

BLUE SKIES YONDER

by Peter Fenton

Handwritten signature: Peter Fenton

BLACK
FEATHER
PRESS
est. 2021

Info Deck

Genre: Dark Comedy, Murder Mystery, Thriller

Requirements: 8 Actors (4f/4m), 1 Set.

Approximate Runtime: 110 minutes.

A contemporary Agatha Christie-inspired locked room murder mystery for late-stage capitalism centered on a gay interracial couple.

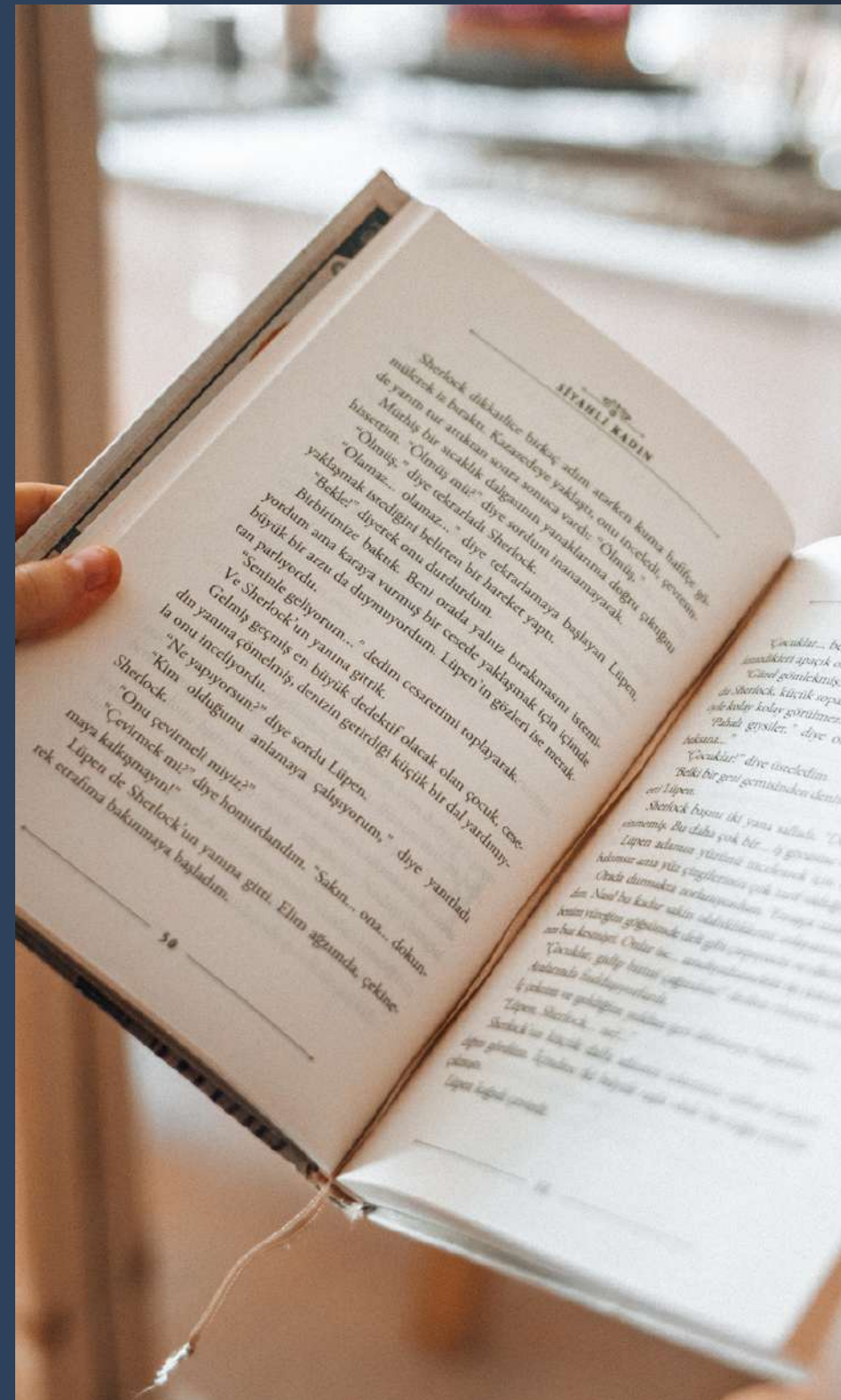
This play contains coarse language, mature themes, and several murders. It is a dark comedy thriller following a morally gray ensemble. Appropriate for ages 14+



PREMISE

At his lavish book launch party, a promising young author spirals under the weight of a mismanaged manuscript and the deadly ambitions of his colleagues and loved ones.

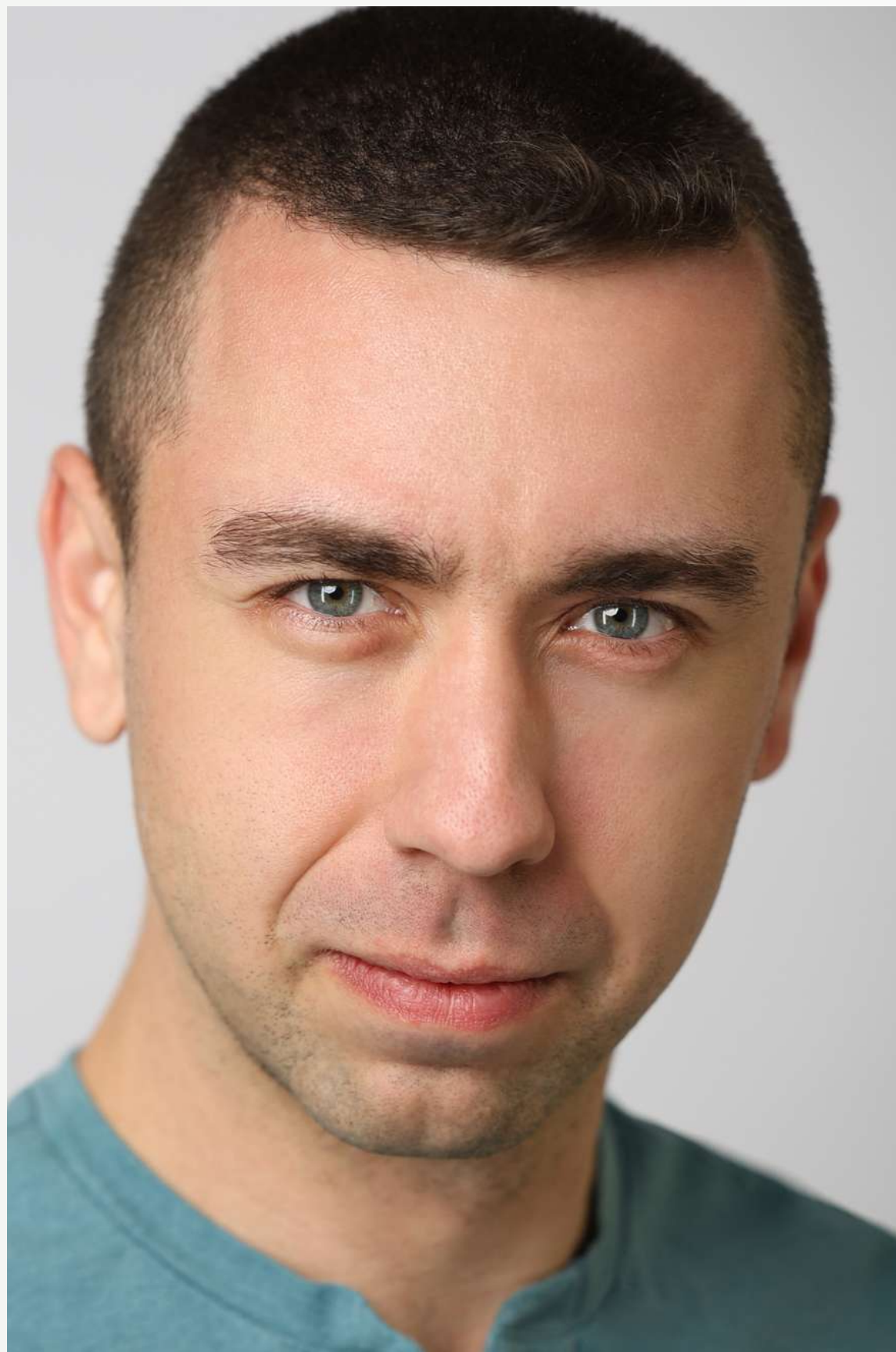
In company with big money and bigger ambition, someone threatens to get away with murder—but **in the cutthroat world of publishing, the real killer might be whoever tells the best story.**



It's a dark comedy about queer survival, creative ownership, and the stories we tell to stay relevant—even if it kills us.

THE PLAY WRIGHT

www.byPeterFenton.com



Peter Fenton 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, PA, Fenton works in marketing at Passage Theatre Company and freelances with McCarter Theatre Center and other regional arts organizations.

BLUE SKIES YONDER is inspired in part by Fenton's harrowing experience in the world of independent book publishing.

@peterfent

SUSPECTS



HARRISON FOWLER

the Author

A debut novelist presently angry at his editor, unsure whether his work is any good, and sitting on a compromising secret. His book, **BLUE SKIES YONDER**, is set to launch with Blackfeather Press next week and is expected to be a best-seller. Harris has yet to be paid a penny of his hefty advance and his novel is being sent to market with edits he never approved.



JASON YANG

the Fiancé

A photogenic app developer and AI expert who is quick with a joke and never misses a chance to pitch his technology. He recently proposed to Harris and their wedding is scheduled for next July. Both a romantic and a survivalist, Jason is eager to marry soon and is determined to use this party as leverage to ingratiate himself into the publishing startup.



PRESTON FOWLER

the Host

A New York City real estate mogul who is hosting the launch party for **BLUE SKIES YONDER** at his recently-acquired luxury mountain cabin. An aspiring author himself, Preston knows his son's secrets and is keeping a close eye on Harris's budding career and those he rubs elbows with—and he's no stranger to a good old fashioned backroom handshake.



MARYBETH FOWLER

the Agent

An Ivy League English professor and highly selective literary agent who recently went through a financially damaging divorce. A ruthless negotiator with a cool head and a sharp tongue, Marybeth keeps close tabs on who owes her favors and what exactly she owes. She represents Harris—and she's also his mother. Her instinct, always, is to protect.

The actors pictured on these slides merely represent casting archetypes.

JASON and JILLIAN must be portrayed by actors of East Asian descent, but all other characters may be played by actors of any ethnicity.

SUSPECTS



COREY REYNOLDS

the Founder

The fabulous Co-Founder of Blackfeather Press building his empire on funds from flighty venture capitalist Heidi McEwan (an Irish billionaire!). Much of the company's future hinges on the success of Harris's novel, and Corey is bold enough to break through barriers of every kind to see his plans come to fruition with nothing but his wit, charisma, and charm.



REBECCA ADLER

the Editor

The quiet Acquisitions Editor at Blackfeather and a former student of Marybeth's. Hardened by the cutthroat industry after coming in with an already sharp attention to detail, Rebecca has learned to strike under-the-table deals and blur ethical lines to maintain her precarious upward mobility with cold precision as she calculates her most lucrative paths.



JILLIAN CHAU

the Marketer

The astute Marketing Director for Blackfeather Press. Bilingual in both Mandarin and English and seeming to go by two different names, Jillian has a keen eye for book covers, writes snappy social media posts, and rents a deluxe apartment on the Upper West Side with her boyfriend in med school. How does she manage it all? She would prefer you didn't ask.



AMBER CRAWFORD

the Ingénue

The Junior Editor at Blackfeather and editor of Harris's novel who loves **THE HUNGER GAMES** and never seems to have trouble speaking exactly what's on her mind. Fresh out of college and small town Oklahoma, Amber has developed a genuine passion for the book which led her to send a draft to print that the author hadn't approved—a risky move with inevitable fallout.

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COMPARISON TITLES



It's an Agatha Christie-esque locked room murder mystery (**THE MOUSETRAP**) directly satirizing the wealthy and powerful (**GLASS ONION**) with a theatrical, dark sense of humor woven throughout the life-or-death circumstances (**A SIMPLE FAVOR**) that powers incisive commentary on the way "victory" and "success" are portrayed to the public as consumers of media (**THE HUNGER GAMES**).

PLAYWRIGHT'S STATEMENT

"The pressure to keep up the perfect story—with a perfect Instagram feed, perfect career, perfect interracial gay love story—it will kill us all.

*I've had a lifelong love of Agatha Christie and **CLUE**, and I realized this was a ripe genre to explore and personify that pressure... I didn't want to just write a witty dark comedy, I wanted to explore how unchecked ambition and perfect aesthetics consume us and take our professional and personal relationships to ugly places."*

—Peter Fenton



Above: Promotional image for the October 2025 staged reading starring Fenton himself as Harrison Fowler

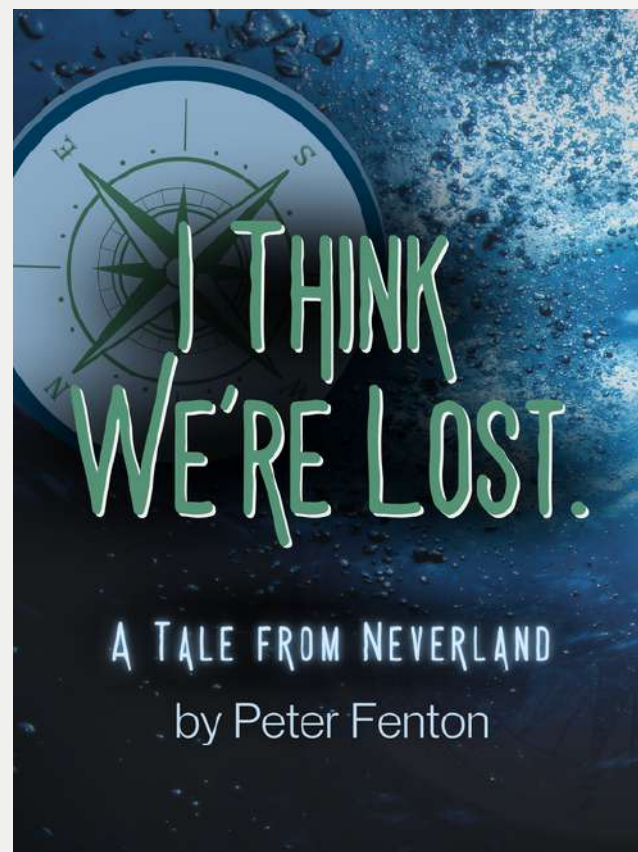


HISTORY & FUTURE

- **Summer 2023:** Following his Off-Broadway debut, Fenton takes initial interest in the themes of this play, namely transactional relationships in the entertainment industry and the gap between public perception and lived reality when it comes to success as an artist
- **Spring-Summer 2024:** Characters inspired by these themes sketched and drafting process begins
- **September 2024:** Draft 1 of ***BLUE SKIES YONDER*** completed
- **December 1, 2024:** Virtual Reading with Playwrights Thriving of Draft 4
- **October 19, 2025:** Staged Reading at Artworks in Trenton, NJ of Draft 6

BLUE SKIES YONDER currently seeks further development opportunities and a world premiere stage. The playwright aspires for this work to one day premiere at a LORT theater and/or in a major city such as New York or London.

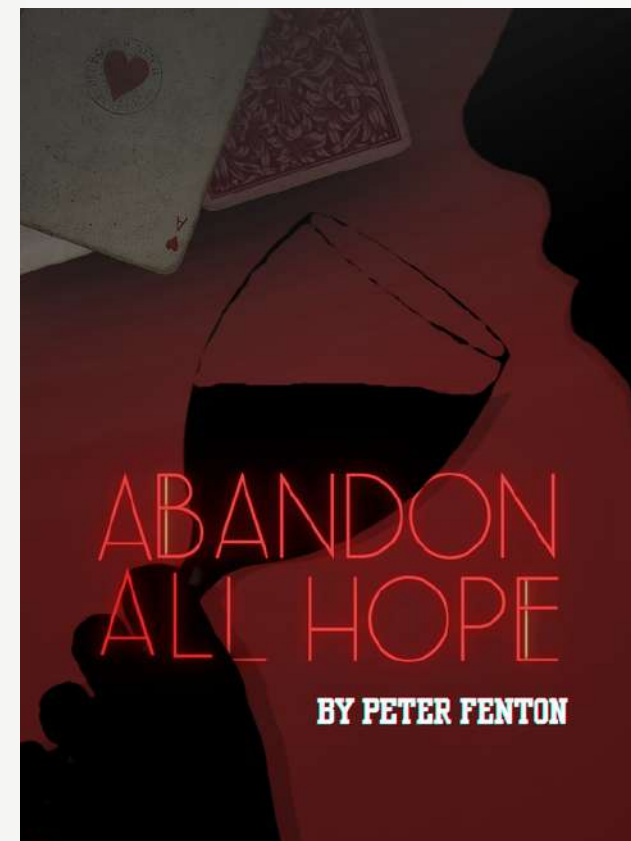
MORE BY FENTON



I THINK WE'RE LOST

6+ Actors (2f/3m/1 any), 105mins

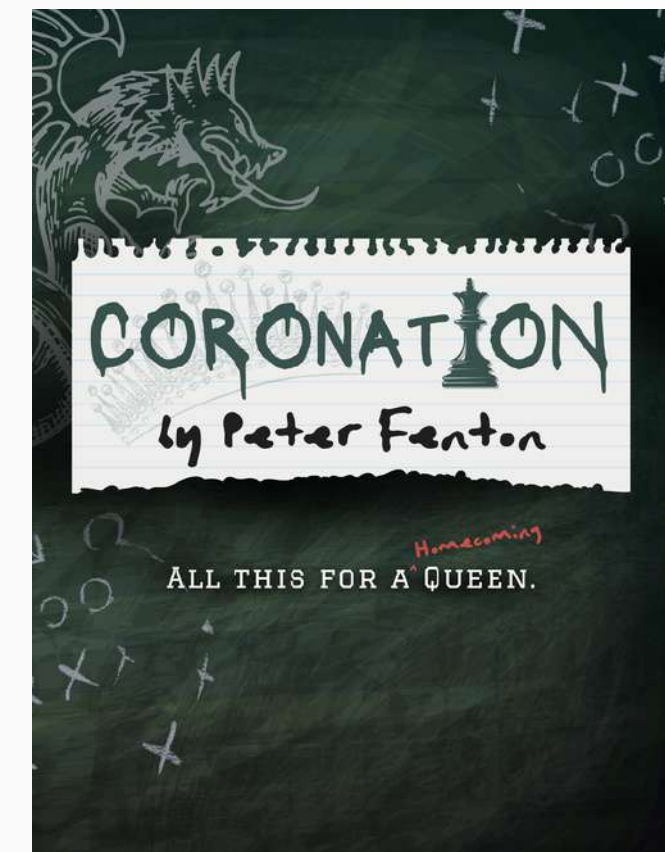
Dark comedy deconstruction of **PETER PAN** for college students afraid of life having no meaning. Premiering in Philly in 2026.



ABANDON ALL HOPE

4 Actors (2f/2m), 85mins

Jean-Paul Sartre's **NO EXIT** retold for a 21st-Century American audience if Sartre was raised Baptist. Premiered at Theatre Row in 2023.



CORONATION

6+ Actors (4f/2m), 85mins

A story all about power, privilege, and visibility in modern America disguised as a witty teen comedy. Seeking professional premiere.



THANK YOU

We're dying to launch
Harrison Fowler's novel.
