



PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

Dear Mr. Bloys,

I'm writing from PETA's Animals in Film and Television division regarding the capuchin monkey who appeared in *I Know This Much Is True*, marking yet another instance of HBO's exploitation of wild animals.

From elephants on *Westworld* and the bear on *Silicon Valley* to the tiger on *Vice Principals* and the lion on *The Leftovers* **and now a monkey**, believe us when we say that animals aren't looking for their "15 minutes of fame"—in fact, they're desperate to avoid it.

We've revealed what happens to animals at training compounds—the deplorable conditions, the whippings, and the deaths—but wild animals continue to be rented, crated, and manipulated for HBO cameras. The network has continued to perpetuate a dangerous misunderstanding that wild animals are happy in human environments, when in reality, their physical and instinctual needs are completely thwarted. Off set, they're generally relegated to cramped cages when they're not being beaten into submission.

Capuchin monkeys are complex animals who, when used for TV, are taken from their mothers prematurely and frequently denied adequate psychological and social stimulation, proper exercise, and the opportunity to engage in natural behavior. They're not props to be used for a scene, and there's nothing nuanced or entertaining about dressing a real monkey in clothes and featuring them caged for a show. It's outdated, it's cruel, and it promotes the dangerous message that wild animals are ours to control.

Won't you consider being on the right side of this issue by enacting a policy against using wild animals? Every time that HBO allows the use of wild animals on its shows, the network is directly supporting this abusive industry. May we hear from you that *I Know This Much Is True* will be the last HBO show to exploit animals?

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Lauren Thomasson
Senior Manager, Animals in Film and Television
PETA

cc: Len Amato

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