

THEATRE 489 FINAL PROJECT PROPOSAL | HAYLEY ROSENAU | APRIL 15, 2025

Title of Project: *'Night, Mother* by Marsha Norman

Description of the Project:

The premise of this play is the final hours spent between a mother (Thelma), and daughter (Jessie), after Jessie has announced her plan to end her life that evening. The evening is spent with Thelma going through the five stages of grief before her daughter has even passed. We hear Jessie's reasoning for her decision and Thelma's plead for her to change her mind.

I found this script in New York last year and as soon as I read the back I was intrigued and had to buy it. I also learned last year in Faith and Art that I have a curiosity and desire to learn more about and tell stories with darker themes and subject matter. Stories that may not attract the average theatre goer. Stories that aren't necessarily pretty or easy. This story tackles hard topics—mental health, family disputes and separations, suicide, and the intricate and delicate thing that is mother/daughter relationships. As someone that has experienced a fair amount of nearly all these topics, I'm passionate about this show and bringing light to issues that aren't always talked about in the mainstream media and society. I've read a fair amount of plays at this point and have typically been able to find a few things in the play, whether it be dialogue, plot premise, a character description, etc. and be able to relate to it. That being said, *'Night, Mother* is one of the first plays I've read that held my curiosity throughout the whole thing while simultaneously having me sigh and say, "somebody gets it". I truly love this story and I'm thrilled to hopefully have the opportunity to get to tell it.

Project Goals:

One of my main goals for this project is to have folks realize the complexities of mental health, and how the things happening in personal lives, in work lives and in the world can impact that mental health. I want to show that anyone can be a victim of suicide, and there aren't always the stereotypical signs leading up to a mental health break. It's not an easy lesson or show to sit through, but it's one that I believe people need to hear.

Personnel:

Cast:

Thelma | Kelsey Krogman (confirmed)

Jessie | Hayley Rosenau (confirmed)

Artistic Personnel

Director | Leah T. Hearne (confirmed)

Stage Manager | Shannon Klassen (confirmed)

Light Designer | Becky Halterman (confirmed)

Sound Designer | Karyssa Komar (confirmed)

Set Designer | Julie Serger (confirmed)

Costume Designer | Glenda Graham

Props Master | Brad G. Graham (confirmed)

Technical Support | Brad G. Graham (confirmed)
Set Carpenter | Papa Ed ? (I have not asked him...I'm scared to lol)
Poster/Media Design | Darien Jonsson (confirmed)

Budget:

Please find breakdown of the initial budget at the end of this proposal

Timelines

- Personnel confirmed **March 31, 2025**
- Royalties and Rights Secured **May 31, 2025**
- First Read/Table Work starting **August 18, 2025**
- Rehearsals tentatively happening Monday/Tuesday throughout the summer and Sunday/Monday through the Fall Term
- Tech Week tentatively **October 3-8, 2025**
- Performances Wednesday-Saturday, **October 8-11, 2025.**
- Strike would happen either right after the closing show on Saturday or the very next day (Sunday).

Venue

- Rehearsal venue: Studio East or North, Upstairs Merc. Rehearsals would be scheduled so they don't conflict with RSA classes.
- Performance Venue: Studio Stage. My hope would be to move from the rehearsal venue to the performance venue October 1, 2025 to give us time to find our feet in the space and around the set before we begin integrating tech.

Requested Requirements of RSA:

- Use of Merc Studios for one and a half months (on select days) for rehearsal
- Use of Studio Stage for one and a half weeks during tech week and performance dates
- Use of lighting and sound equipment
- Use of prop shop (happy to pay a rental fee if need be)
- Potentially the use of the set shop when it's not being used by Rosebud Theatre in order to build my set.
- Use of cash box for my box office

INITIAL BUDGET FOR 'NIGHT, MOTHER

Revenue

General Ticket Sales: \$900

- number of people : 60
- cost of ticket: \$15.00

Student Ticket Sales: \$180.00

- number of people: 15

-cost of ticket: \$12.00

Comp Ticket Sales: \$0

-number of people: 5

-cost of ticket: \$0

Donations: \$500.00

Concession: \$50.00

Fundraising: \$2000.00

TOTAL FUNDS: \$3630.00

Expenses

Set: \$450.00

Costumes: \$50.00

Props: \$200.00

Lighting: \$50.00

Sound: \$50.00

Hair/Makeup: \$50.00

Royalties/Script Purchases: \$850.00

Labour: \$1350.00

Marketing: \$40.00

Programs: \$10.00

Concession: \$30.00

Travel: \$100.00

Miscellaneous: \$200.00 (paying for Becky's accommodation)

TOTAL: \$3,430.00

PROFIT/LOSS: \$200.00