of Eldritch by Lanford Wilson

This play is for mature audiences and not recommended for young children.

November 1, 2, & 3 @7pm

Geneva Community High School Presents

Tickets at the door Adults: \$10 ~ Students & Seniors: \$7

GHS Auditorium 416 McKinley Avenue, Geneva

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Dear Friends of Geneva's Theatre Productions:

Welcome to Geneva Community High School's performance of The Rimers of Eldritch. Our cast, crew, and directors have devoted themselves to the creation of this production, and we appreciate their inspired performances and dedication. Their continued commitment to the drama program underscores the rich tradition of excellence and success in our performing arts endeavors.

I invite you to support our theatre programs through membership in our Geneva High School Theatre Boosters. They enrich our students' experiences by making things like this playbill possible and have been enhancing our theatre program with other "extras" for many years now. They would appreciate your help.

Thank you very much for your attendance as loyal patrons of Geneva's theatre productions. We hope you enjoy the performance this evening.

Sincerely, Tom Rogers Principal



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Director's Notes

The Rimers of Eldritch first appeared in 1966, an example of the thematically complex and experimental shows that marked Lanford Wilson, a pioneer of Off-Off Broadway theater.

I want to thank Mr. Rogers for allowing us to explore this complicated piece of literature, Miss Woodruff for all her organizational skills, and Bill Sherry for sharing his experience with developing rich characters and their relationships.

In the end, we hope that Wilson's portrait of Eldritch will be pondered long after the stage lights have dimmed and the play has ended.

Thank you so much for your support!

Konnie Sherry Director



Director Konnie Kay Sherry

Assistant Director Kate Woodruff

Student Director Luke Vrba

Costume Designer Connor Speck

> Acting Coach Bill Sherry





TIME

The mid-1960s. The play covers a time period during Spring, Summer and Fall.

LOCATION

Eldritch, a small former mining town in the Midwest, with a population of about 70.

SYNOPSIS

The play takes place in the mid 1960s in a small midwestern coal town that has dried up, with a population of 70. The plot, at first glance, appears simple: a man has been murdered and a girl assaulted. The mystery: Are these crimes related? Who is the murder victim? Who is his killer and what were the circumstances surrounding the murder?

As the play progresses, Wilson paints a picture of a tiny midwestern town where everything is not quite as it seems: A middle-aged woman falls in love with the young man working in her café. A coarse, nasty woman deals with her senile mother who is obsessed with ominous visions of evil present in the town of Eldritch. Young men torment the village derelict. A tender relationship between a young man and a dreamy, crippled girl. The events of the play occur around an ongoing court trial as intermittent flashbacks that serve to uncover the events leading up to the murder.

But Wilson sees far more than this. He is grasping the very fabric of Bible Belt America, with its catchword morality and its capability for the vicious. The town is abundant with hypocrisy, church-going people unmasking themselves as gossips and liars, spouting Scripture one minute and casting out judgments the next.

Hypocrisy, cruelty, betrayal, and desperation run through eerie town trapped in time (echoing the title: "eldritch" means "sinister" or "ghostly"; "rime," "frost").

THERE WILL BE A 15 MINUTE INTERMISSION BETWEEN ACT I AND ACT 2

Thank you, Dr. and Mrs. Stith for your \$100 donation.

Cast

Robert Conklin, A Quiet Boy Of Eighteen	Noah Hanlon
Eva Jackson, A Crippled Girl Of Fourteen	Megan Styrna
Evelyn Jackson, Her Mother	Audrey Carberry
Nelly Windrod, A Strong Woman Middle-Aged	
Mary Windrod, Her Senile, Aged Mother	Caroline Atkinson
Patsy Johnson, A Pretty High School Student	Lilly Nowak
Mavis Johnson, Her Mother	Emma Olson
Peck Johnson, Her Father	Sam Sennett
Josh Johnson, Her Brother	
Lena Truit, Her Girlfriend The Same Age	Carley Messino
Martha Truit, Lena's Mother	Katie O'Brien
Wilma Atkins, A Friend Of Lena's Mother	Melisa Barrick
Skelly Mannor, The Town Hermit-Shutout, About	70 Gus Larson
Preacher/Judge, Middle Aged	Jay Jay Santiago
Cora Groves, The Owner Of Hilltop Café	
Walter, Her Young Lover	Gavin Dahlin
Taunting Boy	Gretchen Farrell
A Trucker, Who Stops By The Café Often	Nathan Castagna
Female Understudy	
Male Understudy	

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- Fagans Graphic Design and Printing: Phenomenal and creative artwork, beautiful playbill and posters! Tremendous attention to detail!
- Dane County Design: Gorgeous outside building banner
- Toucan T's: Amazing custom tee shirts for cast, crew and directors
- Button Man: Awesome custom buttons for the cast and crew
- To ALL the parents of cast and crew, we couldn't do it without your talented kids and YOUR support!
- Thank you to Mr. Rogers for his positive encouragement and support of the performing arts!
- A big thank you to Lisa Stone and the entire office staff for their endless help and support!
- Thank you to the GHS custodial and security staff for their invaluable help throughout the entire theatre process, from auditions through the production of the show itself.
- GHS Theatre Boosters Board and all its members: Thank you for your continued support!
- And a huge Shout Out to the committee members, we appreciate everything you do to help with the boosters and these productions!

2018 - 2019 GHS Theatre Boosters Board:

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Cast



Reed Anderson (Josh Johnson) Reed would like to thank you for coming to the show. He would also like to thank his family and friends who supported and helped him. You may have seen him in last year's GHS fall play, *Alice in Wonderland*, where he was afraid of a girl, or GHS spring 2018 One Acts where Reed got a bottle with a ship in it and made somebody cry. Reed

was also in the GHS musical *Hello Dolly!* where he stood off in a corner and said things until the people who were actually acting decided to kill him so he'd stop interrupting them. Big thanks to Konnie and Woody for directing us, and thanks to dad (Ethan Benson) and the rest of the Techbos for building things. Please enjoy this production.



Caroline Atkinson (Mary Windrod) is a junior and is excited to play Mary in *The Rimers of Eldritch*. She could be seen as "the Cook" in last year's GHS production of *Alice in Wonderland*, as well as "Belle" in *Beauty and the Beast*. When she's not onstage, Caroline can be found sewing in her basement while listening to musical sound tracks, being an active

member of the Geneva High School Robotics team, and practicing math for her role on the GHS Math team. She would like to thank the cast and crew for this year's show. She would also like to thank her friends, family, and birds for supporting and encouraging her. Enjoy the performance!



Melisa Barrick (*Wilma Atkins*) is a 14-year-old freshman here at GHS and is really enjoying her experience here so far. She is an artist. When Melisa is not on the stage, she loves being creative. She is an honors student, as well as a singer and actress. Melisa has been in so many productions she has begun to lose count! Some titles she has been in that you might have

heard of are *Beauty and The Beast*, *Oklahoma*, and *Thumbelina*. She loves being onstage and meeting new people in the process. Melisa is playing the character of Wilma Atkins who is the town gossiper in the town of Eldritch.





Audrey Carberry (Evelyn Jackson) is excited to yet again be cast in a role that mirrors her daily life. Being cast as the mother of Megan Styrna was thrilling for her, and she is so excited to be able to be a real "cool mom" in her daughter's high school production. Audrey would also like to inform any audience members who saw her as Humpty Dumpty in last year's

GHS production of *Alice in Wonderland* that, after several successful surgeries, the cracks in her shell have almost completely disappeared. The recovery process was long and hard, and she would like to dedicate her performance tonight to the doctors that helped her along the way.



Addelvn.

You will be a great Cora! Wish we could be there to see it. - Love you ♥ Memaw and Papa. PS... we love the excess singing.

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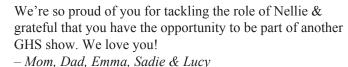
Cast

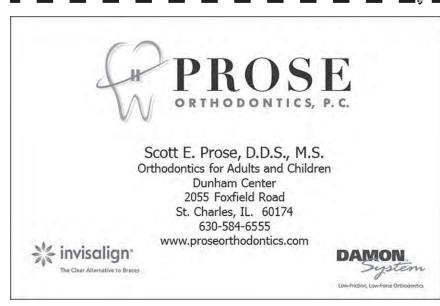


Nathan Castagna (the Trucker/understudy) Nathan is a junior at Geneva High School and is excited to be a part of *The Rimers of Eldritch*. Nathan is portraying "the Trucker", as well as being an understudy for all the male roles. Nathan was most recently seen as "Jack" in *Into the Woods* at GHS, "Prince Eric" in *The Little Mermaid* and "Shrek" in *Shrek the Musical*. Nathan has

also worked professionally in productions of *Cheaper by the Dozen* and *Christmas on Broadway*. In his free time he loves going to the city with his friends and seeing all the National Tours in Chicago. You can also catch him working at Gia Mia! He would like to thank the cast, crew, and creative team for all their hard work, and he would like to thank his friends, family, Konnie and Ms. Woodruff for always supporting him!

Annika Rose Chrusciel









Annika Chrusciel (Nelly Windrod) is a junior at GHS. She is honored to be part of the incredible show you will see tonight. Her most recent performances include *The Wizard of Oz* (Almira Gulch/Wicked Witch of the West) and *Into The Woods* (Florinda). When not onstage, Annika is probably behind a piano, dancing around the house, or attempting to study at Grahams

318. She extends the biggest thank you to her family and friends for their endless support; as well as Konnie Kay, Ms. Woodruff, and Ms. Toledano for everything they have contributed to make this show possible. THANK YOU for supporting the arts, enjoy!



Gavin Dahlin *(Walter)* is a young actor who also plays Lacrosse for GHS. He also likes to work with his little buddy, Grayson, and can't sing for his life. Gavin loved doing this play because he made new friends and had more fun than ever.



Cast



Gretchen Farrell *(taunting boy/understudy)* is a freshman at GHS. She is participating in her first high school production. She has been in many plays and musicals. Most recently she performed in the *Wizard of Oz* (the Wizard). She hopes to star in many more productions at Geneva High School.



Noah Hanlon (*Robert Conklin*) woke up one day, under a swing set, with mild amnesia, not to mention surrounded by fun sized Milky Way wrappers, and decided it was time for change. Trying out for the fall play was a real challenge when he could still barely remember his last name, but Noah was up for the task and would often recite his lines to himself as he

wandered the streets trying to remember his home address. Noah had a lot of fun with this show and said, "It is definitely an experience to remember".







Gus Larson *(Skelly Mannor)* has traveled to the highest mountaintops and the deepest oceans all across the land in pursuit of the greatest role that has ever existed for an actor to perform. He didn't find it, though, so he had to settle for Skelly Manor, which is still pretty good. Gus is super excited to have been chosen for this play, even if some of his lines had to be removed because

they weren't "appropriate for school" or something. He was in the GHS play *Alice in Wonderland* last year, but his favorite role so far is, without question, "Mike Tyson" in the GHS *2018 One Acts*. Gus would like to thank his mom and his grandma for supporting and driving him.



Audrey,

Cannot believe this is the last fall play for you! Thank you for entertaining us both onstage and off. Love you! – *Mom, Dad, Daniel*

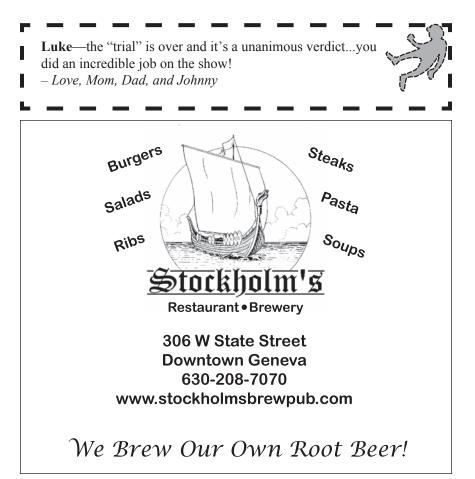


Cast



Addie McDonald (*Cora Groves*) Addie is a junior and is ecstatic to be in her second show at Geneva High School! Her favorite roles include "Lucinda" in *Into the Woods*, "The Queen of Hearts" in *Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, and a "Disciple" in *Godspell*. When not performing or rehearsing, you will most likely find her in the choir room, or belting her heart out in her room

while expertly avoiding doing her homework. She would like to thank everyone for all their hard work in making this show possible. She would also like to thank her friends and family for all their loving support!







Carley Messino *(Lena Truit)* is happy to join Geneva High School's fall play of *The Rimers of Eldritch*. Carley is a freshman at Geneva High School. At school, her favorite classes are English and World History. Carley's first show was when she was seven years old in a children's version of *The Wizard of Oz*. In *The Wizard of Oz* she played 'the Witch'' and a "munchkin".

Her favorite part was "Jan" in the musical *Grease*. Carley also enjoys singing, playing guitar, playing the bass, biking, and recently, dance. Carley gives a special thanks to her mom, her sister Shannon, and her dad for all the support they have given in her passion over the years. She also gives thanks to Konnie Kay, the director; Kate Woodruff, the assistant director; Mary, the set designer; and everyone else who helped with the play. Carley would like to honor this performance to both of her grandmothers who recently passed away. She knows they both would be so proud to see her back onstage.



Good luck to the entire cast, especially to you, **Jay Jay**. We love seeing you onstage. – *From Dad, Mom & Jeli*

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Cast



Lilly Nowak (*Patsy Johnson*) Lilly is 16 years old and a sophomore at GHS. She fell in love with theatre at a very young age and has been performing ever since. Some of her favorite roles include "Gertrude McFuzz" in *Suessical*, "Little Red" in *Into the Woods*, "Annie Warbucks" in *Annie*, "Belle" in *Beauty and the Beast*, "Frenchie" in *Grease*, and "Liesel" in *The Sound*

of Music. Lilly would like to thank Konnie Kay and Ms. Woodruff, along with the amazing cast and crew for all of their hard work. Lilly hopes you all enjoy Geneva High School's production of *The Rimers of Eldritch*.

Lilly,



We are all so proud of you! We love to watch you perform and see your hard work come to life!

Break a leg!

-Love, Mom, Dad and Charlotte

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Katie O'Brien *(Martha Truit)* is a freshman here at GHS, and she's thrilled to be a part of this production! She's a member of Varsity Choir. She likes to sing, act, tap dance, and play her electric guitar and ukulele. A few of her past roles have been "Jane Banks" in *Mary Poppins* and "Scuttle" in *The Little Mermaid* (MYS), and Laurey Williams in *Oklahoma!* (GMSS).

She would like to thank the cast and crew of *The Rimers of Eldritch* for setting her up for a fun and fulfilling high school career!



Emma Olson (*Mavis Johnson*) Emma is so honored to be portraying the complex character of Mavis Johnson in *The Rimers of Eldritch*. She is a freshman here at GHS and has absolutely loved getting to know her character and all of the amazing cast members. When she isn't onstage, you can find her involved in all things theater and singing: treble choir, drama club, ITS, and

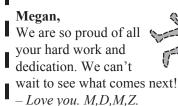
after school voice lessons! She also loves to write and drink tea. Some of her favorite past roles include Aslan in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, and Duffy and Star-to-Be in *Annie Jr*. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Teodoro "Jay Jay" Santiago (Judge/Preacher) is a junior at GHS and is humbled to be a part of such an amazing cast performing *The Rimers of Eldritch*. In the past, he has performed in his freshman year musical, *Hello, Dolly!* and in *One Acts* in his sophomore year. When he's not stressing over homework, he's sharpening his black belt moves, singing way too loud,

or finding some way to be a nuisance to somebody. Thanks for coming to the show! Hope you enjoy!

- 22



Caroline, we are so proud of you and all of your hard work and dedication. You are an amazing performer. - Mom, Dad, Danny and the hoard

Cast



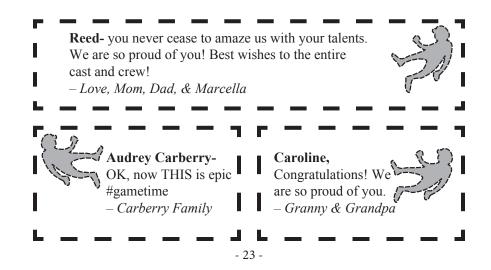
Sam Sennett (*Peck Johnson*) is a junior at GHS. Whenever he gets the chance to be in a play or musical that is in, or outside of school, he will take that chance! Sam had a lot of fun working on this production of *The Rimers of Eldritch* and being up onstage with all of his friends. He'd also like to thank Ms. Woodruff and Konnie for directing this play. It was a lot of fun.

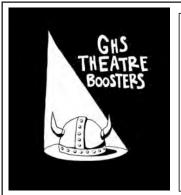
For past plays/musicals, Sam was "Ewart Dunlop" in *The Music Man*, "Cinderella's Father" in *Into The Woods*, and "Cogsworth" in *Beauty and the Beast* (twice). If he's not working on schoolwork, you'd probably see him sitting down playing video games, talking with his friends, or watching YouTube/Netflix. Thank you for coming. He really hopes you enjoy the show!



Megan Styrna *(Eva Jackson)* is 18 years old and a senior this year. She is very passionate about theatre, the environment, and coffee. She was recently seen in *Into the Woods* (Witch), *Fantasticks* (Luisa), and *Alice in Wonderland* (Alice). She's very upset (devastated even) that this will be her last fall play at GHS but very grateful for all the opportunities and memories she's made. She would like to thank her friends, family,

theatre boosters, cast, crew, Ms. T, Ms. Woodruff and Konnie for all the love and support. Enjoy the show!





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See our website for more information on how your donation helps support Geneva High School's Theatre Productions.

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