



CORONATION

by Peter Fenton

Info Deck

Cast: 6-9+ (4F/2M)

95 mins, 1 Set.

**A story of power, privilege, and visibility
disguised as a teen comedy.**

This play contains darkly comedic teenage behavior, references to teen-oriented media, some innuendo, and a few scenes in a boys' locker room. Recommended for ages 12+

Homecoming
ALL THIS FOR A[^] QUEEN.



THE PLAY

At Chamber Stone High, it's easy to overlook Dan Park: he's short. He's skinny. He takes honors classes and works behind the scenes on the morning announcements. He's not bullied—in fact, he's friendly enough with the cheer captain, the class president, and the golden boy—but he's felt counted out by those power players since kindergarten, and that just might be worse. Beneath the charming grin, Dan has entered senior year with a chip on his shoulder, ready to set fire to the social order. And then the Homecoming Queen nominees are announced...

Maria Rojas, Dan's oldest and truest friend, a big-hearted loner, has unexpectedly been nominated for Homecoming Queen. Behind her back, Dan hatches a plan to stoke the most powerful people at school into war and win Maria the crown, all while he slips under the radar, since that's what Dan does best—but he didn't quite slip past everyone. The morning before the Queen is crowned, the sharp-witted guidance counselor invites Dan into her office for a chat about what he's (allegedly) been up to this past month. His plan may have worked too well.

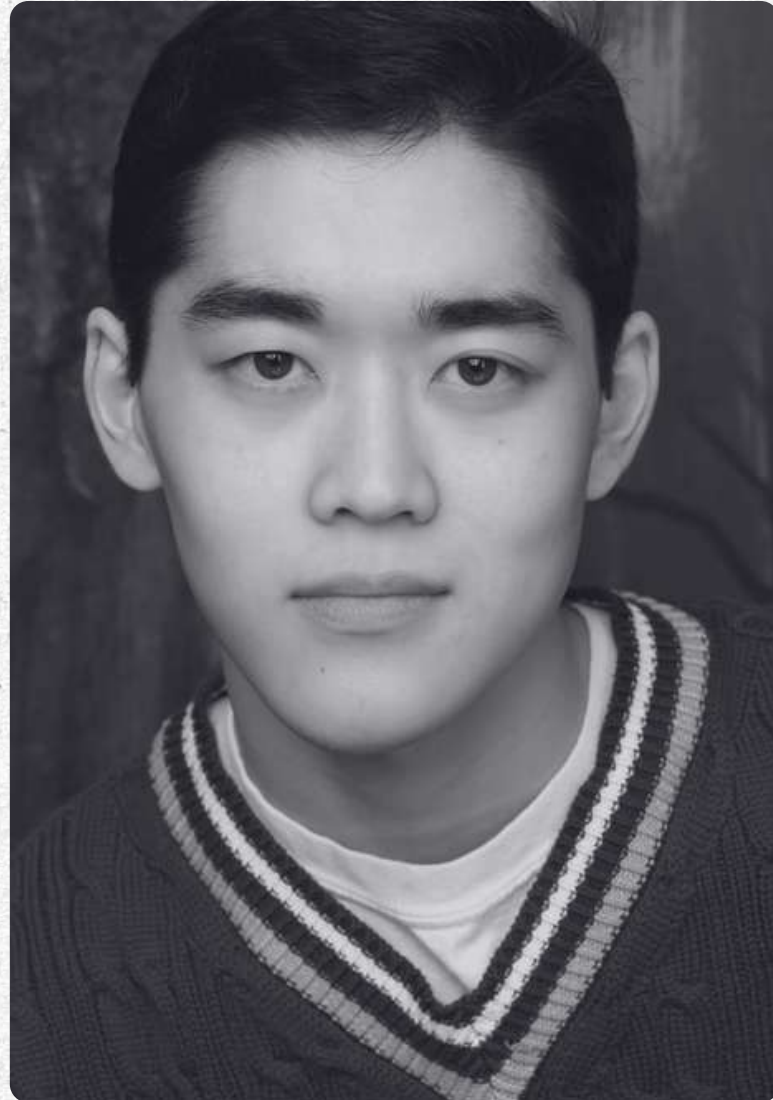
THE PLAYWRIGHT

Peter Fenton graduated from Conestoga Valley High School in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 2013. He is a writer and director creating stories for stage and screen that make audiences laugh, think, and occasionally squirm. His Off-Broadway debut, dark comedy **Abandon All Hope**, premiered at Theatre Row in 2023, and **I Think We're Lost**, his young adult retelling of *Peter Pan*, will premiere in Philadelphia in 2026. His film work, including **Night Voices** and his directorial debut, **Inherently Special**, has earned awards on the international festival circuit. Based in New Hope, Pennsylvania, Fenton works in marketing at Passage Theatre Company and freelances with McCarter Theatre Center and other regional arts organizations.

www.byPeterFenton.com
[@peterfent](https://www.instagram.com/peterfent)

CLASS OF 2013 →





DAN PARK

Lead Role. The witty, wounded director of the morning announcements. He resents being overlooked and wants to prove how shallow his school is.

“Some men just wanna watch the world burn. And I should know, because I’m one of those men.”



MARIA ROJAS

Lead Role. The perky, all-loving field hockey goalie. She bounds through on the margins of school and wants to connect with new and old friends.

“Oh, don’t get me wrong! People like me. But they mostly just leave me alone.”



~~MRS. LOWRY~~

Major Role. The dry-humored, sporty guidance counselor. She has called Dan into her office and won’t let him go until he realizes what he’s done.

“While I’m—horrified—that you gaslit a teacher. That’s not why I called you in.”



JANELLE BORDEAUX

Major Role. The bubbly cheer captain and favorite to win Homecoming Queen. She wishes to be seen for more than her looks (but yes, please do see her looks).

“Should I pretend to be surprised when they announce my name? That would be rude, right? I’m a terrible actress.”



CANDICE DAVENPORT

Major Role. The Princeton-bound student council president. Clever and ambitious, she knows she’s respected—she just wishes people liked her.

“The Homecoming Queen should be a young woman of exceptional intellect and character. Not some basic bimbo.”

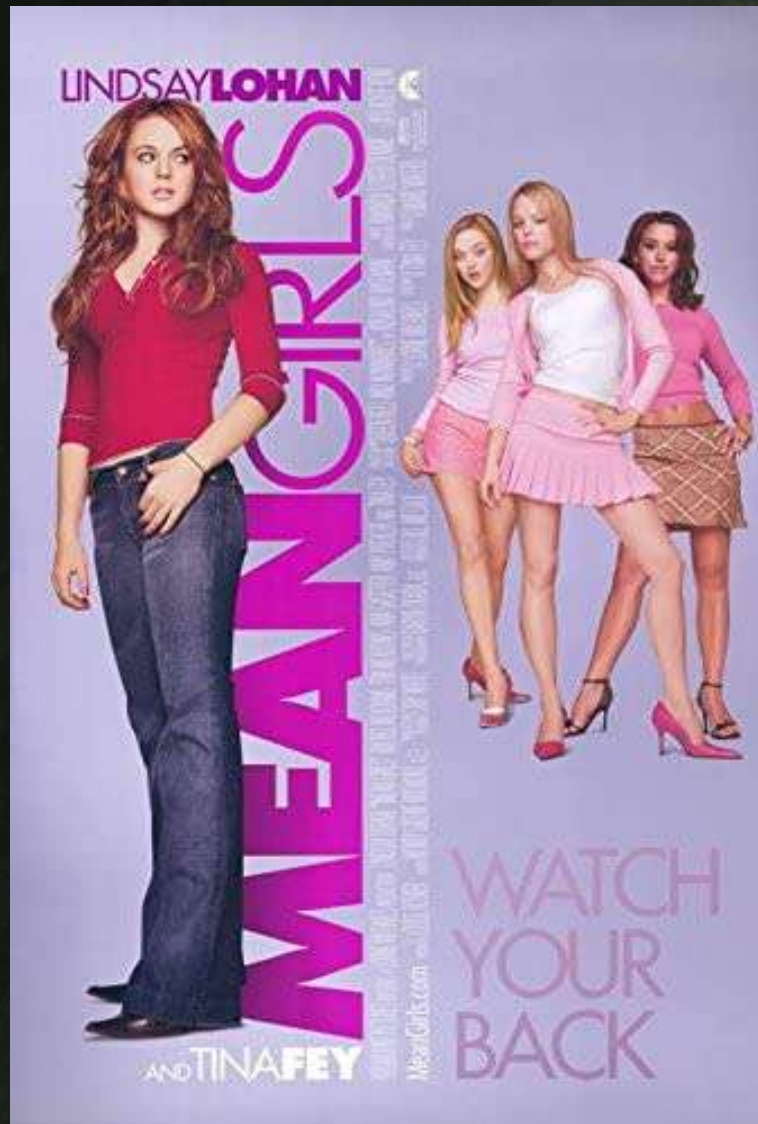


BRYAN MCGRATH

Major Role. The athletic, easygoing student council treasurer. He’s dating Candice and just wants everyone to have fun. Seems unaware the girls are at war.

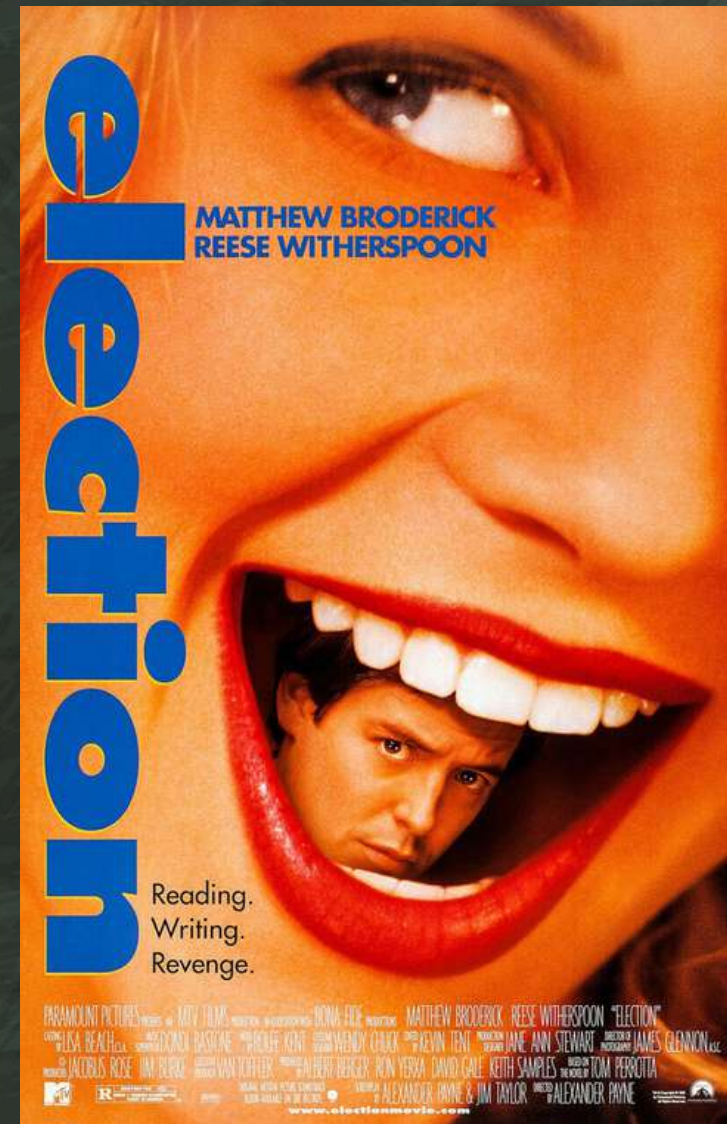
“Yo, are you already as sick of homecoming as I am?”

THIS PLAY IS KINDA LIKE...



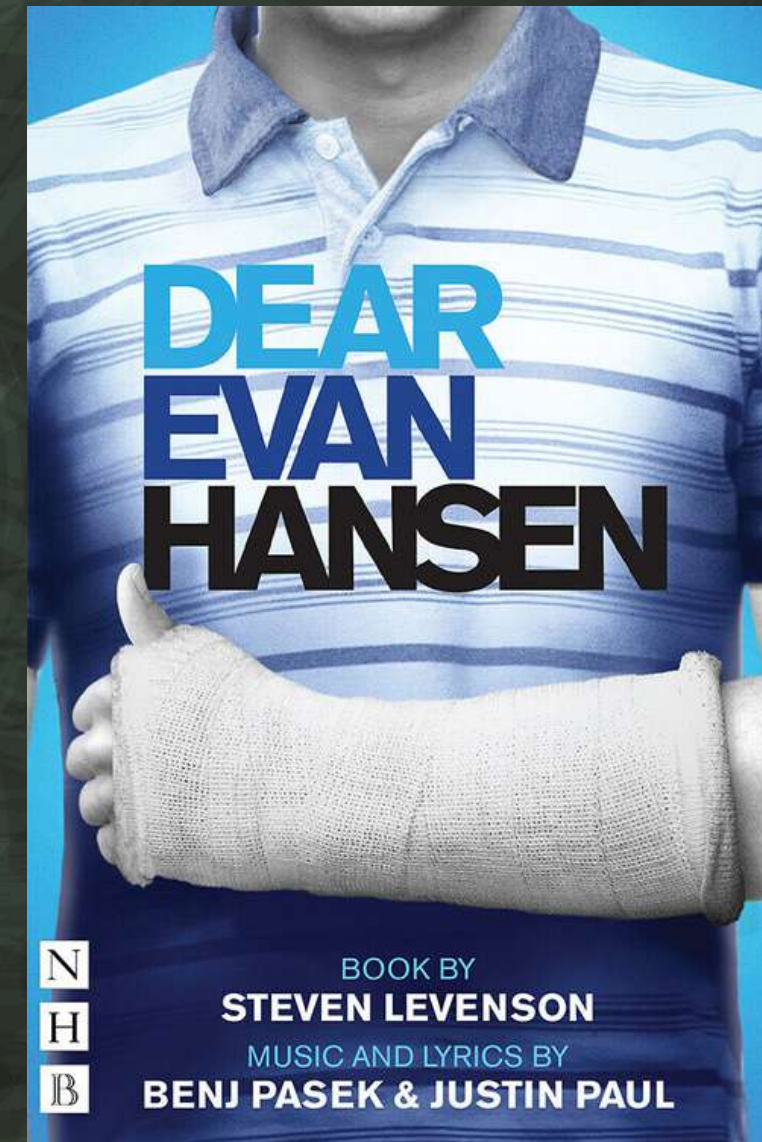
MEAN GIRLS

In-fighting between popular girls drives the main plot of the story and the script contains many quotable lines



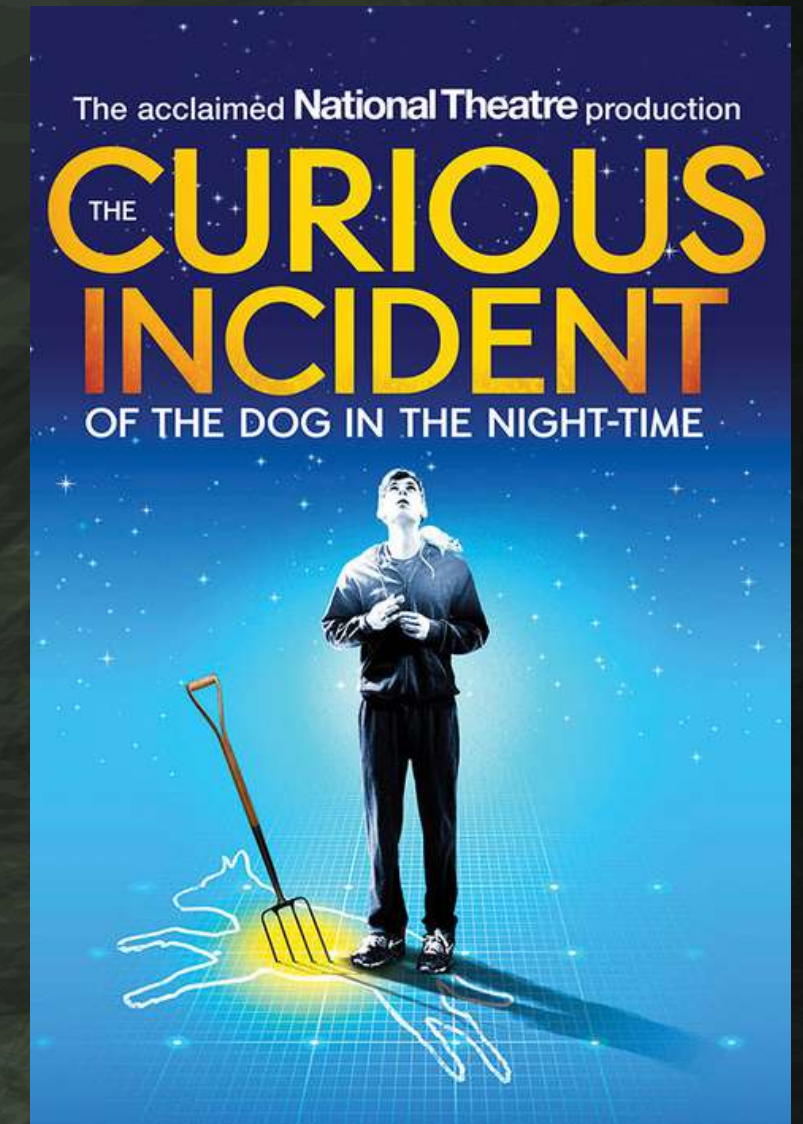
ELECTION

Manipulative high school figures, even those who should have no direct stake in the fallout, throw social order into chaos



DEAR EVAN HANSEN

Morally gray, marginalized high school protagonist who feels deeply and acts out of loneliness by using the few friends he has



THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHTTIME

Similar theatrical structure with on-stage narrator and a playful, minimalist presentation with many short scenes



HISTORY & FUTURE



2023

Producer Lisa Reiser commissions Peter Fenton to write a new play for Newtown Arts Company's 2024 season. Newtown Arts Company is a community theater group in Bucks County, PA.



AUGUST 2024

Coronation sees its community theater debut directed by Mary Liz Ivins in a stripped-down workshop production featuring a cast of local teens and adults and is well-received by early audiences.



DEC. 2024-2026

Coronation is licensed for high school performances at two locations: Lake Lehman High School in Wilkes-Barre, PA, and Stansbury High School in Salt Lake City, UT.



LOOKING AHEAD

This play has proven success with school and community theater audiences. **Coronation now seeks a professional premiere at a LORT theater or in a major city like New York or London.**

PLAYWRIGHT'S STATEMENT

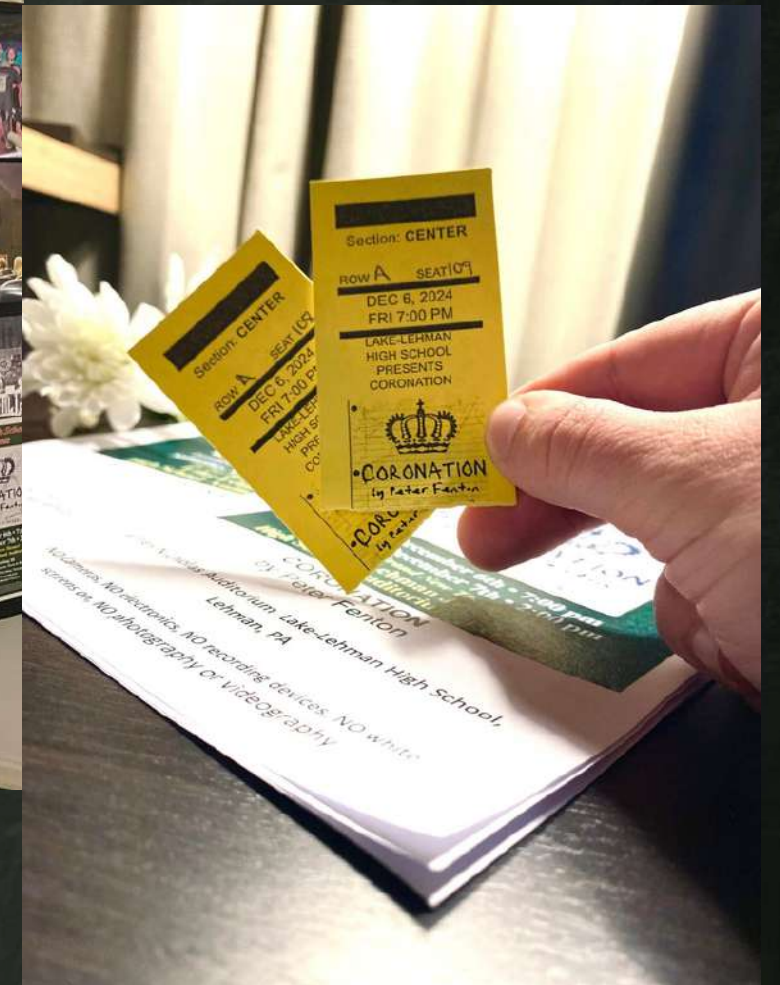


“As much as this is a fun teen comedy (and it is), **the conflict at Chamber Stone High is playing out right now at a very large, polarized scale all across America.**

No matter how witty or big-hearted the Dans and the Marias of this country are, they are going through life in a system that rewards golden boys, class presidents, and cheer captains. The deck is stacked against them, but the real kicker is those systems upheld by white Christian patriarchy don't benefit anybody in the long run.

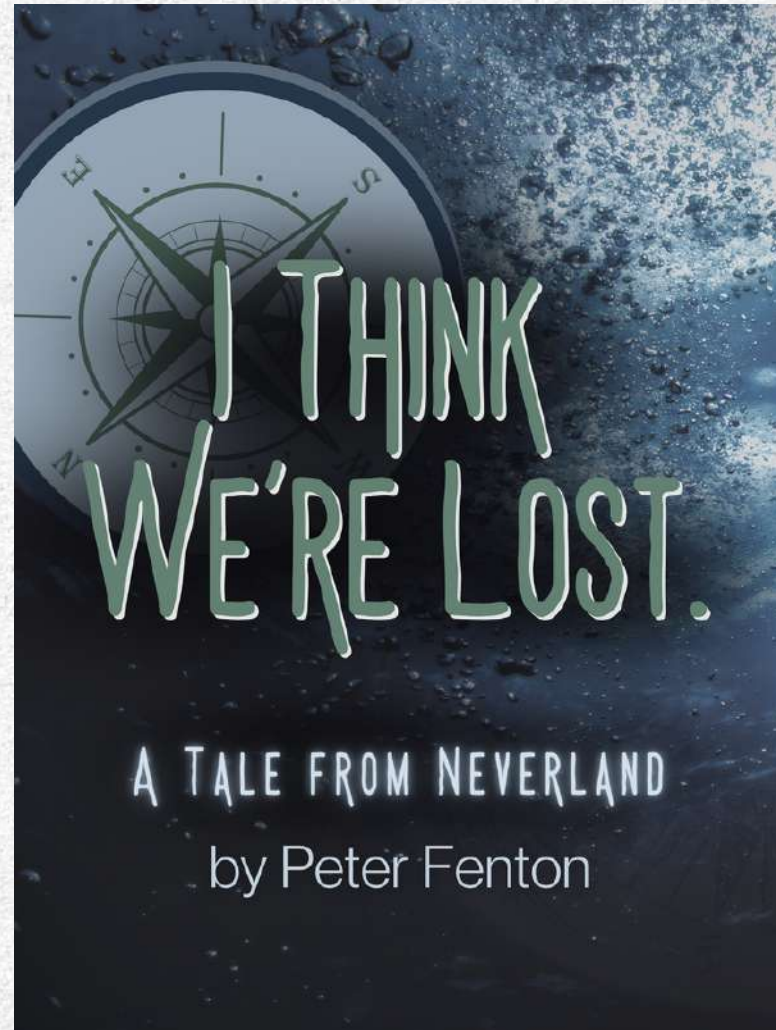
With *Coronation*, I mean to hack away at the current structures of privilege without naming political parties or playing overt identity politics because the people who most need to engage with this play may not have empathy for the Dans and Marias out there if I laid it out more directly. So the best place to play this story and its themes is in a contemporary John Hughes-inspired teen comedy set in an American high school.”

—Peter Fenton



Left and Right: Peter Fenton attends opening night of the December 2024 school production of **Coronation** at Lake Lehman High School in Wilkes-Barre, PA

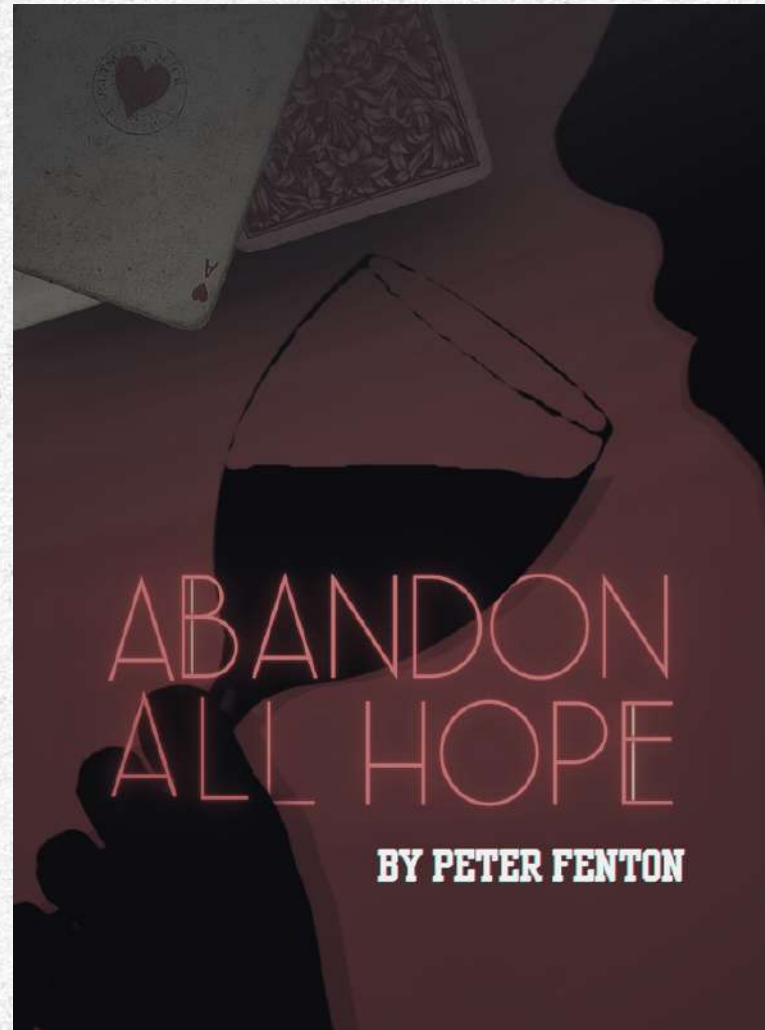
OTHER PETER FENTON PLAYS



I THINK WE'RE LOST

Full-length. A contemporary, darkly comedic feminist and queer-positive not-quite sequel, not-quite adaptation of **Peter Pan**, this is a story for young adult audiences about mental health, identity, and the seductive trap of eternal adolescence.

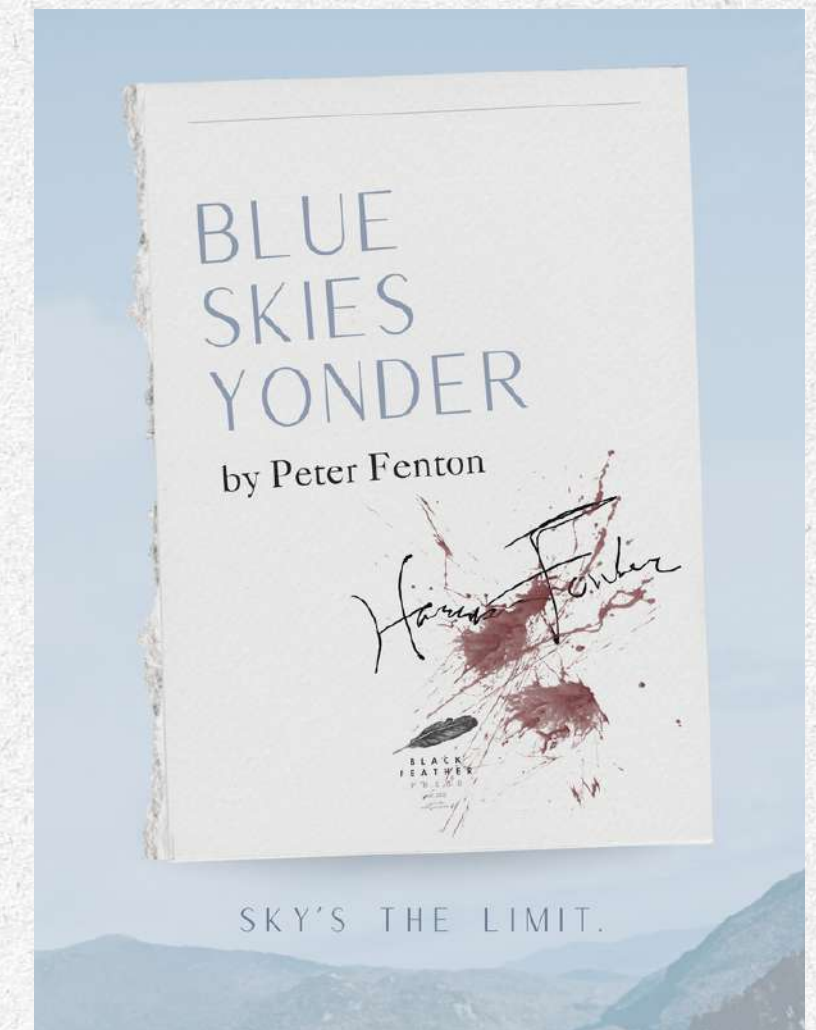
Cast Size: 6+ (2F/3M/1 Any)



ABANDON ALL HOPE

Full-length. Basically **No Exit** if Jean-Paul Sartre was raised Baptist. When three college freshmen (a feminist, an evangelical, and an analyst) meet in Hell, a fun-loving demon forces them to play a game with eternal stakes: The winner goes to Heaven. The others are tortured for eternity.

Cast Size: 4+ (2F/2M)



BLUE SKIES YONDER

Full-length. A contemporary **Agatha Christie-inspired** locked room murder mystery in the shadow of late-stage capitalism. A dark comedy about queer survival, creative ownership, and the stories we tell to stay relevant—even if it kills us.

Cast Size: 8 (4F/4M)

THANK YOU!

REMEMBER TO VOTE
FOR HOMECOMING QUEEN!

REMEMBER, YOU CAN VOTE
UP TO 10 TIMES A DAY
UNTIL OCTOBER 4TH!

AND REMEMBER, PLEASE
DON'T VOTE FOR CANDICE.

