



## **A Guide to the Play**

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## How to Use This Guide

Welcome to the Globe Theatre!

We are glad you are able to join us for the production of *Salt-Water Moon* – we hope this guide will enhance your experience, inspire thought-provoking discussion and increase your understanding of the production. Throughout the guide, we will introduce you to the crew and artistic team, provide background information on the production, a summary of each act and more. There will also be discussion questions and links you can use for further research.

Teachers, there will be a section of discussion questions at the end of the guide. You may choose to prepare your students prior to the production by giving them the questions to consider. Conversely, you can use the questions for a class discussion after your students have seen the play.

Please keep in mind that the content in this guide reveals key plot points and character information you may wish to experience during the live production. We would suggest reading the play guide after seeing the production, if you wish to avoid any potential spoilers.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to email Ashley Seidler at [ashleys@globetheatrelive.com](mailto:ashleys@globetheatrelive.com)

Enjoy the show!

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## Meet the Artistic Team

### **Judy Wensel | Director**

Judy won the Regina Mayor's Arts and Business Emerging Theatre Artist Award in 2009 and she has certainly emerged since then. She wrote and acted in *Shangri-La* earlier this year and is making her Main Stage directorial debut with *Salt-Water Moon*. She has also acted in *Sleeping Beauty*, *Robin Hood*, *Metamorphoses*, *Marion Bridge* and *The Alice Nocturne*.

### **Andrew Cull | Set and Costume Designer**

Andrew made his Globe Theatre debut when he designed the set and costumes for *I, Claudia*. He is a graduate of York University and has also worked as a technician throughout eastern Canada.

### **Leigh Ann Vardy | Lighting Designer**

Leigh Ann is no stranger to the lights of the Main Stage – she has worked on *I, Claudia*, *Shout Sister*, *Copenhagen* and *Syringa Tree*. She has received five Merritt Awards for design and was nominated for the Siminovitch Prize.

### **Lauren Holfeuer | Mary Mercer**

Lauren returns to Globe Theatre after making her Globe Theatre debut in *Pride and Prejudice* last year and playing Queen Adella in *Sleeping Beauty* earlier this season. She is a graduate of the 2012 Globe Theatre Actors' Conservatory Training Program, the University of Saskatchewan BFA program (2010) and is the co-creator of Thigh High Theatre.

## Play Guide

Coley's Point, Newfoundland. It's August, 1926. Mary Snow gazes at stars through her telescope while waiting for her fiancé, Jerome McKenzie, to come visit. Mary hears singing somewhere in the distance, Jacob Mercer appears. Mary is surprised by his appearance having not seen him for over a year. The two instantly start to argue. Mary is upset by Jacob's arrival, and Jacob is hurt that she is not pleased to see him. This is the first time the two have spoken since Jacob's abrupt departure the previous August. Jacob did not inform then-girlfriend, Mary of his plans to leave, and he has also failed to write while he was away.

Jacob succeeds in charming Mary and she softens a little. She begins to tell him about the stars. Jacob asks that she shows him a constellation, but Mary refuses insisting she has things to do. Jacob eventually convinces her to show him, by only by promising to leave afterwards. He gets close to her so that he can look through the telescope, but it's clear his real intention is just to be near her. Mary is fed up with his antics and threatens to go inside. Jacob holds on to her telescope and tries to convince her to show him more. Mary demands that he leaves, worried that Jerome will find him there. Jacob begins expressing his distaste for Jerome and his father. Mary goes inside, but this only causes Jacob to get louder. Mary tries to quiet the boy, but he is persistent. She comes back outside and demands that he leaves. Jacob tries a new tactic and offers her the gift he has brought her from his time away. He pulls two pairs of stockings from his suitcase, one for Mary and one for her sister. Mary insists that she can't accept the gift. The two begin to argue again. Jacob attempts to use his youth as an excuse for leaving. Jacob explains that he tried to forget her, but she always "[crept] back in". He admits that he has returned because he has heard about the engagement. He questions if Mary really loves Jerome. Mary questions whether or not there were other girls in Toronto. Eventually Mary admits that she is marrying Jerome out of circumstance. She longs to get her sister out of the Home. Mary accuses Jacob of trying to win her back to settle a past vendetta with the McKenzies. Jacob is insulted and begins to leave. Mary begins to cry and calls after him. Jacob comes back, knowing all along that she was going to call after him. Jacob promises her the future which she accepts.

## Questions for Discussion

1. Why do you think Jacob left without saying goodbye to Mary?
2. What were some of the Canadian political and economic issues in 1924?
3. Why is Jacob so angry with Jerome's father?
4. Newfoundland was not a part of Canada during Mary and Jacob's time. When and why did Newfoundland become a Canadian Province?
5. What is the significance of Jacob bringing Mary and her sister a pair of silk stockings? Does she take this into consideration when she forgives him?