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An anecdote about the late James Earl Jones (January 17, 1931 - September 9, 2024) and Ron Perlman.

"I was a Picture Editor on B&B. My first Episode was "Nor Iron Bars a Cage" * in the first season. We had a jovial Associate Producer that was best buddies with Ron Perlman (the Beast) and a liaison between Production and Post Production.

"A few weeks after "Bars" aired he came to my editing room to tell me what Perlman had told him. Ron had gone to New York between episodes for a couple of days. Getting on the subway, people were kidding him, "Are you going to get in the car, or on the car?" (yuk,yuk, NewYorkers!).

"Jones was doing a play on Broadway # at the time and the two actors had known each other from the acting community. Ron went backstage after James Earl Jones' performance to say hi.

"Jones walked up to Ron and the first thing he said was, "I saw "Nor Iron Bars..." and I cried.".....

"Mic drop ... you can put that on my Tombstone. We'll all miss Mr. Jones."

-30-

(Editor's note: Ron Perlman co-wrote this episode, so the compliment must have been doubly gratifying.)

* "Nor Iron Bars a Cage" aired in the US on November 20, 1987.

The play was 'Fences', a 1985 play written by American playwright August Wilson. The play, directed by Lloyd Richards appeared on Broadway at the 46th Street Theatre from March 26, 1987 to June 26, 1988, with 525 performances and 11 previews.

The production won 1987 Tony Awards for Best Play, Best Performance by a Leading Actor in a Play (James Earl Jones), Best Performance by a Featured Actress in a Play (Mary Alice), and Best Direction of a Play (Lloyd Richards), as well as the Drama Desk Awards for Outstanding New Play, Outstanding Actor in a Play (Jones), and Outstanding Featured Actress in a Play (Alice). It also received Tony Award nominations for Best Featured Actor in a Play (Faison and Vance).