

Village Theatre

KIDSTAGE

Summer Independent Performance Preview Guide for *The Spitfire Grill*

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July 9th – 18th at the Francis J. Guadette Theatre, 303 Front St N

Only parents/guardians are qualified to determine what is appropriate for their children. This Preview Guide and a copy of the script are available at the box office to help you make the decision that is right for you and your family.

The Program and Process

The Summer Independent program is the pinnacle experience for KIDSTAGE students. It provides autonomy, resources, and mentorship to select, mount, and produce their own full-scale show from start to finish. Students take on every aspect of production, from performing, directing, and stage management, to designing and building sets, creating costumes, running sound and lights, marketing, production management, and more.

The Summer Independent program is focused on the professional development of the production team. The production process by nature offers many opportunities to build skills that allow students to become independent—and potentially professional—artists in their respective disciplines. Each member of the production team is assigned a professional in the field to mentor, support the process and provide feedback and suggestions on how to overcome challenges to achieve a successful production. Performers' learning opportunities in this program differ from other KIDSTAGE production programs, where the focus is on the actor's educational development. Performers in Summer Independent are most successful if they are self-directed and self-disciplined and, most importantly, are patient with the production team as they develop new skills.

Synopsis

“A feisty parolee follows her dreams, based on a page from an old travel book, to a small town in Wisconsin and finds a place for herself working at Hannah's Spitfire Grill. The Grill is for sale, but there are no takers for the only eatery in the depressed town, so newcomer Percy convinces Hannah to raffle it off. Entry fees are one hundred dollars and the best essay on why you want the Grill wins. Soon, mail arrives by the wheelbarrow and things really start cookin' at the Spitfire Grill.” – Concord Theatricals

Script Content Details

Please note: the following contains plot spoilers.

Language:

- Act 1; Scene 1: Sheriff Joe says “He’s not the one freezing his ass off at this bus stop…” and “Damn… my coffee’s cold.”
- Act 1; Scene 2: Hannah sings “hell” in the third and fourth stanzas of (*Something’s Cooking*)
- Act 1; Scene 3: Percy says “hell” on page 21, and “damn” at the top of page 23, and Joe saying “damn” on page 26
- Act 1; Scene 4: Caleb saying “damn” on page 26
- Act 1; Scene 6: Caleb saying “What the hell is this about?” and “what the hell were you thinking?” and “the hell with it”, Hannah saying “hell” (page 37)
- Act 1; Scene 7: Percy saying “damn” and Joe saying “damn” on page 40
- Act 1; Scene 8: Percy saying “damn” on page 43, and Hannah saying “hell” on page 44
- Act 1; Scene 9: Hannah saying “Holy shit!” on page 49
- Act 2; Scene 1: (*Come Alive Again*) Hannah sings “smartass” on page 54
- Act 2; Scene 5: Joe says “damn” on page 64, Hannah saying “damn you!” towards Percy on page 66

Sexual Content:

- Act 1; Scene 8: Shelby saying to Percy “The Sheriff might be concerned with more than just your parole…” *referencing he’s taking a romantic and/or sexual interest in Percy (page 43)

Drug/Alcohol Usage:

- The whole show takes place in the Spitfire Bar and Grill
- Act 1; Scene 2: Percy is depicted having *plugged a cigarette in her mouth* (page 14)
- Act 1; Scene 9: (*Shoot the Moon*) Hannah sings, “Drown it in a cheap saloon,/ Soon you’ll be too drunk to care.” (page 48) *references being too intoxicated for coherence
- Act 2; Scene 1: Percy, Shelby, and Hannah pass around “*a jug of Hannah’s infamous applejack, getting tipsier by the swig*” and (*Come Alive Again*) Hannah sings “There’s drink enough to drown all three” (page 51)

Violence:

- Act 1; Scene 2: Hannah grabs Percy’s arm (page 14)
- Act 2; Scene 2: Discussion of violence towards Percy when she was pregnant at the hands of her drunken stepfather, resulting in the loss of her child
- Act 2; Scene 2: Discussion of murder “when he was layin’ there on the bed all passed out, I took out his straight razor.” (page 60)

- Act 2; Scene 3: Domestic Violence: *Caleb pulls back to his hand to strike Shelby* (page 61)

Additional Content:

- Depictions of prison: Act 1; Scene 1
- Discussion of incarceration:
 - Act 1; Scene 1: (*A Ring Around the Moon*),
 - Act 1; Scene 2: (*Something's Cooking*), Percy saying “did I mention that I spent the last five years in prison?” (page 20),
 - Act 1; Scene 3: Percy criticizing Joe of thinking she is “one of them sex-starved prison gals...” (page 26)
 - Act 2; Scene 2: Percy stating that she killed someone, which was her reason for being in prison (page 59)
- Racially Charged Language: Act 1; Scene 2: (*Something's Cooking*) Effy sings “Little Miss white trash” (directed towards Percy) on page 15
- Discussion of military enlistment and not coming home: Act 1; Scene 4 (*When Hope Goes*)
- Discussion of sexual abuse: Act 2; Scene 2: “I was sixteen when he got me pregnant.” (page 59)