

INSIDE OUT

A STUDY GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

WORLD PREMIERE

YOU LOST ME



SYNOPSIS OF THE PLAY

In 1828, 17-year-old Ann Harvey saved 160 Irish people from a wreck off of Newfoundland's Shipwreck Coast, making her an instant hero. Almost 200 years later, the Harvey family homestead has become the Shipwreck Inn, where present-day proprietress Ann Harvey attempts to leave her own mark (and get some new customers) with a tourist blog. Her nephew Joe-L, on the other hand, would do anything to leave his hometown and start a new life somewhere else. A memory house for all those lost at sea, this Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights Festival finalist is a poetic, wistful and bright new drama that reminds us that every moment holds the opportunity to change everything.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

BONNIE METZGAR is a playwright, director, dramaturg and producer who specializes in creating socially-provocative theatre works. From 2008-2013, Metzgar served as Artistic Director of About Face Theatre in Chicago, the largest theatre in the U.S. dedicated to advancing the cultural dialogue on sexuality, politics and gender identity. Metzgar is the recipient of a 2018 MacDowell Colony fellowship and is a recent member of the Goodman Theatre's resident Playwrights Unit.



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YOU LOST ME

BY **BONNIE METZGAR**

DIRECTED BY **MARGOT BORDELON**

Supported in part by the
DCPA's Women's Voices Fund

JAN 17 - FEB 23
RICKETSON THEATRE

LOCATIONS

“ANN HARVEY: FIRST THING ANYBODY THINKS ABOUT THIS PLACE IS SHIPWRECKS.”

Newfoundland/Labrador

Newfoundland and Labrador is the most easterly province in Canada. The island portion, Newfoundland, is located in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the larger Labrador portion is attached to the eastern part of the Canadian mainland.

The total land area of the province is 405,720 sq. km (appx. 156,500 square miles – by comparison, Colorado as a state is 104,185 square miles). Newfoundland, covers 111,390 sq. km. Some portion of its coast was undoubtedly one of the first parts of the continent seen by Europeans. Labrador covers 294,330 sq. km. The temperate marine climate, averages a summer temperature of 16°C (61°F), while the winter hovers around 0°C (32°F). Newfoundland and Labrador is more than three times the total area of the Maritime Provinces (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island) and would rank fourth in size behind Alaska, Texas, and California if it were one of the United States.

Since John Cabot’s arrival on the “new isle” circa 1497, the island has been referred to as Newfoundland (from the Latin, Terra Nova). Labrador probably received its name from the Portuguese designation, “Terra del Lavradors.”

Formerly known as Newfoundland when it was a colony, dominion, and province, in 2001 the province was renamed Newfoundland and Labrador in an amendment to the Canadian Constitution.

On the island of Newfoundland – pronouncing it correctly can be done by following a simple rhyme: understand Newfoundland: “land” not “lund”- there are four distinct regions: the west coast, the interior, the northeast coast and the

south coast. *You Lost Me’s* setting is on the southwest coast.

The southwest coast has the deeply embayed characteristics of a submerged shoreline. It is not blocked by arctic drift ice, although in some years parts of the eastern Avalon Peninsula as far south as St John’s may be cut off for a few days. Settlement has developed along the shores of most of the bays and on some offshore islands.

Settlement by Europeans was slow and reflected the dominance of the fisheries. Early settlers paid little attention to the soil or lack of amenities, settling on the shoreline in bays and coves close to the inshore and offshore fishing grounds, primarily on the east coast. Settlement gradually spread and became permanent. The first centers developed around St John’s and Conception Bay, then generally along the east and south coasts. Today, St John’s is the capital of the province and the largest city. 94% of the population lives on the island of Newfoundland— even though Labrador has twice the area and is connected to the mainland. Almost half the population of the entire province is in St. John’s. St. John’s is also one of the oldest cities in North America having been founded in in the early 1600s.

There are several Indigenous communities in the province, including the Mi’kmaq on the Island and the Innu, Inuit and Inuit-Métis in Labrador. Labrador’s Maritime Archaic Indigenous left behind the oldest known funeral mound in North America – almost 7,500 years old.

Elsewhere the population is of predominantly European origin, the majority descended from immigrants from southwestern England and southern Ireland. On the west coast there are pockets of people of French descent

(mostly Acadian) and some Scots whose ancestors were from Cape Breton. Religious affiliation closely follows ethnic origin as the majority of residents are Christian, identifying as either Catholic or Protestant.

For thousands of years, Indigenous groups such as the Maritime Archaic Indians and the Palaeo-Eskimo hunted, fished, and settled in the province, mostly in the southern Labrador area. Vikings visited at the beginning of the last millennium, but European visitation didn't begin in earnest until John Cabot's voyage in 1497. In the 21st century, the province is benefitting from offshore oil production.

Both parts of the province are well-known for originating two dog breeds: Labrador Retrievers and Newfoundlands. Although the name might suggest Labrador Retrievers came from Labrador the breed actually originated in Newfoundland in the 1500s with the Newfoundlands originating there in the early 1800s.

Isle aux Morts

You Lost Me is set in the Newfoundland town of Isle aux Morts, which is situated on the rugged shoreline of the southwest coast. The population is approximately 660. The drive time between New York City and Isle aux Morts is approximately 25 hours.

The town was named after a nearby island and is a reference to the many shipwrecks off the coast. Isle aux Morts translates from French into English as "Deadman's Island" or "Island of the Dead". Isle aux Morts has a rich maritime heritage of fishing and sailing with many tales of shipwrecks and loss of lives in the treacherous waters offshore. One central story, coined locally as the Harvey Family Rescue, is at the center of *You Lost Me*. The town website shares the story this way:

"In a town noted for its heroism and discovery, one of the first families who settled in the area in the early 1800s was well known for their heroic rescues. In 1828, the Harvey family, with the aid of their Newfoundland dog, Hairyman, rescued 163 people from the sinking brig *Despatch*. They made another daring rescue in 1838, saving 25 crew members from the Glasgow ship, *Rankin*.

Today there is a coast guard ship named after her and she is recognized as the Grace Darling of Newfoundland, an honor bestowed upon a heroine in each colony of the British Empire. Grace Darling was the daughter of a lighthouse keeper in England who at 22 years old rescued 9 people from the sinking steamship, *Forfarshire*, wrecked off the Farne Islands in 1838."

The events of the 1828 rescue inform the characters—most notably George Harvey's 17 year old daughter, Ann—and historical fiction of *You Lost Me*. Other than her deeds noted above, little is known of Ann Harvey.

A report from the originating port of the *Despatch* noted, in August of 1828:

"On July 10th 1828, *Despatch* ran aground on a reef three miles offshore from Isle aux Morts, near Port aux Basques. Attempts to launch a lifeboat ended when the captain and others were swamped by high waves and lost. Subsequent attempts by the crew were only partly successful. A few managed to make to safety on shore, and others on a nearby island while a few remained clinging to the shipwrecked vessel. Several lives were lost during the next two days. A gentleman named George Harvey, became aware of the wreck, and on July 13th, accompanied by his 17 [year]-old daughter Ann and 12 [year]-old son, rowed for two hours through heavy rain, surf and strong winds until they came upon

the shipwrecked *Despatch* and its survivors. For the next three days, George and his two children risked their own lives to aid the survivors. To honour their heroic efforts, the Governor of Newfoundland, Sir Thomas Cochrane, gave George Harvey £100 sterling and a gold medal.”

In addition to the Harvey story, Isle aux Morts has been designated a Provincial Historic Site because of the discovery of the Mushrow Astrolabes. The astrolabes—a disk with the edge marked in degrees and a pivoted pointer instruments used to make astronomical measurements, typically of the altitudes of celestial bodies—date back to the early 1600s.

You Lost Me, while not specifically commissioned or endorsed by the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador’s Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), is very much an example of the power of theatricalized memory based on the oral tradition of historicizing events and people. The ICH or what some call Living Heritage encompasses many traditions, practices and customs. These include stories, family celebrations, community gatherings, languages, songs, knowledge of natural spaces, healing traditions, food, holidays, beliefs and cultural practices. The ICH works with communities and organizations to collect, safeguard and pass on the province’s rich cultural traditions and practices of oral histories.

Sources:
<https://www.newfoundlandlabrador.com>
<http://www.isleauxMorts.ca>
<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca>
<https://heritagefoundation.ca/programs/ich/>
<http://www.ichblog.ca>
<http://www.stjohns.ca>
<http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/Wrecks/dispatch1828.shtml>

St. John’s

As noted above, St. John’s is the capital of the province. It is also the main international hub. Flight time from New York is between five and seven hours

(depending on departure time and connection options). The population is approximately 114,000. St. John’s is a nine-hour drive from Isle aux Morts.

Source:
<http://www.stjohns.ca>

Channel-Port aux Basques

Channel-Port aux Basques, known as the Gateway to Newfoundland, has been welcoming visitors for 500 years, from Basque Fisherman in the 1500’s who found the ice free harbor a safe haven, to ferry passengers who commenced arriving by steamship in 1898 to take the railway across the island. Channel-Port aux Basques owes its settlement in part to its strategic location, aiding transportation, and its rich fishing grounds. Today, Channel-Port aux Basques is a community of some 4,319 people. The town provides shopping, business, education and recreational services to the area and is known as the hub of Southwestern Newfoundland. Channel-Port aux Basques is a twenty-minute drive from Isle aux Morts.

Source:
<https://www.portauxbasques.ca>

Witless Bay and the Witless Bird Refuge

Witless Bay is a small, scenic, traditional Newfoundland outport community. Icebergs, whales, and incredible bird colonies are just some of the attractions of the area. Witless Bay has a population of 1,619. The largest Atlantic puffin colony in North America is there, with more than 250,000 nesting pairs. Witless Bay is a nine-hour drive from Isle aux Morts.

Source:
<https://www.witlessbay.ca>

Canadian Tire

Canadian Tire Corporation, Ltd., is one of Canada’s most recognized retail chains. Founded in Toronto by brothers J.W. and

A.J. Billes, the company got its start when the brothers bought the Hamilton Tire and Garage in 1922. In 1927, they incorporated the business as the Canadian Tire Corporation. Still headquartered in Toronto, the company operates a network of 1,700 stores and gas stations that extends to every province and territory except Nunavut.

Canadian Tire has undergone several initiatives in its effort to remain competitive, particularly with the expansion of US-based chains like Walmart and Home Depot and growing competition from online retail services. The company homogenized the layout of Canadian Tire stores, using clearly delineated sections and providing information kiosks. The closest Canadian Tire store to Isle aux Morts is in Channel-Port aux Basques. Aisle 7 in the Channel-Port aux Basques store, mentioned in the play, holds fishing and water safety supplies.

Sources:
<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca>
Phone conversation with Channel-Port aux Basques' Canadian Tire Store Manager, Shelley Parssons. 5 November 2019.

The Great Northern Peninsula

The Great Northern Peninsula is located at the northern tip of the West Coast of Newfoundland and is comprised of 69 communities. The town of Port au Choix is a key service center for the area. Combined with the towns of Port Saunders and Hawkes Bay, Port au Choix is a major service center for the central area of the Great Northern Peninsula. Port au Choix is a six-hour drive from Isle aux Morts.

Source:
<http://www.northernpeninsula.ca>

Rose Blanche Lighthouse

Rose Blanche in French means white rose, but the community's name is actually a corruption of roche blanche, white rock, for the beautiful white quartz outcroppings seen in the area. Fishing and mercantile interests were important industries at Rose Blanche in 1871, when P.H. Sorsoliel and other residents petitioned the Newfoundland House of Assembly for a lighthouse. The following year, Rose Blanche was one of six sites selected to receive a lighthouse. The lighthouse, which may be the only restored granite lighthouse in Atlantic Canada, is open to the public on a seasonal basis. Rose Blanche Lighthouse was designated on September 7th, 2002, the first lighthouse in Newfoundland and Labrador to be recognized as a Registered Heritage Structure. The lighthouse is a thirty-minute drive from Isle aux Morts.

Sources:
<https://www.heritage.nf.ca/articles/society/lighthouse.php>
<http://www.roseblanchelighthouse.ca>

THE BUSINESS OF HOSPITALITY

The Shipwreck Inn of *You Lost Me* is a fictional destination within the real town of Isle aux Morts. The reality of hospitality-based businesses is not only found in actual lodging businesses in Isle aux Morts but throughout history. Jacques Levy-Bonvin, a consultant to the Société Suisse des Hôteliers, founded as the first hotel school in 1893 by Jacques Tschumi, has provided an informative history of hotels and other types of lodging of which this is a selection:

“The history of hotels is intimately connected to that of civilizations. Or rather, it is a part of that history. Facilities offering guests hospitality have been in evidence since early biblical times. The Greeks developed thermal baths in villages designed for rest and recuperation. Later, the Romans built mansions to provide accommodation for travelers on government business. The Romans were the first to develop thermal baths in England, Switzerland and the Middle East. Later still, caravanserais appeared, providing a resting place for caravans along Middle Eastern routes. In the Middle Ages, monasteries and abbeys were the first establishments to offer refuge to travelers on a regular basis. Religious orders built inns, hospices and hospitals to cater for those on the move.

From antiquity to the Middle Ages inns multiplied, but they did not yet offer meals. Staging posts were established for governmental transports and as rest stops. They provided shelter and allowed horses to be changed more easily. Around 1200, staging posts for travelers and stations for couriers were set up in China and Mongolia. Numerous refuges then sprang up for pilgrims and crusaders on their way to the Holy Land. Inns gradually appeared in most of Europe.”

Sources:

<https://www.ehl.edu>

<https://www.hospitalitynet.org>

Types of Lodging

Hotel: An establishment providing accommodation, meals, and other services for travelers and tourists.

The word “hotel” dates back to the 1600s and comes from a French word referring to a place that provides lodging, meals, entertainment, and other services to travelers.

Motel: A roadside hotel designed primarily for motorists, typically having the rooms arranged in low blocks with parking directly outside.

Motels began in the 1920s as campgrounds for automobile tourists who couldn’t afford to stay in a hotel. These “auto camps” provided running water, picnic grounds, and restroom facilities and eventually involved into more permanent structures. The term “motel” originated with the Motel Inn of San Luis Obispo, originally called the Milestone Mo-Tel, which was constructed in 1925 by Arthur Heineman. Heineman abbreviated motor hotel to mo-tel since he could not fit the words “Milestone Motor Hotel” on his rooftop.

Inn: A business providing accommodation, food, and drink, especially for travelers.

Inns have a history dating back to the Romans. During Medieval times, inns were essentially large taverns located near the city gates where tired travelers could also seek lodging, engage in trading, as well as food and drink (and could find a place for their horse as well).

MARY: “YOU’VE FED ME, NURSED ME BACK FROM THE EDGE OF HEAVEN.”

Bed and Breakfast: Sleeping accommodation for a night and a meal in the morning, provided in guest houses and hotels.

The tradition of Bed and Breakfast lodgings has been greatly impacted by Airbnb which started in 2007 when Joe Gebbia and Brian Chesky were struggling to pay their rent. There was a design conference coming to San Francisco and the city's hotels were fully booked, so they came up with the idea of renting out three airbeds on their living-room floor and cooking their guests breakfast. The next day they created a website, airbedandbreakfast.com.

In the summer of 2008, they found the perfect kick-start for their business. Barack Obama was due to speak in Denver at the Democratic National Convention, and 80,000 people were expected to be there, but again, there was a shortage of hotel rooms. Gebbia, Chesky and an additional partner, Nathan Blecharczyk finished the website in time to launch it two weeks before the conference.

The company has prospered although detractors and legal cases involving tax issues, neighborhood impact, and issues of hidden cameras placed by owners to spy on their guests have challenged both the reputation and the fiscal holdings of the company. Yet as of 2017, the company generated 2.6 billion dollars and currently offers over 7 million accommodations, in 62 languages, across 191 countries and regions.

Lodge: A large house or hotel.

Lodges often have a rustic appearance and design versus a modern or commercial one.

Hostel: An establishment which provides inexpensive food and lodging for a specific group of people, such as students, workers, or travelers.

Hostels offer accommodation for much lower prices than hotels because of shared spaces such as bathrooms and kitchens. Hostels are generally conscious about the environment and trying to lessen their impact.

Sources:

Fussel, Sidney. *Airbnb Has a Hidden-Camera Problem*. The Atlantic. 26 march 2019.
Guttentag, Dan. *What Airbnb Really Does to a Neighbourhood*. BBC News. 30 August 2018.
Jones, Meghan. *This Is the Difference Between a Hotel and a Motel*. Reader's Digest.
Salter, Jessica. *Airbnb: The Story Behind the \$1.3 Billion Room-letting Website*. The Guardian. 7 September 2012.
<https://www.lexico.com>
<https://www.uponarriving.com>
<https://news.airbnb.com>

The Shipwreck Inn of *You Lost Me* is most akin to a Bed and Breakfast or B&B. The B&B Industry in Canada has an estimated worth of \$3.4 billion. A typical B&B has between 4 and 11 rooms, with an average of 6. B&Bs are located within a diversity of Canadian settings: 43% are based in small town or village settings, 29% are in rural locations, 23% are urban, and 5% are located in suburban locations. 5,700 square feet is the average size for a B&B building with 94% of guest rooms having their own private baths, 36% have achieved an "historical designation" by a local, state or national historic preservation organization. As with their locations, the diversity of Canadian B&B owners is rich and varied: 72% of B&B owners are couples, 18% are individual females, 5% are individual males, 5% are non-couple partnerships and 79% of owners live on premises.

Source:

<http://www.paii.com/About-the-Industry>
BBCanada.com | <https://m.bbcanada.com/newfoundland>

THEMES

Rainer Maria Rilke

Widely recognized as one of the most lyrically intense German-language poets, Rainer Maria Rilke was unique in his efforts to expand the realm of poetry through new uses of syntax and imagery and in an aesthetic philosophy that rejected Christian precepts and strove to reconcile beauty and suffering, life and death.

In 1899 Rilke made the first of two pivotal trips to Russia discovering what he termed his “spiritual fatherland” in both the people and the landscape. These trips provided Rilke with the poetic material and inspiration essential to his developing philosophy of existential materialism and art as religion. Inspired by the lives of the Russian people, whom the poet considered more devoutly spiritual than other Europeans, Rilke’s work during this period often featured traditional Christian imagery and concepts, but presented art as the sole redeemer of humanity. Soon after his return from Russia in 1900, he began writing *Das Stundenbuch enthaltend die drei Bücher: Vom moenichischen Leben; Von der Pilgerschaft; Von der Armuth und vom Tode*, a collection that “marked for him the end of an epoch.” This book, translated as *The Book of Hours; Comprising the Three Books: Of the Monastic Life, Of Pilgrimage, Of Poverty and Death* –consists of a series of prayers about the search for God. Whenever Rilke writes about God, however, he is not referring to the deity in the traditional sense, but rather uses the term to refer to the life force, or nature, or an all-embodying, pantheistic consciousness that is only slowly coming to realize its existence.

In addition to quoting poems from *The Book of Hours*, the play quotes from the following Rilke poems: Bowl of Roses

(1907), To Music (1918), and Autumn Day (1902).

Source:

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/rainer-maria-rilke>

Actors in Multiple Roles: Doubling

You Lost Me uses the theatrical convention of doubling. Five actors play 11 characters. Doubling is as old as Western Theatre in that the great playwrights of the earliest form of tragedy moved the form from one actor (Thespis, supposedly, leaving the Chorus) to two (Aeschylus) and then to three (Sophocles). Because the actors of Ancient Greece performed behind masks (covering the entire head and adorned with hair, beard, and other distinctive facial features) the same actor could double. Doubling became a prominent feature of medieval theatre and then, as Professor Kumiko Hilberdink-Sakamoto notes:

“There is the historical justification that Shakespeare, a practical man of theatre who worked in a commercial culture, would have been familiar with doubling and his plays are frequently structured to make this easy. Doubling was originally devised out of necessity in scaled-down productions with limited resources . . . it is also argued that this ‘technique’ can shed a new light on the text [if Actor A plays Character B and Character C how does this choice illuminate behavior and circumstance] . . . and doublings can help to establish ultimate intimacy between the audience and the performer; if live theatre is a place of exchanges between performers and spectators, this is the moment of interaction between them. The audience simply welcomes the reality of one actor working hard; thus more visible is the actor’s physical and verbal dexterity than the role he/she plays, which goes beyond the usual mimetic representation.”

EDNA: “WHAT’S IT MEAN?”

JOE-L: “IT’S LIKE A GHOST WAILING.”

Dr. Shonni Enelow expands upon the “usual mimetic representation” of theatre, connecting it to cinema (where, as with television, doubling has become a convention):

“Acting provokes a gothic anxiety: the terror of the double that mocks and haunts the original. The actor shows us that we could be copied, and also, more alarmingly, that we could be copies: that what we take to be our own feelings and actions could be predetermined and pre-given, belonging to another. After all, the double is never just a duplicate but always a potential usurper. This is the threat implied in the figuration of the actor as a ghost, an enduring association across many cultures, from *Hamlet* to the ghost plays of Noh. The medium of film adds another layer to the actor’s hauntings: when we watch film, we watch the dead image of the actor bring to life the nonliving character. And when an actor plays a number of different roles in the same film, it enhances this uncanniness. Like Freud’s concept of the uncanny—that which reflects ourselves back to ourselves in distorted, monstrous form—the performance refracts and reflects its own processes, exposing the actor in all his phantasmal glory.”

Sources:

Enelow, Shonni. *When Actors Do Double Duty*. The Criterion Collection Essays. 13 August 2018
Hilberdink-Sakamoto, Kumiko. *Reconsidering ‘Doubling’: The Case of Globe on Tour’s Comedy Of Errors*. Journal of Arts and Humanities. 6 July 2013.
Lawson, Mark. *Doubling the Fun? When Actors Do Two For the Price of One*. The Guardian. 4 Oct 2013.
Wilson, Edwin and Alvin Goldfarb. *Living Theatre: History of the Theatre*. 2004.

Ships and Shipwrecks

The 1828 wreck and sinking of the *Despatch* remains central to the identity and contemporary events surrounding *You Lost Me’s* The Shipwreck Inn.

Because the shorelines of Newfoundland

and Labrador are long, rugged, and expansive, throughout history those shorelines have also created havoc for many mariners, young and old alike. It is estimated that the number of wrecks around the shores of Newfoundland and Labrador could be in the thousands.

The *Despatch* (noted incorrectly in local reporting of the time as *Dispatch*), captained by William Lancaster, left Londonderry (Northern Ireland, also known as Derry) en route to Quebec (Eastern Canada) on 29 May 1828. A letter, with a detailed list of passenger names, from July of that same year details the wreck:

“The accompanying list contains the names of 158 men, women, and children, exclusive of the mate and all the crew, 9 in number, who were saved from the wreck of the *Dispatch* [sic], of Workington, commanded by the late William Lancaster, (drowned) which sailed from Derry, on the 29th May for Quebec. The brig was wrecked on a rock, about eighteen miles to the eastward of Cape Ray, and distant from the Main three-fourths of a mile, on the evening of the 10th of July, and it was only by watching the occasional fall of the surf for a few hours each day, till the following Tuesday, that the mate and crew with two boats, and the assistance of a fisherman in a small boats [sic] 12 feet long, saved those in the accompanying list. The mate informs me that 200 passengers were said to be on board, though he thinks several infants were not reckoned, as their passage was not paid, and the crew, master included, were eleven in number.

Four men and ten children died on the rock from starvation, five children and one woman, died on the beach, four men perished in the woods, and one woman and one boy in the boats of this ship, whilst on their passage from the place of shipwreck. By a comparison of numbers, it appears that thirty-six at least were

drowned; of that number two infants were washed from their mother's breast, whilst on the rock, and of one family, six were swept off after they obtained a footing.

I have taken the liberty of troubling you with the list, as from your situation at the port whence the vessel sailed, you will most probably [sic] have the readiest means of making the same known, and thus quieting the feelings of relatives and friends at once. [My] General Abstract [lists]”:

Persons embarked (crew of 11 included):
211

Accounted for of these in foregoing statement, (including 29 who perished):
181

NOTE: All of the survivors mentioned in *You Lost Me* are real names from ‘the foregoing statement’ but the events involving them within The Shipwreck Inn are fictionalized.

Master [Captain] lost: 1

Mate and crew saved: 10

Unaccounted for: 18

The Despatch was a vessel known as a brig. A brig is a two-masted sailing ship with square rigging on both masts. Brigs were used for both naval and mercantile purposes. As merchant vessels, they plied mostly coastal trading routes, but oceanic voyages were not uncommon; some brigs were even used for whaling and sealing. Because square rigging required a large crew, merchant brigs became uneconomical, and in the 19th century they began to give way to such fore-and-aft rigged vessels as the schooner and bark. Slag is a term found in an account of the Despatch. It was the lifeboat (yawl-type lifeboat or a longboat) onboard the ship. In the accounts, the captain drowned as they tried an unsuccessful launch of the lifeboat but it got caught

up in the rigging. After the storm, the surviving crew considered the boat to be unsuitable, which may be why they referred to it as “slag.”

Sources:

<https://www.newfoundlandlabrador.com/trip-ideas/travel-stories/the-shipwrecks-of-newfoundland-and-labrador>

<http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/Wrecks/dispatch1828.shtml>

<https://www.britannica.com>

Social Anxiety in Teens

The behavior of *You Lost Me*'s characters, Joel-L and Edna, may be reflective of the increase in social anxiety among teenagers. Social anxiety disorder is characterized by significant discomfort and avoidance of social and/or performance situations. It is among the most common mental disorders in children and adolescents. Recent estimates indicate that 6 % of children and 12.1% of adolescents meet the criteria for social anxiety. Social anxiety disorder starts as early as age 5 and peaks around age 12.

Source:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3259736/>

For more information on Social Anxiety:

<https://nationalsocialanxietycenter.com>

For more information on Social Media and Teens:

https://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Families_and_Youth/Facts_forFamilies/FFF-Guide/Social-Media-and-Teens-100.aspx

For immediate support if thoughts or behavior lead you or another to thoughts of suicide:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255. Available 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Newfoundland and Ireland

During the late 1700's and early 1800's, the most intensive recorded transatlantic migration from one small geographic area to another occurred between Ireland and Newfoundland. Most of the Irish immigrants came from the South East of Ireland and were living in Newfoundland

for several generations before the Great Irish Famine of the mid-1800's.

The cod fishery and its mercantile activities greatly influenced Irish settlement patterns in Newfoundland and Labrador. Before the fishery shifted from a migratory to a resident operation in the early-19th century, Irish habitation of the colony was predominately seasonal or temporary in nature. Most new arrivals lived on the island for one or two fishing seasons before returning home in the fall. However, the rise of a prosperous resident fishery in the early 1800s changed the character of Irish migration to Newfoundland and Labrador and increased its scale. Most Irish immigrants settled permanently on the island instead of seasonally migrating there to take part in the fishery. By 1840, roughly half the colony's population was of Irish origin.

Sources:
<https://www.heritage.nf.ca/articles/society/irish-settlement.php>
<http://nlirishconnections.org>

Canada and the United States

The United States and Canada share the longest international border on the planet and this bilateral relationship is one of the world's closest and most extensive. It is reflected in the high volume of bilateral trade – nearly \$2 billion a day in goods and services – and in people-to-people contact – about 400,000 people cross between the two countries every day. In fields ranging from border security and law enforcement to environmental protection to free trade, the two countries work closely together on multiple levels, from local/provincial to federal. U.S. defense arrangements with Canada are more extensive than with any other country.

Public opinion polls suggest that Canadians and Americans share basic attitudes toward inequality and opportunity, and toward the underlying drivers of upward mobility.

The Pew Charitable Trusts conducted a number of public opinion polls asking Americans what meaning they attach to the phrase “The American Dream,” and these have been adapted and conducted in Canada with remarkably similar responses. In these polls respondents were asked to indicate the degree to which they agreed with a series of possible definitions of the American Dream. 60% of American respondents ranked “being able to succeed regardless of family background” eight or higher on a ten point scale, while 59% of Canadians did so. The percentage indicating that the statement “Your children being financially better off financially than you” represents the American Dream was 64% in the United States, and 57% in Canada.

92% of Americans and 88% of Canadians report that “hard work” was either essential or very important in determining upward mobility, and 89% in both countries felt this way about “having ambition.” On the other hand, small minorities in both countries cited race, gender, or luck as being essential or very important, “luck” being the most cited with 21% of Americans and 22% of Canadians thinking of it in these terms.

Other surveys show that while 35% of Americans “strongly agree” or “agree” with the statement “Government’s responsibility is to reduce the gap between high and low incomes,” a significantly larger proportion, 47%, of Canadians have this view. This said, attitudes in these two countries are much more similar than in European countries, where the majority and often the strong majority feel redistribution is an important government responsibility.

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VOCABULARY

“SHIPWRECK ANN: A WOMAN’S NO TIME FOR WORDS IN NEWFOUNDLAND.”

A.A. | Alcoholics Anonymous | Home Group

Alcoholics Anonymous is an international fellowship of men and women who have had a drinking problem. It is nonprofessional, self-supporting, multiracial, apolitical, and available almost everywhere. There are no age or education requirements. Membership is open to anyone who wants to do something about his or her drinking problem. A.A. had its beginnings in 1935 at Akron, Ohio, as the outcome of a meeting between Bill W., a New York stockbroker, and Dr. Bob S., an Akron surgeon. Both had been hopeless alcoholics. Prior to that time, Bill and Dr. Bob had each been in contact with the Oxford Group, a mostly nonalcoholic fellowship that emphasized universal spiritual values in daily living. Early in 1939, the Fellowship published its basic textbook, *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The text, written by Bill, explained A.A.’s philosophy and methods, the core of which was the now well-known Twelve Steps of recovery. The book was also reinforced by case histories of some thirty recovered members. From this point, A.A.’s development was rapid.

Traditionally, most A.A. members have found it important to belong to one group that they call their “home group.” This is the group where they accept service responsibilities and try to sustain friendships. It is often reported from A.A. members that they first “felt like members” when they began making coffee, helping with the chairs, or cleaning the coffee pot within their chosen “home group”. Some newcomers find that such activity relieves their shyness and makes it easier to meet and talk to other members.

Banshee

(Irish: *Bean Sidhe*), (Scottish Gaelic: *Ban Sith*) means “woman of the fairies” and is a supernatural being in Irish and other

Celtic folklore whose mournful keening, wailing, screaming or lamentation, at night was believed to foretell the death of a member of the family of the person who heard the spirit. In Ireland, banshees were believed to warn only families of pure Irish descent. The Welsh counterpart, *Witch of Rhibyn*, visited only families of old Welsh stock.

Other Irish superstitions include: Giving something sharp to a friend can ‘cut’ your friendship; Seeing a single magpie brings sorrow to the passerby; If you find a half-penny, you’ll have good luck; When your nose is itchy, it’s a sign of a fight to come; If you knock over your chair while standing up, you’re in for bad luck; A cross on the bread lets the devil out; New clothes worn at a funeral bring bad luck; Shoes on the table are a sign of bad luck; Bless yourself anytime you pass a church or graveyard

Berries

Huckleberries: are found throughout eastern North America and the Andes and other mountainous regions of South America. Huckleberry fruits are edible and resemble blueberries, to which they are closely related.

Cloudberry also known as *bakeapples* (and *salmonberry*, *yellowberry*, or *malka*): is a creeping herbaceous plant in the rose family native to the Arctic and subarctic regions of the North Temperate Zone. It is a raspberry-like fruit. Eskimos and Sami collect the sweet juicy fruits in autumn to freeze for winter food. In markets of northern Scandinavia, cloudberry are sold for use in preserves, tarts, and other confections. They are also made into a liqueur.

Blog

The word blog is an abbreviated version of the term weblog, used to describe websites that maintain an ongoing chronicle of information. A blog features diary-type commentary and links to articles on other websites, usually presented as a list of entries in reverse chronological order. Blogs range from the personal to the political, and can focus on one narrow subject or a whole range of subjects.

Brewis

Also known as Fish and Brewis, a traditional Canadian dish consisting of salt fish, salt pork, and hardtack (a type of hard, dry biscuit). Next to Jiggs Dinner (comparable to corned beef and cabbage), Brewis is the quintessential rural Newfoundland dish.

Christina Aguilera

Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter known for her powerful voice and such hit songs as “Genie in a Bottle”, “What a Girl Wants”, and for being a reality singing competition judge on the television show, *The Voice*.

English Channel

Also called The Channel (French: La Manche), it is narrow arm of the Atlantic Ocean separating the southern coast of England from the northern coast of France and tapering eastward to its junction with the North Sea at the Strait of Dover (French: Pas de Calais). With an area of some 29,000 square miles, it is the smallest of the shallow seas covering the continental shelf of Europe.

HALT | H.A.L.T

HALT stands for “Hunger,” “Anger,” “Loneliness,” and “Tired” and is meant to remind those in recovery when they feel the urge to engage in their addictive behavior to dig deeper and ask themselves what they are really feeling or what may be causing their compulsion to return to their addictive behavior.

Instagram

Instagram is a photo and video sharing app launched in 2010. Users upload photos or videos to share them with their followers or with a select group of friends.

Indian Summer

Indian summer is a period of dry, unseasonably warm weather in late October or November in the central and eastern United States. The term originated in New England and probably arose from the Indigenous practice of gathering foods for winter during this period of time. In Britain it is called All-hallowen Summer or Old Wives’ Summer.

Irish Gaelic

Dia dhuit ar maidin | Good morning

O m’anam istigh thu | my soul within you

Kodiak Ice

Kodiak Ice is a smokeless tobacco product that was introduced in 1981. It is manufactured by American Snuff Company.

While vaping is the most commonly used form of tobacco among youth in the United States, about 490,000 teens ages 12 to 17 are current smokeless tobacco users. The 2018 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS) shows that 5.9% of all high-school students overall reported current use of smokeless tobacco products. In addition, current smokeless tobacco use among high-school boys was about the same as current cigarette smoking among this group (8.4% for smokeless tobacco use and 8.8% for smoking cigarettes). Each day, more than 900 kids ages 12-17 use smokeless tobacco for the first time. The 2014 NYTS shows that 42 % of current smokeless tobacco users in high school and about 29 % of current smokeless tobacco users in middle school used these products on 20 to 30 of the previous 30 days, which is considered frequent use. Using smokeless tobacco remains a mostly male behavior.

LGBTQIA | Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgendered Queer [in some cases the 'Q' may also represent Questioning]
Intersex Ally

This acronym is an acronym of alliance (ally) representing the practice of confronting heterosexism, sexism, genderism, allosexism (the pervasive system of discrimination and exclusion that oppresses asexual people), and monosexism (a belief that either exclusive heterosexuality and/or homosexuality is superior to or more legitimate than a bisexual or other non-monosexual orientation) in oneself and others out of self-interest and a concern for the wellbeing of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and asexual people.

Lloyd's of London

In the 17th century, London's importance as a trade center led to an increasing demand for ship and cargo insurance. Edward Lloyd's coffee shop became recognized as the place for obtaining marine insurance. Lloyd's has been a pioneer in insurance and has grown over 330 years to become the world's leading market for specialist insurance.

Physiognomy

A person's facial features or expression, especially when regarded as indicative of character or ethnic origin. The supposed art of judging character from facial characteristics.

Same-Sex Marriage

In the landmark 2015 case *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that all state bans on same-sex marriage were unconstitutional, making gay marriage legal throughout America. The ruling was a culmination of decades of struggles, setbacks and victories along the road to full marriage equality in the United States.

Spiritualism

Edna's resolve to return to The Shipwreck Inn may be considered as an example of spiritualism. The Modern Spiritualist movement dates from 1848 when the Fox sisters of Hydesville, New York produced knocking sounds that were alleged to be messages from a spirit. Spiritualists communicate with the spirits of people who have died.

Twitter

Twitter is a social networking site launched in 2006. Twitter has 100 million daily active users with 500 million tweets sent daily.

Tofurky

In its twenty-two year history, that plump, beige creation filled with a core of wild-rice stuffing whose flavor is not significantly different from its chewy, tofu-and-gluten shell—has become a requisite part of vegetarian-friendly Thanksgiving tables from San Francisco to Kalamazoo. Within the world of plant-based processed foods, perhaps only Gardenburger can rival Tofurky in name recognition.

Vegetarianism

When people think about a vegetarian diet, they typically think about a diet that doesn't include meat, poultry or fish. But vegetarian diets vary in what foods they include and exclude. Lacto-vegetarian diets exclude meat, fish, poultry and eggs, as well as foods that contain them. Dairy products, such as milk, cheese, yogurt and butter, are included. Ovo-vegetarian diets exclude meat, poultry, seafood and dairy products, but allow eggs. Lacto-ovo vegetarian diets exclude meat, fish and poultry, but allow dairy products and eggs. Pescatarian diets exclude meat and poultry, dairy, and eggs, but allow fish. Vegan diets exclude meat, poultry, fish, eggs and dairy products — and foods

that contain these products. Some people follow a semivegetarian diet — also called a flexitarian diet — which is primarily a plant-based diet but includes meat, dairy, eggs, poultry and fish on occasion or in small quantities.

Victor Hugo and The English Channel

In October 1855 Victor Hugo arrived on rainy, wind-swept Guernsey seeking refuge. A fierce opponent of the Second Empire of Napoleon III, he had been banished first from his native France, and then Belgium and the island of Jersey. By the time he landed on this small neighboring island in the English Channel, the exiled writer was in desperate need of asylum. Undistracted and determined, he poured his creative energy into masterpieces like his epic novel, *Les Misérables*, and the decoration of his home, Hauteville House, the only home he ever owned. “Exile has not only detached me from France, it has almost detached me from the Earth,” he wrote in a letter. In this wild, isolated retreat, a British dependency just 26 miles from the Normandy coast of France, Hugo passed the most productive period of his life.

X Games

The X Games is an extreme sports competition that is presented twice a year by ESPN, the sports television network.

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STUDY QUESTIONS

Pre-Performance Questions

1. When telling a story, how does the past intersect with the present and the future? How will this intersection of time unfold on a stage?
2. How do we put together our lives after a disaster or a life changing event? How do we grieve and mourn for those that we have lost?

Post-Performance Questions

1. How do the scenic elements of set design, costuming, lighting, and sound help tell the story? Which are the most effective and why?
2. How does the setting inform the play? Explain how the setting becomes a character in the play. If the play were set somewhere else, how would this effect the play?
3. How does the past intersect with the present? What purpose does this device serve for this play?
4. Explain how the actors playing multiple roles (doubling) enhances or detracts from the play?
5. How would you describe the relationship between Joe-L and Edna?
6. How do the different characters, Mary McCauley, Ann Harvey and Edna, deal with grief and mourning?
7. What is the role of poetry, especially the poetry of Rainer Maria Rilke but also of prayer and song, in the play?
8. How does the story of Alexander and Mary McCauley in 1828 illuminate the visitors and situations of the Shipwreck Inn in 2019?
9. Why do the American tourists, Sid and Reika, visit the Shipwreck Inn? What do they hope to discover and what is revealed?
10. Who is Pastor Paul and why is he in the play?
11. What do you think keeps Ann Harvey at the Shipwreck Inn?

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

The Denver Public Library recommends these library resources to enhance your theatre experience.

Read!

Matty Matheson: A Cookbook by Matty Matheson

You Lost Me is a play that pivots on food. Matty Matheson, born in Saint John, New Brunswick, and in love with Prince Edward Island, where his family has roots, is a man who takes pride in the food of the Maritime Provinces. These are meaty, stick-to-your-ribs recipes from a meaty, stick-to-your-ribs kind of guy, the brash and boisterous, tattooed and mustachioed star of *Viceland's It's Suppertime!* and *Dead Set on Life*. Learn to prepare a properly Canadian lobster roll. Learn what in the heck Rappie Pie is. Learn a lot about Matheson's upbringing, which included sleeping in the banquettes of his grandfather's diner (until 5 a.m., when the truckers started rolling in), and about his coming of age, which included doing cocaine in kitchens across Toronto. Gorgeous, drool-worthy photos throughout — as well as a great deal of heart.

Watch

Republic of Doyle, season 1

A hilarious Canadian crime drama that chronicles the story of father and son private investigators, the Doyles, working jobs on both sides of the law. Reminiscent of the *Rockford Files* or *Magnum P.I.*, but with the muscle-car chases bounding through the hilly streets of St. John's in Newfoundland and Labrador. Filmed on location, *The Republic of Doyle* is full of recognizable sights, from the distinctive “jelly bean” row houses, to landmarks like Cabot Tower and the Duke of Duckworth pub, and every episode is peppered with sly insider jokes only a Newfoundlander would get.

Listen

Rattlesnake by Neyla Pekarek.

Colorado musician Neyla Pekarek, formerly of The Lumineers, based her first solo album on the legend of Rattlesnake Kate. Like Shipwreck Ann, Rattlesnake Kate was a progressive woman who saved lives. She single-handedly defended herself and her young son against 140 rattlesnakes, bludgeoning most of them with a wooden post. Pekarek is a modern-day Ann Harvey, trying to make her mark in her own way, holding vigil for those who were lost to the past, and reaching out from loneliness to others.

Download

Galore by Michael Crummey

Crummey was born and raised in Newfoundland, and he brings its land and forebears to life in this historical novel that would fit snugly on the shelf next to Gabriel García Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. In *Paradise Deep*, a remote Newfoundland fishing village where the lines between folklore and the familiar often blur, a beached whale reveals itself to be the temporary home of a mute albino man, whom the locals dub “Judah.” As they attempt to ascertain the meaning behind his arrival—is he a curse? a blessing?—we get to know generations of the village's inhabitants, and generations of their secrets, played out on *Paradise Deep's* foggy and fantastical coastal backdrop.

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