oscar-winning nature documentaries. Walt got the idea from a Scrooge McDuck comic book. The nature documentary faked footage of the mass suicides. CBS later uncovered the hoax. Roy's son, producer of the films, was chastised for animal cruelty.

Before he died, Walt intended to build a utopian city (some critics called it borderline socialist). It would be called the Experimental Protocol Community of Tomorrow. After he died, the Disney Company scrapped Walt's plans and turned the city into a theme park known as EPCOT.

By promising the state of Florida that the Disney Company would build a residential area, they gained the district status which gave them far-reaching powers, including tax and zoning privileges and the power of eminent domain. The company did not make good on their promise to Florida until the late 90's.

Walt once threw an Oscar at Roy's head.

In order to obtain one particular tract of land, Disney had to agree to maintain a tree that stood on the property. That tree was ultimately incorporated into the park design.

Towards the end of his life, Walt had considerable neck and shoulder problems. He made a habit of taking his pain pills with vodka.

Walt despised his football playing son-in-law, Ron Miller. He despised him so much that he threw a tantrum when he found out his daughter was marrying Ron. Ron later became, arguably, one of the least successful CEOs of the Disney Company.

Walt once said in an interview, "I love Mickey Mouse more than any woman I've ever known."

During another interview Walt once bragged to a reporter that FDR and Mussolini were fans, while someday Hitler would regret thinking Mickey Mouse was silly.

Walt wanted his daughter to name her son after him, and reportedly threatened to remove her from the will if she did not.

The Liberty Tree, which stands on the Disney World property, was moved, and in the process began to die, and was reconstructed, made partially artificial, in order to "live forever."

Walt was a chain smoker, and ultimately died from lung cancer.

To the best of our knowledge, Walt was not cryogenically frozen, although he expressed a good deal of interest in the process.