

AUDITION NOTICE



PLAY READING AUDITIONS FIRST REHEARSAL PERFORMANCES

Tuesday 11 April 2023, 8pm in the Studio
Sunday 23 April 2023, 2pm in the Theatre
Monday 24 July 2023
Thursday 21 – 20 September 2023, 8pm
Matinee on Saturday 30 September 2023, 2.30pm

DIRECTOR PA

Peter Shore petershore01@gmail.com 07712 315406
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Scripts available from Peter Shore.

A thriller? Well, on the surface it is. Megan has disappeared. Has she left her husband or has there been foul play? Did something happen in the underpass? Was Rachel there? Was she a witness or was she a perpetrator? There was the sound of a smashed bottle and she has a cut on her head. Why can't she remember? Then Megan's body is found and Rachel sets out to uncover the truth. Suspicion falls on Rachel and in turn on all the other characters. Is anyone telling the truth?

But under the surface, this is also a play about Rachel's struggle to climb out of her alcoholism and dysfunctional life, to come to terms with her own fantasies and obsessions, to rise above the inadequacies and deceptions of others.

If you have read the book or seen the film, don't assume the play is exactly the same and don't assume the characters are to be played in the same way. This is a work in its own right.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS:

RACHEL (Playing age 25–35)

The eponymous protagonist of the play. A huge part in all senses. It is through her eyes that the plot evolves and virtually all of the dramatic interactions take place. She is on stage throughout the play. An important feature of her character is her alcoholism. The part represents an exceptional opportunity for the right actor to challenge and extend her dramatic abilities.

Audition pieces:

P.13 – whole page

P.102 – final speech

P.15–18 ('don't think she did show me that one, no')

TOM (Playing age 25–35)

Rachel's ex-husband. Alpha male type. Assertive, bullying, sometimes angry. Protective of his new family.

Audition piece:

From P.96 'If you weren't like one of those unwanted dogs...' to P.97 'Just to get some air.'

ANNA (Playing age 25–35)

Appears in only three scenes. Tom's new wife and mother of his child. Initially hostile to Rachel and loyal to Tom, she will see things differently by the end of the play.

Audition piece:

From top of P.75 to bottom of P.76.

MEGAN (Playing age 25–35)

As the play opens, she has already disappeared, so we see her only in a series of flashbacks experienced by the other characters, revealing some of the pain of her troubled life.

Audition piece:

From P.61 'The first man I ever loved...' to P.64 'I never saw Craig again.'

SCOTT (Playing age 25–35)

Megan's husband. Confused and bewildered by her disappearance and the uncovering of her secrets.

Audition piece:

From top of P.15 to P.18 'It's one of Megan's.....'

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR GASKILL (Playing age 35–55)

Can be played by either a woman or a man. The suspicious and perceptive police officer that every thriller needs.

Audition piece:

From P.33 'So, Megan Hipwell...' to P.35 'Do you want a drink.....?'

THE THERAPIST (KAMAL ABDIC) (Playing age 35–45)

The script and book describe him as of 'Asian or Middle Eastern heritage. This is so Rachel can describe him as particularly different from Megan's husband Scott when seeing him from the train. Therefore, he could be played by someone with an obviously different appearance to Scott. He was Megan's therapist and friend.

Audition piece:

From the top of P.60 to P.61 'I'm protecting Megan.'