

Max Andrew McCreary

Dramaturgical Portfolio

Resource Excerpts

Ken Ludwig's *Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood* – By Ken Ludwig

Anglo-Saxon Britain: 450 – 1066 CE 1

Tiny Houses - By Chelsea Marcantel (A world Premiere Production)

List of Romantic Comedy Tropes 2

Comedic Construction Tropes 4

Portland, Oregon at a Glance 5

Native Gardens – By Karen Zacarías

Glossary..... 7

Egress – By Melissa Crespo and Sarah Saltwick

Gun Laws in Ohio 15

New Jersey Gun Laws (Including Online Sales) 16

Playbill Articles

“The Big History of a Little Lifestyle” – *Tiny Houses* by Chelsea Marcantel 17

“Finding the Funny in Failure” – *The Seagull* by Anton Chekhov 18

“Red Ryder, Little Orphan Annie, and... Superman?” – *A Christmas Story* Adapted by Philip Grecian . 19

Sample Script Report

Describe the Night by Rajiv Joseph 20

Sample One-Sheet

Little Women adapted by Kate Hamill 22

Contact:

Max.a.mccreary@gmail.com

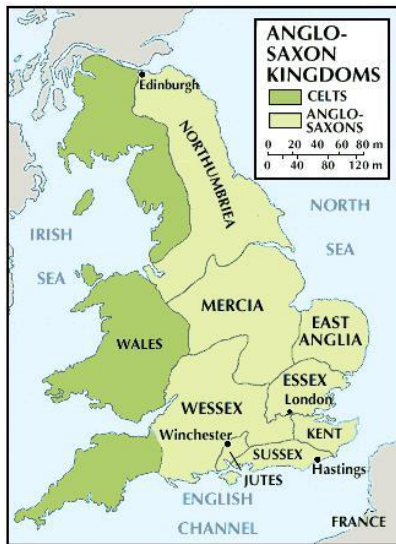
(317) – 989 – 9468

Max-andrew-mccreary.com

Anglo-Saxon Britain: 450 - 1066 CE

Saxon mercenaries (from the Northern coasts of modern-day Germany and Denmark) fought in the Roman army in Britain for many years, so they were not total strangers to the island. Their invasions were slow and piecemeal, and began even before the Roman legions departed. When the Roman legions left Britain, the Angles, Saxons, Jutes and Frisians began to arrive in small invading parties, but soon in increasing numbers. They formed several kingdoms, often changing, and constantly at war with one another. These kingdoms sometimes acknowledged one of their rulers as a High King, the “Bretwalda.” By 650 CE the invading tribes had formed seven different Anglo-Saxon kingdoms: Kent, Mercia, Northumbria, East Anglia, Essex, Sussex, and Wessex. (Source: [UK Historical Association](#))

Map of the 7 Kingdoms



Important Figures



Gildas c.500 - c.570 CE

- Saxon Monk
- Recorded history of Saxon invasion



St. Augustine of Canterbury

- Became Archbishop of Canterbury in 597 CE
- Brought Catholicism to the kingdom of Kent



High King Athelstan c. 894 - c. 939 CE

- A King of Mercia, and generally considered the first king of all England

Fast Facts!

- In war, only Saxon nobility used swords! Typical soldiers opted for 7ft spears.
 - It was the Danish Vikings who brought the double-headed axes usually associated with Britain’s Anglo-Saxon Period.
- During the Saxon invasion, the Romano-British forces were united by a king named Ambrosius.
 - Later translations of Gildas’s work changed the name to *Arthur*.
- Travel between Saxon kingdoms was common and travelers would shout, dance, and blow horns to assure others that they were not outlaws.
- The most common crops were oats, wheat, rye, and barley. Used for cereal, but also for brewing beer!
- The Saxons spoke their own language: what we now call “Old English.”
 - It fused with the Normans’ French dialect to become “Middle English” (i.e. Chaucerian English).

List of Romantic Comedy Tropes

[The Chocolate of Romance](#) see also [Flowers of Romance](#) – Characters (usually the *false* romantic lead) give chocolate or flowers as a means of courtship. Sometimes this is usurped by the Grand Romantic Gesture as indicated by the *true* romantic lead. Sometimes this is the Grand Romantic Gesture (*Big Fish*, *Pretty Woman*).
Examples include: *Chocolat*, *Big Fish*, *Imagine Me and You*



[Puddle-covering Chivalry](#) – When characters place their jacket over a puddle to keep their love interest from getting their feet wet. Usually played for laughs or intentionally subverted. **Examples include:** *Corpse Bride*, *Shakespeare in Love*,

[Almost Kiss](#) – For any number of reasons, a kiss is interrupted before it begins. This is often achieved through surprise entrances, off-stage (or screen) accidents, or the sudden realization that the characters are afraid of a “relationship upgrade.” **Examples include:** Tony and Pepper in *Iron Man*, Evie and Rick in *The Mummy*, Olivia and Viola in *12th Night* (1996)



[Orbital Kiss](#) – A phenomenon in film. When the romantic leads finally kiss, the camera orbits around them, giving a 360° view of the moment. **Examples include:** Baz Lurhman’s *Moulin Rouge*, *Serendipity*, *Silver Linings Playbook*, *A Knight’s Tale*, *Never Been Kissed*

[The Tackle Hug](#) (or GLOMP) – An aggressive hug with a running start. The phrase, GLOMP, stands for: Grab, Latch On, and Maintain Pressure. **Examples include:** *Across the Universe* (Jude and Max after Jude returns to the US), *All About Steve* (Mary and Steve in the hospital), *Scott Pilgrim Vs. the World* (Knives Chau on Scott)

[The Convenient Slow Dance](#) – When the music conveniently slows down as soon as two characters start dancing with each other. **Examples include:** *Love Actually*, *Groundhog Day*, *Enchanted*

[Funny Background Event](#) – Something comical or unexpected happens in the background of a scene. **Examples Include:** Henry D’ysquith’s death during “Inside Out” in *A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder*, Allison steals Bender’s knife after he stabs it into a table in *The Breakfast Club*, George is constantly stealing things in the background of *Help!*, Bianca accidentally fires her bow at Coach Chapin in *10 Things I Hate About You*

[Happy Dance](#) – Characters dance when they are happy. In Romantic Comedies, they often excuse themselves momentarily to do so. **Examples include:** Sarah in *Love Actually*, Chandler Bing in *Friends*, Evan in *Evan Almighty*



[The Grand Romantic Gesture](#) – Professions of love are taken to the extreme in romance films, which is distilled down to the Grand Romantic Gesture trope. **Examples include:** *Love Actually*, *Say Anything*, *A Knight's Tale*, *Big Fish*

[Letting Her Hair Down](#) – Characters that often have their hair up take it down when they make a meaningful connection with their beau. **Examples include:** Rose in *Titanic*, Lena in *The Sisterhood of the Travelling Pants*, Jane in Disney's *Tarzan*, Mary in *The Wedding Planner*, Jamie in *A Walk to Remember*



[Race for your Love/Big Heroic](#)

[Run](#) – There are two versions of this trope. In, Race for your Love, characters are running to meet someone as part of their Grand Romantic Gesture, often to stop

a wedding. The other version is the Big Heroic Run, in which the character is running to deliver a piece of crucial information. **Examples include:** *The Graduate*, *Made of Honor*, *The Holiday*, *Love Actually*, *Sleepless in Seattle*, *Notting Hill*, *Stardust*

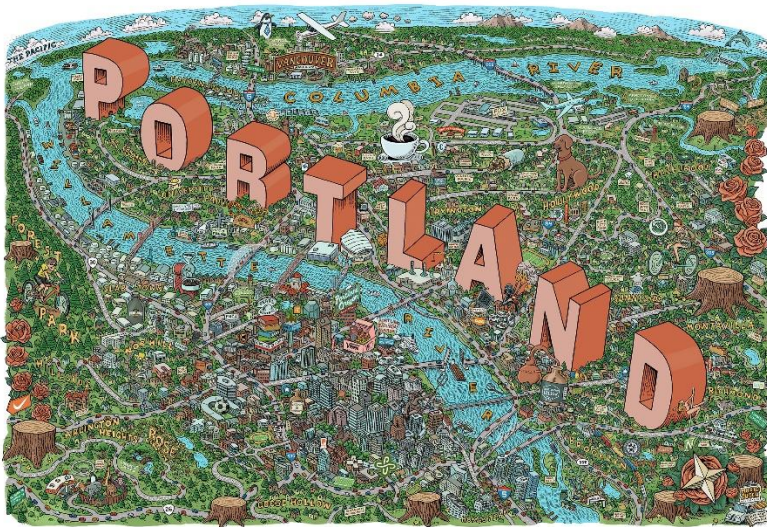
[Stalking is Love](#) – The phenomenon in film and literature where a characters perceive being followed (or following someone) as cute, rather than terrifying. **Examples include:** *There's Something About Mary*, *Scott Pilgrim Vs. The World*, *Indecent Proposal*, *Management*, *30 Rock*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *While You Were Sleeping*

Comedic Construction Tropes

Most comedies that involve a construction site lean on the [“Construction Zone Calamity”](#) trope. Construction sites are common locations for chase scenes and rely heavily on girders or wooden scaffolding being in exactly the right place at exactly the right time. This trope has not maintained its prevalence in live-action film and TV, but Western Animation has kept these antics alive. Listed below is a series of YouTube clips that feature different aspects of the “Construction Zone Calamity” trope that are not necessarily dependent upon cranes or the skeleton of a giant skyscraper.

Title	Scene includes:
<i>The Pink Panther: “The Pink Blueprint”</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blueprint replacement • Carrying 2x4’s/ladders (getting stuck) • Sawing from both sides of the wood • Waiting behind doors that aren’t installed yet • Sneezing from sawdust causes disaster with nails • Hammering a nail from opposite sides of a plank • Chased by runaway electric saw
<i>Mr. Bean: “Home Improvements”</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trying to measure without a tape measure or ruler • Building a new hutch from scratch • Cutting through posters on opposite side of wood • Trying to set things on a surface that no longer exists • Pretending drill is a weapon
<i>Mickey Mouse: “Building a Building”</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characters pick up something different from what they expect • Not paying attention when sawing through things • Mickey cuts the bread for his sandwich using the table saw • Lots of antics involving a wheelbarrow
<i>Evan Almighty</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrying lumber • Missing with hammers • Using a two-person saw • Sitting on 2x4’s
<i>The Money Pit</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scaffolding collapses • Runaway wheelbarrow gag • A big ol’ mess of wires causes a lot of problems • Anchors break

Portland, Oregon at a Glance



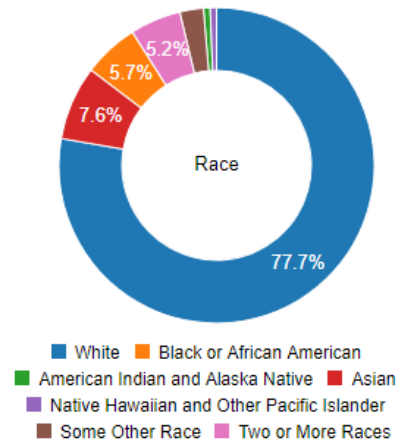
Founding:

Pioneer settlers first started planting roots off the Willamette River in 1830. They called their settlement “Stump Town.” When the city was incorporated in 1845, landowners Francis Pettygrove, of Portland, ME, and Asa Lovejoy, of Boston, MA, executed a coin toss to decide what the new name of the settlement would be. The coin is now known as “The Portland Penny” and is on display at the Oregon Historical Society.

Demographics:

The state of Oregon was admitted to the union in 1859, but had already passed a “black-exclusion clause” in 1843 which was added into the state’s constitution and prohibited black settlers from living in Oregon, despite its status as a free state. Although the clause was rendered unenforcible by the 14th ammendment, it wasn’t until 1926 that the clause was officially repealed. Even in 1940, the city of Portland was 98% white. Today, Portland is the most populous city in Oregon with a total population of 647,805. In 2002, the city organized a major push to eliminate racist nomenclature from the state’s constitution, making the Portland metro area more welcoming to people of color and spurring a steady change in the city’s racial demographics. The growth of the city has also brought an influx of LGBTQ residents, with 5.4% of the population identifying.

Racial Demoaraphics of Portland - 2017



Economy:

- Upwards of 1,200 tech companies
- Largest Port for Wheat in the country (2nd largest globally)
- 85 Breweries (Highest concentration globally)
- 7 Fortune 500 companies
- Business cluster for sportsware companies like Nike, Columbia, Adidas, Keen, Under Armour, Merrell, and LaCrosse Footwear
- Robust Steel Industry

Portland in Pop-Culture

Portlandia



- 2009 - 2018
- Created by Carrie Brownstein and Fred Armisen.
- A sketch comedy showcase inspired by the hipster culture with which Portland has become associated.
- Winner of the 2012 Peabody Award for "the freshness and amiability of its send-ups of Oregon's trendy city."

Beverly Cleary



- 1916 - present
- Author of over 40 children's novels, most of which are set in the Grant Park neighborhood of Portland, where she grew up.
- Received National Medal for the Arts in 2003
- Credited as one of the first children's authors to use Emotional Realism in the narratives of her young characters.

Esperanza Spalding



- 1984 - Present
- Played violin with the Chamber Music Society of Oregon at 5 years old.
- Winner of four Grammy Awards including Best New Artist and Best Jazz Vocal Album.
- Portland has a rich musical culture, other artists heralding from Portland include: The Decemberists, Elliott Smith, and The Kingsmen

Portland Fun Facts!

- ❖ Nationally, Portland has the largest number of vegan and vegetarian options in restaurants.
- ❖ Portland is home to the world's smallest municipal park. Mill Ends Park is only 452 square inches!
- ❖ Portland is one of only two cities in the US with a dormant volcano within the city limits (Mount Tabor).
- ❖ Powell's City of Books, located in the Pearl District, is the world's largest independently owned book store. It takes up an entire city block!
- ❖ Every year, Portland hosts the World Naked Bike Ride, which is exactly what it sounds like.



Glossary

Puta Madre (5) – Motherfucker. (Source: [CityLife Madrid](#))

Lamaze (5) – Relating to or being a method of childbirth that involves psychological and physical preparation in various techniques (as controlled breathing and alternative birthing positions) by the mother in order to reduce pain and facilitate delivery without unnecessary medical intervention. (Source: [Merriam-Webster Dictionary](#))

Maldita Sea (5) – “Damn!” or “Damn it!” (Source: [SpanishDict.com](#))

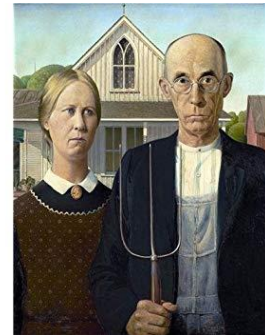
Letterhead-Partner (5) – A senior partner at a law firm whose name appears on the company’s letterhead. (Source: <http://leo.mcguirewoods.com/ViewTopic.aspx?id=104>)

Mi casa es su casa (5) – “My house is your house.” A colloquial expression meaning “make yourself at home.” The use of su is a little bit more formal than saying, “Mi casa es tu casa.” (Source: [SpanishDict.com](#))

Cojones (6) – Balls. (Source: [SpanishDict.com](#))

Machista (6) – An adjective form of “machismo.” Machismo is an exaggerated male-ness, and can also become an adjective as “macho.” However, the “machista” conjugation implies a sexist or chauvinist nature. (Source: [Web Stanford](#))

American Gothic (8) – A painting by Grant Wood, created in 1930. Currently housed at the Art Institute of Chicago. (Source: [Wikipedia](#))



English Ivy (8) – A rampantly invasive, evergreen vine, native to most of Europe. One of the most common garden vines, but also the most pernicious. (Source: [Invasive Plant Atlas](#))

Pesticides (9) – A substance used for destroying insects or other organisms harmful to cultivated plants or to animals. Pesticides are often classified by target organism: herbicide, fungicide, insecticide, nematicide etc... Recorded pesticide use can be traced back to 2000 BCE. (Source: [Wikipedia](#))

Lockheed Martin (10) – Headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, Lockheed Martin is a global security and aerospace company that employs approximately 100,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services. In 2018, they received three Edison Awards for ground-breaking innovations in autonomy, satellite technology and

directed energy. Lockheed Martin is particularly known for their development of tactical aircraft and missiles. (Source: [Lockheed Martin](#))

Defense Contractor (10) – A business, other than a defense production business, that is generally engaged in providing services in support of national defense, including but not limited to logistics and technical support. (Source: [US Legal Dictionary](#))

Tulips (13) – A spring-blooming, perennial bulb, native to Western Asia. (Source: [Wikipedia](#))



De-grub (13) – Root-eating grubs are common in many lawns and gardens. They can be removed using synthetic pesticides, or introducing beneficial nematodes or fungal spores that will eat the grubs. (Source: [WikiHow](#))

Sister oak (15) – Like most plants, oak trees grow in groups that sprouted from a single seed. In the wild it is very rare to find a single specimen on its own. In this instance, the two oak trees on the Del Valle and Butley properties were different sprouts from the same seed. (Source: [Gardening Know How](#))

Bermuda Grass (15) – One of the most common lawn grasses because it is drought resistant, grows in most soil types, and makes good turf if mowed regularly. It is characterized by having a large number of seed splits. (Source: [American Lawns](#))



Entomologist (16) – A scientist who studies insects. (Source: [Oxford Dictionary](#))



Azalea/Asian Azalea (16) – A perennial flowering bush. The deciduous North American Azalea is native to the South Eastern United States, often growing close to the coast line. However, most ornamental azaleas are native to Asia, and have great cultural significance there. (Source: [Clemson University](#))

Peonies (16) – A perennial bush that is quite frost-resistant. Peony bushes have many different shaped blooms. They are native to most of Europe, but certain natural varieties were also discovered in the Northwestern United States. (Source: [The Farmer's Almanac](#))





Hydrangeas (16) – A flowering bush prized for its distinctive bloom shape and beautiful pastel colorings. Blue and pink hydrangeas are the most popular ornamental blooms and are native to China, Japan, and Korea. But less showy plants of the same genus are native to the Midwestern United States. (Source: [The Farmer’s Almanac](#))

Japanese Honeysuckle (16) – A flowering, evergreen vine, native to East Asia. Japanese Honeysuckle was brought to the US in 1806 where it was used largely for ornamental purposes or erosion control. Despite having beautiful blooms, Japanese Honeysuckle wreaks havoc on forests, often killing the trees over which it grows. (Source: [Invasive Plant Atlas](#))



Kudzu (16) – One of the most pernicious invasive vines. Kudzu grows in most soils and can destroy entire forests by over-shading. In many places where Kudzu is native or naturalized (like Japan and Korea) it is considered a noxious weed, but is used ornamentally in other parts of the world. (Source: [USDA](#))

Bradford Pear (16) – Bradford pears boast large white blooms. However, they are also known for being incredibly malodorous. The tree is native to China and Vietnam. While Bradford Pears produce sterile fruit normally, they can hybridize with other flowers and start reproducing, causing invasive issues in many states. (Source: [Center for Invasive Species](#))



Autumn Olive (16) – Native to China, the Autumn Olive has grey and green leaves that produce silver scales around November. Autumn Olive trees are often found on forest edges, and displace native species. (Source: [Center for Invasive Species](#))

Ferns (16) – Non-flowering, vascular plants with woody stems and complex leaf systems. Ferns reproduce by spores. There are approximately 15,000 different species of ferns. (Source: [Encyclopedia Britannica](#))





Mulberry (16) – A medium-sized tree native to North America and some parts of Asia. Mulberry trees produce long blackberry-like fruits. They have often been used industrially for making paper. (Source: [Encyclopedia Britannica](#))

Virginia Creeper (16) – A five-leafed ivy vine, native to the Eastern half of the United States and Canada. Generally considered a weed. (Source: [USDA](#))

Carolina Silverbell (16) – A small tree native to the South-Eastern United States. Characterized by its bell-shaped clusters of white blooms. (Source: [Arbor Day Foundation](#))



Las Condes Santiago (17) – The Santiago Metropolitan Area is split into 17 separate cities, the most affluent of which is Las Condes Santiago. It is home to the financial district of Santiago, as well as the country’s largest shopping mall. Las Condes is also known colloquially as “Sanhattan” because of its many skyscrapers. (Source: [Chile.travel](#))



Pyramid of the Sun (18) – The largest structure in the Aztec ruin of Teotihuacan. It was founded around 100 CE and abandoned in 750 CE. It is the third largest ancient pyramid in the world. (Source: [Encyclopedia Britannica](#))

Warren Beatty (18) – An American writer, director, and actor. Warren Beatty has been nominated for 14 Academy Awards and 16 Golden Globes. He is known for roles like Clyde Barrow in *Bonnie and Clyde* and Dick Tracy in the 1990 movie of the same name. He is Shirley MacLaine’s brother and has been married to Annette Benning since 1992. (Source: [Wikipedia](#))

Acapulco (18) – A major city and seaport on the Pacific coast of Mexico. The name Acapulco means “where the reeds were destroyed or washed away” in the regions native Nahuatl language. Starting in the 1920’s, Acapulco became a paradisiacal escape for Hollywood stars, due to its small population. But the establishment of a highway between Mexico City and Acapulco grew the population from ~6,000 to ~790,000. As it developed, it became one of Mexico’s most popular tourist destinations. (Source: [RealAcapulco.com](#))

Cancun (18) – A Mexican city on the Northeast coast of the Yucatan Peninsula. In the 1970’s Mexico invested in the development of Cancun as a resort-town and tourist destination, splitting the peninsula into two parts, one inland and residential, and one on the coast intended for hotels, condominiums and dining. However, Cancun is also characterized by its proximity to drug-related violence. (Source: [Yucatan Holidays](#))

Library of Congress (21) – Founded by John Adams in 1800, The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world. It is also the main research arm of the U.S. Congress and home to the U.S. Copyright Office. (Source: [Library of Congress](#))



Good fences make good neighbors (22) – Attributed to American poet, Robert Frost, in his poem, “Mending Wall.” This line is famously misinterpreted, since the major intention of the poem is to demonstrate how our metaphorical fences are what alienate us from our friends. (Source: [Poem](#))

Viva la Raza! (24) – Literally, “Live the race!” An exclamation of Mexican-American pride from the Chicano movement. The quote is originally attributed to Bert Corona, in 1966. (Source: [Riverfront Times](#))



Dick Van Dyke Show (25) – A CBS sitcom that ran from 1961 – 1966. It starred Dick Van Dyke, Mary Tyler Moore, Rose Marie, Morey Amsterdam, Larry Mathews, and Richard Deacon. The show’s premise was based on the work and home life of TV comedy writer, Rob Petrie (Dick Van Dyke). The show was set in New Rochelle, New York, where it sang the graces of affluent, white suburbia (sometimes quite literally), while creating a platform for the characters to constantly crack jokes. (Source: [Museum of TV and Communication](#))

Aquí esta (26) – Here it is. (Source: [Spanish Dictionary](#))

A que sí (27) – I bet. Unless it’s a question, in which case it means, “Is this right?” (Source: [WordReference](#))

Huevón (27) – Colloquial expression that can be used as a pejorative to call someone lazy/an idiot, or an interjection synonymous with, “buddy,” or “dude.” (Source: [Spanish Dictionary](#))

Fraternity of Women Engineers (32) – This is likely the Society of Women Engineers, a scholarship and advocacy group dedicated to increasing the female engineering workforce. The SWE was founded in 1950. While there are now fraternities dedicated to female engineers, the first was not founded until 1983. (Source: [SWE](#))

Chamberlain looked the other way... (41) – Referring to Neville Chamberlain, the Prime Minister of the UK from 1937-1940. He is particularly known for his foreign policy of appeasement. When Hitler’s regime began expanding, Chamberlain sanctioned Germany’s

behavior in order to avoid war. In this instance, Virginia is likely referring to the German annexation of Czech territory that should have been dissolved into Poland during the Munich Agreement in 1939. When Hitler invaded Poland shortly thereafter, Chamberlain led the UK through the first eight months of WWII after which he stepped down to allow Winston Churchill to take command. (Source: [Encyclopedia Britannica](#))

Alto! Soy una pinche vieja (48) – Stop! I’m an old fucking bitch! (Source: [SpanishDict](#))

Cat Stevens (51) – A British folk-rock singer/songwriter. After reaching the height of his popularity in the late 70’s. Stevens took a hiatus from music, but returned to the scene in 2006 under the new stage name of Yusuf Islam. After returning, Stevens sang about explicitly Islamic themes and his identity as a Muslim man. While Yusuf Islam is not as recognizable of a commodity as Cat Stevens, since the name change, his music has received much more critical acclaim. In 2017 his album, *The Laughing Apple*, won the Grammy award for best folk album. Fun fact: Cat Stevens was inducted to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2014. (Source: [Wikipedia](#))



Cat Stevens (1966)

Talking turkey (54) – A colloquial expression meaning, “to speak honestly and directly.” Its origins come from an article from the *Niles’ Weekly Register* in which a white man tries to con an “Indian” named Wampum into choosing a crow over a turkey. (Source: [Decode DC](#))

Takoma Park (58) – A small city in Maryland with approximately 17K residents in 2.4 miles. It is a suburb of Washington DC, informally known as “Azalea City.”

“The Agency” (61) – When Pablo was a young child, Chile was ruled by violent dictator, Augusto Pinochet. During his regime, Pinochet organized the disappearance of over 3,000 Chilean citizens. Civil elections removed him from office in 1990, but he remained chief of the army and “senator for life.” In 1994, Pinochet was arrested while in the UK on 94 individual counts of murder. It wasn’t until after his release from the UK in 2000 that his influence in Santiago finally diminished. (Source: [Encyclopedia Britannica](#))



Augusto Pinochet

GSA (62) – The **General Services Administration (GSA)**, an independent agency of the United States government, was established in 1949 to help manage and support the basic functioning of federal agencies. GSA supplies products and communications for U.S. government offices, provides transportation and office space to

federal employees, and develops government-wide cost-minimizing policies and other management tasks. (Source: [GSA](#))

NOT IN MY BACK YARD (62) – Also known as NIMBY, this phrase is meant to signify unified resistance against unwanted land uses, like fracking, or public housing projects. More recently, it has been used to resist the accommodation of refugees seeking asylum. The phrase is first officially cited in a newspaper from rural Virginia in 1980, but it is guessed that the phrase was adopted colloquially before this (probably the 50’s). (Source: [Wikipedia](#))

Sit in (79) – A form of non-violent resistance wherein a person or group of people occupy a space as a form of protest. This style of protest is most known for its success during the civil rights movement. Organizations like SNCC and the NCLC (led by Diane Nash, John Lewis, and Z. Alexander Looby) succeeded in desegregating the lunch counters in Nashville, TN in 1960, becoming the first city in the South to do so. (Source: [USHistory.org](#))

Desgracido. Que te creì (80) – Disgraceful. I believed you!



Post hole digger (80) – A tool used for uniformly digging holes in which posts will be set. (Source: [Home Depot](#))

Demonios (82) – Literally, “demons.” Is often used like, “God damn.” (Source: [Merriam Webster Spanish Dictionary](#))

Ay Dios Mio de los Santos! (84) – A Spanish expression of exasperation or surprise. (Source: [Spanish Context Dictionary](#))

Virginia Sweetspire (86) – A deciduous, flowering shrub. Virginia Sweetspires are named for their native state of Virginia and the pleasant aroma of their long clusters of blooms. The shrub maintains a bright burgundy color through most of fall, and has long-lasting spring blooms, making it a very popular garden shrub. Because Virginia Sweetspires have fast growing roots and send up many shoots, they are best planted in groups, rather than individually. (Source: [The Spruce](#))



Margarita/Daisy (86) – A large genus of flowers in the Aster family. There are native species throughout most of the world. The most common ornamental daisy is the Shasta Daisy, native to Southern Africa. Because they propagate so efficiently, most species are considered weeds. Daisies are a common symbol for purity and new beginnings. (Source: [Flower Expert](#))

Irish twins (89) – A slang term used to describe siblings born within 12 months of each other. The term was originally used as a pejorative to mock the fertility of Irish families. (Source: [Wiktionary](#))



Gun Laws in Ohio

STATE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION - Article 1, Section 4.

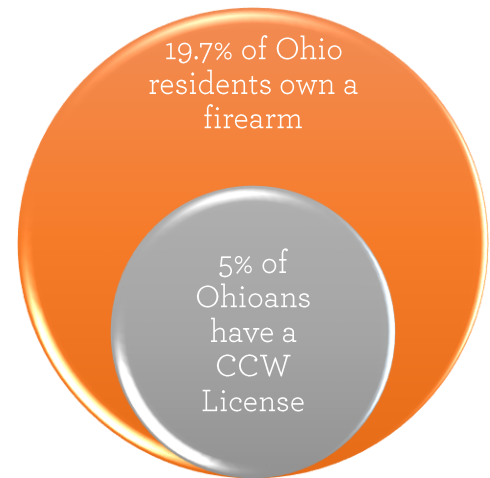
“The people have the right to bear arms for their defense and security; but standing armies, in time of peace, are dangerous to liberty, and shall not be kept up; and the military shall be in strict subordination to the civil power.”

Gun Laws Overview:

- A permit is NOT required for the purchase of rifles, shotguns, or handguns.
- Registration of your firearms is NOT required for those in possession of rifles, shotguns, and/or handguns.
- You do NOT need a license to own a shotgun, rifle, or handgun.
- A permit is NOT required to carry a shotgun or rifle.
- A permit IS required for the concealed carry of a handgun.
 - OH will accept a CCW (carrying concealed weapon) license from another state.
 - There are no provisions on right to carry confidentiality.
 - Right to carry is maintained in restaurants.

Castle Doctrine:

Ohio has enacted a Castle Doctrine, or defense of habitation law, which means that in any legally occupied space, a resident has protections and immunities to use force to defend themselves against an intruder. A Castle Doctrine lifts the burden of proof on self-defense cases in legally occupied spaces like homes or vehicles. If the resident “reasonably fears imminent peril” then using force in self-defense is justified. However, the Castle Doctrine does not provide civil immunity from wrongful death suits.



Private Sales

- Ohio does not conduct background checks, or penalize someone giving false information when intending to purchase a firearm.
- Ohio penalizes defacing a firearm (removing the serial number or make/manufacture)
- Ohio also penalizes the sale of a firearm to anyone under the age of 18 or the possession of a firearm with the intent of providing one for someone under the age of 18.

(Source: [Gifford's Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence](#))

New Jersey Gun Laws (Including Online Sales)

No Constitutional Provision on the Right to Keep and Bear Arms. However, the New Jersey Constitution, Art. 1, § 1, does guarantee certain “unalienable” rights, including “defending life,” “protecting property,” and “pursuing and obtaining safety.”

Gun Laws Overview:

- A permit IS required for the purchase of a firearm.
- Although firearms are not registered, a police record is kept of every handgun purchased.
- Owners ARE required to be licensed.
- Carrying of any firearm without a permit is illegal
 - A CCW license is very limited issue
 - Processing takes 60 days.
 - New Jersey does not recognize CCW license from any other state.
 - 21 states recognize a CCW license from New Jersey.

Castle Doctrine

New Jersey has enacted a partial Castle Doctrine that states that cohabitants have a duty to retreat before the use of force is protected.

Private Sales

In NJ, even private sales require a permit. The minimum age to purchase a firearm is 21 years old. In New Jersey, pawn brokers are forbidden from the sale of firearms.

Online Sales

- If you buy over the Internet from one of the nation's 130,000 or so federal firearms license holders, then you go through a background check. They'll ship the gun to your nearest licensed dealer.
- If you buy a gun online from any seller in another state, the Gun Control Act of 1968 strictly regulates direct mail of virtually all firearms across state lines.
- Private sale where the parties meet in person does not require a background check, unless it is a handgun (12 states mandate a check, including NJ but not PA).
 - More than 15,000 guns were on sale at any given time as this kind of exchange.
 - According to an undercover study conducted by NYPD, 54% of dealers contacted said that they were still willing to sell their firearm even if the purchaser would probably not pass a background check.

(Source: [Gifford's Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence](#))

The Big History of a Little Lifestyle

The Tiny House Movement is on a record climb! From communities like Cedar Springs Tiny Village outside of Dayton to a tiny house hotel in Portland, Oregon, folks are flocking to embrace a lifestyle that encourages them to live small and dream big. So how small are we talking? According to most builders, tiny houses range anywhere from 80 ft² to 400 ft². That's like fitting an entire house in a standard living room! How did this phenomenon become so popular? Well, it all started in the early 18th century with the advent of ornamental hermits. That's right. Hermits.

While many cultures across the world lived in small dwellings like yurts or wigwams, Taoist and Christian hermits were the first to downsize because of a fundamental belief in minimalism, rather than restricted resources. Aristocrats like Marie Antoinette were fascinated by this, and built tiny homes in their garden where they could pretend to live small. Some nobles took it farther and hired men to stay in their hermitages full-time, like a living garden gnome.

The hermit in the garden soon became passé in Europe, but American philosophers like Henry David Thoreau turned minimalism from a fashionable fad into a flourishing lifestyle. Thoreau built a 150 ft² cabin near Walden Pond, where he stayed from 1845 - 1847 because he, "wished to live deliberately." Thoreau found meaning in stripping away the unessential. He chronicled his adventure in *Walden; or; A Life in the Woods*, which would become a key piece in the development of transcendentalist philosophy.

Throughout the twentieth century, minimalism influenced art, design, fashion, and architecture. Even the revolutionary architect, Buckminster Fuller, designed a tiny house called the Dymaxion Deployment Unit, and in the early 70's, pre-fab tiny houses became a staple for luxury weekend getaways.

By 2000, tiny-house-specific construction companies made artisan tiny homes mobile and affordable, allowing residents to move anywhere from Walden Pond to the West Coast. Shows like HGTV's *Tiny House*, *Big Living* sent public interest skyrocketing, attracting over three million viewers annually. As coding regulations for tiny houses become less restrictive, more and more people are finding the joy in living small. Despite its big history, the heart of the movement is... well... tiny: Have less and live more.

Finding the Funny in Failure

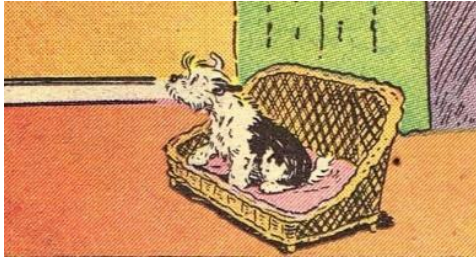
What's so funny about a family of artists struggling with complex questions of fame, love, and success? Well... everything, according to playwright Anton Chekhov! About his own work, Chekhov once wrote, "Life does not agree with Philosophy. There is no happiness that is not idleness, and only what is useless is pleasurable." He argued that humor was not just influenced by external factors like physical comedy, puns, and witty retorts (although his plays are certainly full of wit), but also by internal factors like the disparity between one's reality and one's potential. He wrote from experience, having encountered this disparity in his own career.

Although it is now one of the most celebrated pieces in Chekhov's oeuvre, in 1896 *The Seagull* had an infamously terrible opening in St. Petersburg. Neither the director nor the actors understood the characters, presenting them as emotionally corseted and staunchly melancholic without any sense of irony. Plays that were unified in style and theme, like melodrama, were the fashion of 19th century theatre, but their sensationalism was unsuitable to the lifelike, multidimensional world Chekhov had written in his play. During the first performance, Chekhov himself fled backstage to avoid the abusive audience, but his writing still caught the attention of producers Vladimir Nemirovich-Danchenko and Konstantin Stanislavski, who insisted that *The Seagull* play in the inaugural season of the Moscow Art Theatre. Its success in 1898 established the MAT as a paragon of live theatre, and affirmed Chekhov's playwriting aspirations, which he almost gave up after *The Seagull's* early failure.

Now, Chekhov is considered a master of classical text, a writer of daring and complex roles for actors of all ages. His revelation of the "idle" or "useless" in the comic was a departure from melodrama and paved the way for modern theatre and television, where his lifelike approach to humor has weaved its way into even our most beloved sitcoms. Chekhov highlights the comedy in futility, providing a platform for us to laugh, even when life seems to be flirting with tragedy. His work is at an intersection of extraordinary language and contemporary energy, where we experience a sense of levity the same way we do in everyday life. Now, it has become a rite of passage for young performers to sink their teeth into the nuanced, subtextual humor that underlines all of Chekhov's major works, and to build a world that is challenging, electric, and emotionally un-corseted.

Red Ryder, Little Orphan Annie, and... Superman?

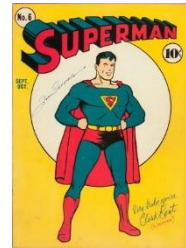
Ralphie Parker spends his days dreaming of Red Ryder and his sharp-shooting adventures in the Wild West, or saving the world with his Little Orphan Annie secret decoder pin. So here are some illustrated characters with Cleveland connections to keep the adventures coming, even when Ralphie is working on his theme!



Tippie and Cap Stubbs – Born in Upper Sandusky, Edwina Dumm is best known for her work illustrating the misadventures of Cap Stubbs and his dog, Tippie. In 1911, Edwina attended the Landon School of Illustration and Cartooning in Cleveland. Afterward, she illustrated for *The Columbus Daily Monitor* and became the first full-time editorial

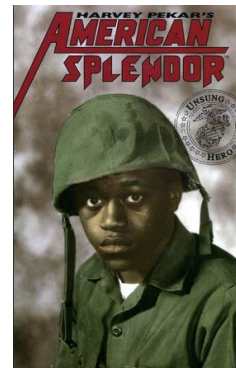
cartoonist in the nation. Miss Shields would sure be impressed!

Superman – Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster, the original creators of *Superman*, began their journey at Glenville High School in Cleveland! In 1933, they published five issues of a science fiction fanzine called *The Reign of Superman*. Five years later, Siegel and Shuster reprised Superman as the iconic hero from Planet Krypton.



Calvin and Hobbes – Bill Watterson, creator of *Calvin and Hobbes*, grew up in Chagrin Falls and attended Kenyon College, where he drew for student newspapers. His beloved duo was syndicated for ten years from 1985 to 1995, after which time Watterson expressed that he had fully explored the characters and ended the strip on his own terms. Now if only he could convince the Bumpuses to trade their hounds for a plush tiger!

Harvey Pekar's *American Splendor* – Harvey Pekar's autobiographical comic book series details his life growing up in a Jewish neighborhood here in Cleveland. From 1976 – 2008 *American Splendor* depicted realistic, relevant concerns like paying bills or the post-war experiences of his African-American coworkers. *American Splendor* won Pekar an American Book Award and the respect of the entire Cleveland Community. How's that for a major award?



DESCRIBE THE NIGHT SCRIPT REPORT

Date Script was submitted: [REDACTED]

Submitted by: [REDACTED]

Date of Report: [REDACTED]

Name of Reader: Max McCreary

Score: 1

Title: *Describe the Night*

Author: Rajiv Joseph

Cast: 3F, 4M

ISAAC – Isaac Babel*. Russian, Jewish. Ages from 25 to 45.

NIKOLAI – Nikolai Yezhov*. Russian. Ages from 30 to 99.

YEVGENIA – Yevgenia Yezhov*. Russian. Ages from 40 to 89. (Nikolai's wife)

VOVA – Vladimir* (presumably putin, but it is never explicitly stated). Russian. Ages from 35 to 56.

URZULA – Polish. Yevgenia's grand-daughter. Early 20's.

FELIKS – Polish. 21.

MARIYA – Russian. 30's.

MRS. PETROVNA – Russian. 70's. Double-cast with Mariya.

*Denotes actual historical figure

Logline: Over the course of 90 years, a family separated by time and misfortune discovers their connections to a series of political incidents surrounding the life of author, Isaac Babel.

Synopsis: While writing, Isaac Babel is interrupted by Nikolai, his superior officer in the Red Cavalry who believes that Babel's journal is full of lies. They become friends, finding humor in their disagreement. Seventeen years later, Babel and Nikolai are still close, but Babel strikes up a love affair with Nikolai's wife, Yevgenia. She predicts his future, telling him that he will die in three years, and that there is war to come (WWII). Years later, Nikolai warns Babel to leave the country because something bad is coming (The Great Purge) and reveals he has put Yevgenia in an asylum because he suspects her affair. Babel goes to her and they make plans for her escape. Babel is arrested and interrogated by Nikolai who has learned of Isaac and Yevgenia's love. Nikolai shoots him. 40 years later, Nikolai is the head of the Stasis and sends Vova to spy on Babel's grand-daughter with Yevgenia in exchange for placement in America. He agrees, but falls in love with her. She uses his interest in her to escape to Poland, but she gets pregnant.

In 2010 after the entire Polish government is killed in a plane crash, a reporter tries to escape with the help of a car rental clerk. She is captured by Vova, who is now the Russian president. He interrogates and kills her because she reveals that Babel's grand-daughter, and Yevgenia, are still alive. The used car clerk moves to Moscow to help the reporter's landlord. It is revealed that the landlord is Vova's lost sister. They fold laundry together, in silence, finding hope in the work, and in earnest human connection.

Themes: Truth vs. Lies; Political cover ups; WWII; The Great Purge; Motherhood; Poetry; Confinement; Censorship

Style: A 3-act epic, spanning 90 years.

Evaluation: Rajiv Joseph crafts an excellent tapestry of interweaving timelines and moving personal relationships. There is a musicality to the way Joseph jumps from decade to decade and back again that effectively follows the order in which facts about these characters' relationships are revealed. It adds a sense of mystery and an additional level of intellectual stimulation to the world he creates. Explosive moments of anger, fear, and devastation are interrupted by gems of legitimate human tenderness, and people coming together despite their sky and their walls literally falling down around them. This play also invites some of the most creative challenges to designers that I have seen. It demands that we sit in a field, have a drink in Nikolai's salon, visit Yevgenia in an insane asylum, and watch the Berlin wall come tumbling down, all interspersed with engaging transitions where characters age fifty years on stage, in front of our eyes. All of the characters in the play have desperate, actionable needs, and their betrayals of one another are heartbreaking. The third act takes things to a very dark place, and the gloom becomes borderline oppressive, but Joseph leaves us with hope in the end. He leaves us with a world where strangers take care of each other, and where family by choice is still family. Concerns about political censorship, abuse of power, the threat of war, and a search for family are relevant themes that many generations can access. However, the heavy implications that Vova is Vladimir Putin, and the strong suggestion that the 2010 plane crash was a political assassination might push the play towards being overtly political, rather than simply politically relevant. Critics have noted this as problematic, since Joseph's conceptualization of this part of history is deeply fictionalized. The play is both dense and expansive, which could make it difficult to follow. The mystery that I find engaging might be too meandering for some audience members to feel the same visceral emotional response that I did.

Little Women

Written by *Kate Hamill*

Directed by *TBA*

Date • Location

Synopsis: Jo March is ambitious, headstrong, deeply imaginative, and striving to create a world better than the one she lives in now. She is not like most girls, if she even decides she wants to be a girl in the first place. When the nation is divided by Civil War, Jo and her sisters embark on a startling and poignant journey towards adulthood. Misguided gender roles, disease, and heartbreak threaten to fray the family ties, and the March girls must learn how to be true to themselves in a world that wrongfully believes womanhood is something to apologize for. Kate Hamill's tender look at Louisa May Alcott's beloved characters teaches us that the perfect little woman can always March to the beat of her own drum.

Logline: Jo March dreams of changing the world as a novelist but her assigned gender role as a woman in Civil War Era America constrains her.

Tagline/Buzz Words: classic; comedy; heartfelt; fresh take; beloved; coming of age

Critical Response:

"Its 'little' story still has large power." – [Twin Cities Press](#)

"This lively adaptation is sweet and heart-warming, staying true to the source but casting the story in a more modern and relevant light." - [Cherry and Spoon](#)

"Smart... subversive... This play is amazing." – [City Pages](#)

"Bold... provocative... a distinctly modern spin... this is not your grandmother's *Little Women*" – [Star Tribune](#)

"This isn't a reworking - this is a revitalization of the text." - [MPR](#)

About Kate Hamill, Playwright of the Year - 2017

"Ingenious - winning impishness - saucy, spunky" - [Wall Street Journal](#)

Images: Civil War Era family portrait; Jo's red notebook; Jo at her writing desk; Marches marching; ink-covered hands; pasted-on mustache; a stone in a flower garden.

Lines:

"All I want is the Family I have" –Beth (9)

"JO: I'm not very good at being a, you know, a 'lady.'
LAURIE:
I'm not very good at being a 'gentleman.' So perhaps we should be ourselves." (29)

"If I were a boy, people would care more about what I *could* do, rather than what I *should* do." –Jo (30)

"I can't abide seeing a body stuffed into the wrong role." –Jo (40)

“JO: I will never be a woman like you.

MARMIE: Jo: You don’t have to be.” (83)

“Jo. *I’m* the Marmie, now.” -Meg (89)

“If everything changes, then I’ll change everything.” –Jo (89)

“Sometimes we want so badly – we don’t see what we have.” –Beth (103)

“You get the privilege of growing up so use it! Don’t waste your life trying to be a violet if you’re a chestnut burr, prickly on the outside and soft inside, or a – big, rigid oak tree, or a stupid rock or even – whatever you find out you are Jo.” –Beth (111)

“But the family stayed together. Because even if the world had split apart: Together, they were whole.” –Jo (113)

Moments: Jo takes off her masculine costume to work for Aunt March; Jo and Laurie befriend each other; Jo cuts off her hair; Jo gets published in the paper; Beth catches scarlet fever; Mr. March comes home; Mr. Brooks proposes to Meg; Aunt March promises to take Amy to Europe instead of Jo; Meg becomes a mother; The publisher rejects Jo’s novel; Jo turns down Laurie’s proposal; Amy burns Jo’s notebook; Beth dies; Jo starts a new novel.

Themes: Gender roles; Coming of age; Gender expression; Love: familial and romantic; Generosity and sacrifice; Hard work; Changing the world

Other: The play was commissioned by the Jungle Theater in Minneapolis for their 2018 season and will have its New York premier at Primary Stages in May, 2019.

From the Author’s Note:

“The trap in this play – and all plays have traps – is to try to re-create the novel, or some idea of the novel, or some idea of the archetypes found in the novel. This is a re-telling, and in some ways a conscious explosion of those archetypes. None of the characters are good, or bad. It is not polite. They are not always perfectly likable – and that’s particularly important for young women, the freedom to not be “likeable” at all times – but they are perfectly human.”

About the Author:

Kate Hamill was named Playwright of the Year by *The Wall Street Journal* in 2017. In the 18/19 season, Hamill was the sixth most-produced playwright in the United States, behind Lynn Nottage and Karen Zacarias at four and five, respectively. Kate Hamill often stars in her own work since she holds a BFA in acting from Ithaca College. In the New York premiere of *Little Women* at Primary Stages, Kate will play the role of Meg. She is particularly known for her adaptations of classic novels, and is particularly focused on female-centric stories. Hamill’s adaptation of *Sense and Sensibility* at Bedlam Ensemble

Theatre was the 2016 winner for Best Unique Theatrical Experience in the Off-Broadway Alliance awards. *Pride and Prejudice* and *Vanity Fair* received nominations the following two years.

Hamill's work has also been produced by: Pearl Theater Company (NY), Northlight Theatre (IL), Guthrie Theater (MN), Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OR), A.R.T. (MA), Dallas Theater Center (TX) A.C.T. (CA), and more.

Excerpt from an interview for [The Interval](#):

I'd like to start by asking about the impetus for adopting 19th century novels into plays. Kate, I know that you've spoken before about how your feminist instinct led to the desire to create roles for yourself.

Kate: I'm explicitly not only a female-gendered playwright, but a feminist playwright. As I've spoken about before, I really was frustrated at the dearth of roles, both on stage and off stage, for women and women-centered narratives, especially in classical theatre. That's both on artistic grounds, because these are the universal stories we build our culture around, but also on, frankly, a show business ground, because theatres want to produce classics. It gets audiences in the door. I believe deeply in the non-cynical view, which is that they're beautiful and they deserve to be produced. If those are always male-centered stories by male writers, then we're going to keep losing these female artists. That dynamic is never going to shift. So that's how I started.

Content Advisory: Some dramatic portrayal of life-threatening disease and death.
Recommended for audiences 5th grade and up (10+)

Content details: Lord's name in vain: 1, D*mn: 1