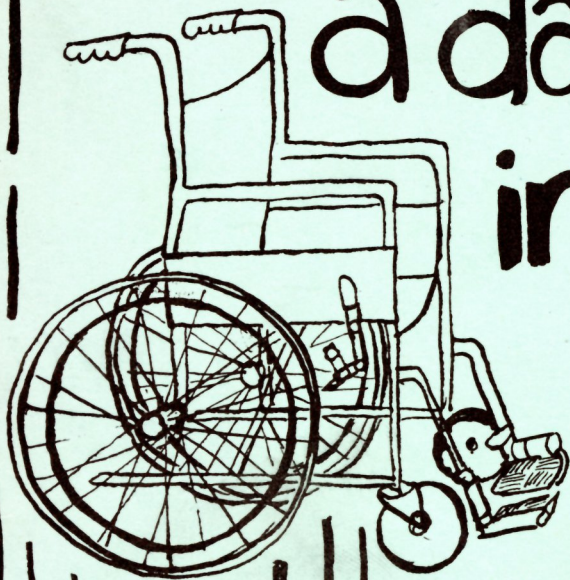


cap & dagger presents



a day in the death of Joe Ego

by
Peter
Nichols

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Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

CAP AND DAGGER



presents

A DAY IN THE DEATH OF JOE EGG

By PETER NICHOLS

Directed By ED DENNY

Setting Designed By MILLARD NACHTWEY

Lighting Designed By DOUGLAS GROVE

Costumes Designed By CHRISTINE FRANCELLO

BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Lewisburg, Pennsylvania

March 2, 3, 4, 9, 11, 1972

Director's Notes

To relate the plot and circumstances surrounding *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg* and still maintain the proper tone of the play is practically an impossibility. Let me explain. Essentially the play is about a couple with a hopelessly spastic daughter and the effect she has on their marriage. Immediately one draws the conclusion that the play is a drama, but instead, it is a comedy. You may ask, "How can such a subject be comic," and supply your own answer by suggesting a black comedy. But no. *Joe Egg* is actually a human comedy, a desperately funny, tender, laugh-out-loud comedy. Quickly you may suggest, "They only talk about the child, and we never see her." Wrong again. Joe Egg spends about a third of the play on stage sitting in a wheel chair, lying on the sofa, or having fits.

And still you may wonder how all this will affect your sensibilities. Incredulously you may say, "There is no way that *Joe Egg* can be funny," and yet, since it is, it becomes immensely entertaining and novel. Even at the moment when tragedy permeates the lives of Brian and Sheila during Act II, Joe's doting, lovable grandmother enters and supplies a hilarious counterpoint to the otherwise morbid turn of events.

Morbid as the play may seem, Brian and Sheila must maintain their humor to retain their sanity. As Freddie says, "These jokes. . . . They've obviously helped you to see it through. A useful anesthetic." Brian's humor is only human; tragedy cannot dominate our lives. Peter Nichols only underlines Brian and Sheila's unique tragedy and the simplistic answers and inadequate understanding of the rest of humanity: the Pams and Freddie. Sheila and Brian are the ones who must live with Joe, and a combination of hope and humor is their only escape. Out of any crisis we must find the optimistic and cling to it. Like Brian and Sheila, in spite of any tragedy, we still keep living, hoping, and, most important, laughing.

E.C.D.

Acknowledgments

Mrs. Wilbur E. Kashner

Mr. Bernard A. Riley

Mr. Percy Young

The Brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity

Sunbury Medical and Surgical Center, Inc.

The Junior Choir of the First Baptist Church of Lewisburg

CAST

Brian ----- Dave Murphy

Sheila ----- Janet Cunningham

Joe Egg ----- Diana Baumwoll

Pam ----- Linda Reynolds

Freddie ----- Les Lagnese

Grace ----- Terry Ellis

Synopsis of Scenes

The action takes place in the living room of Brian's and Sheila's home.

ACT I *An evening in winter.*

ACT II *Later that same night.*

The Present

There will be a fifteen minute intermission after Act I

The Production Staff

STAGE MANAGER ----- *Laura Nelke*

PRODUCTION MANAGER ----- *Carol Bethards*

CONSTRUCTION ----- *Roger Geer*

Millard Nachtwey, Sue Firmstone, Ron Hubbard, Jack Hoadley, Jack Gottschalk,
Rod Curtains, Bill Hickman

LIGHTS ----- *Bill McCarthy*

Norb Church, Kathy Colston, Sue Dickler, Sheila Fisher, Jack Gottschalk, Nancy
Kedersha, Gary Koutnik, Cindy Lude, Micky Lupichuk, Pam Martindell, Bruce
McLaughlin, Aldo Pitt, Mady Pospur, Sue Prouty, Nancy Shiller, Regina Steppe,
Sue Suhr, Bryna Waldman, Martha Weitzel, Wendie Wenk, Janet Yeisley,
Sally Gudbransen

STAGE CREW ----- *Marc Powers*

Jack Hoadley, Jim Reed, Sue Firmstone, Aldo Pitt

PROPERTIES ----- *Janice Corbo, Joanne Martin and Anne Rogers*

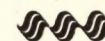
Len Kanterman, Eileen Angle, Alice Harrington, Janet Strindmo, Nancy Kedersha,
Sue Prouty, Chris Francello, Doug Warman

COSTUMES ----- *Pat Jerman*

MAKE-UP ----- *Susie Sprinkle*

SOUND ----- *Jack Gottschalk*

Spring Cocktail Theatre Listings



Friday, March 31 ----- The Lesson (T)

Saturday, April 1 ----- Sweet Eros (T)

Monday, April 3 ----- Lady Bright (T)

Wednesday, April 5 ----- The Rook (T)

Friday, April 7 ----- Aria Da Capo (C)

Wednesday, April 12 ----- Time To Live (C)

Friday, April 14 ----- Gallows Humor (C)

Monday, April 17 ----- Adaptation (C)

Wednesday, May 10 ----- Dungmen Are Coming (T)

Friday, May 12 ----- The Dumbwaiter (T)

(T)—Coleman Hall Theatre (C)—University Center Cave

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Designer and Technical Director ----- James D. Lyon, Jr.
Technical Assistants ----- Mike Wise
Costumes ----- Chris Francello
Lighting ----- Roger Geer
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