

THE BOOK CLUB PLAY

By Karen Zacarías



August 11 - 21

2022 Season

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to illuminate, to educate,
inspire and motivate.
- Harvey Fierstein*



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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I would like to dedicate this play, my directorial debut at EPT to my former English teachers and godparents, Dave and Dr. Ruth Penque, for always encouraging curiosity in academia, in life, and in faith.

Brett Schmidt

SETTING

Present Day: The Living Room of Rob & Ana Smith

PRODUCTION CREW AND STAFF

Artistic Directors.....	Julie Mitchell/Markus Baldwin
Director.....	Brett Schmidt
Set Design/Build.....	Markus Baldwin, Dakota Russell
Lighting Design.....	Dakota Russell
Lighting Operator.....	John Blewitt
Sound Design/Operator.....	Brett Schmidt
Costumes & Props.....	Brett Schmidt
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Business Manager.....	Karen Blewitt
House Manager.....	Dakota Russell
Community Outreach Coordinator.....	Brett Schmidt
Concessions.....	Nikki Crosland & Board Member Volunteers
Season Graphics & Collaterals.....	etzetera creative services

The Book Club Play is produced by special arrangement with
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

**The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this
production is strictly prohibited.**

There will be one 15-minute intermission between acts.

The Book Club Play received its world premiere at Round House Theatre, Blake Robison, artistic director, January-February 2008. It was subsequently presented at Berkshire Theatre Festival, Stockbridge, Mass., Kate Maguire, artistic director, July 13-20, 2008, and at Arena Stage, Washington, D.C., Molly Smith, artistic director, Oct. 9-Nov. 6, 2008.

Development of *The Book Club Play* was supported by the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center during a residence at the National Playwrights Conference of 2007 and at the Playwrights' Center in Minneapolis, Dr. Polly Carl, producing artistic director.

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CAST

Ana.....	Karina Gutierrez
Rob.....	Dakota Russell
Will.....	Liam Tuttle
Jen.....	Kati Tibbits
Lily.....	Tereka Kelly
Alex.....	Ash Alamo

PUNDIT ROLES (in order of appearance)

All pundit roles have been double cast to portray each character's alter ego. Our cast has had a blast capturing not just one, but two different characters for this show.

Elsa, Literary Agent.....	Kati Tibbits
"Frank", Former Secret Service Agent.....	Liam Tuttle
Sam, The Walmart Guy.....	Dakota Russell
Carl, The Book Dealer.....	Ash Alamo
Mrs. Simpson.....	Tereka Kelly

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COMPANY PROFILES



ASH ALAMO (Alex/Carl) Ash is excited to be returning in this witty production! Some of their favorite roles include Ed in *You Can't Take It With You* (Granbury Theatre Company), Gary in *I Hate Hamlet* (Ennis Public Theatre), Chef Louis in *The Little Mermaid* (North Texas Performing Arts Rep) & the ensembles for *Grease* (GTC), *Mary Poppins* (FMT) & *Hello, Dolly* (Stolen Shakespeare Guild)! They hope you enjoy the show.



KARINA GUTIERREZ (Ana) is a freelance photographer, actor, costume designer and writer. She completed her BFA at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts in 2021. Karina is excited to be debuting at Ennis Public Theater in the role of Ana in *The Book Club Play*. Some of her previous credits include *274 Days*, *Fefu and Her Friends*, as well as *Blue Stockings* for the NYU Mesiner program.



TEREKA KELLY (Lily//Mrs. Simpson) is a fintech (financial technology) professional at a mortgage company and a stay-at-home mother of a bright, 3-year-old named Nicholas. A native Lubbockite, she is new to Ennis. Tereka is also new to acting, although she was in show choir in high school. She wanted to do something new that was just for her to bring creative passion back into her life as a single mom. Tereka would like to thank her director and castmates for taking a chance on her and working alongside her in her first play ever.



DAKOTA RUSSELL (Rob/Sam) is once again returning to the stage as the role of (head in the clouds) Rob. Dakota has worked with EPT since *Young Frankenstein*, mostly with lighting and house managing, but occasionally on stage as well. His previous roles at EPT include *I Hate Hamlet* as Andrew Rally and *Christmas Carol* as Fezziwig and the Ghost of Jacob Marley. Dakota is excited to help bring the comedy of *The Book Club Play* to EPT. It's a fantastic show with a wonderful cast of characters and talented actors. He would like to dedicate his

performance in the show to his daughter, Artemis, in hopes that when she grows up she will pursue her passions in life as well.

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COMPANY PROFILES



KATI TIBBITS (Jen/Elsa) is performing in her second show with Ennis Public Theatre. She was last seen in *The Sound of Music*. Kati holds a BFA in Theatre from Tarleton and a MA in Shakespeare Studies from the University of Exeter. She has performed in plays from here in Texas to Exeter, England. Kati is currently a theatre teacher at Westwood ISD in Palestine, Texas. She is excited to perform in a play about her second love, books.



LIAM TUTTLE (Will/"Frank") In his first time acting for Ennis Public Theater, Liam comes from an acting background in both stage and voice work. His favorite productions to be in are comedies. He likes getting laughs and he feels at home whenever he's in the spotlight.



BRETT SCHMIDT (Director) is so honored to have been asked to guest direct *The Book Club Play*. She has enjoyed her time on stage over the last year at EPT, and has had just as much fun behind the scenes getting this show together. She previously taught performing arts and directed youth in grades PreK-12 over the last 10 years in both public and private schools. The dedication of the cast to our show and their amazing teamwork has given her a wonderful experience directing adults for the first time. She currently works part time as the Community Outreach Coordinator at Ennis Public Theatre. She also began pursuing her lifelong dream of acting full time after signing with an agency in June. She would like to thank the EPT Board of Directors for giving her this opportunity, Markus Baldwin and Julie Mitchell for their support throughout this process, Karen Blewitt for helping with the many tedious tasks it takes to get a show ready, her children, James and Emilia, for "helping with the set," and finally, her husband, Randal, for his incredible support throughout this process.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE WITH THIS PRODUCTION

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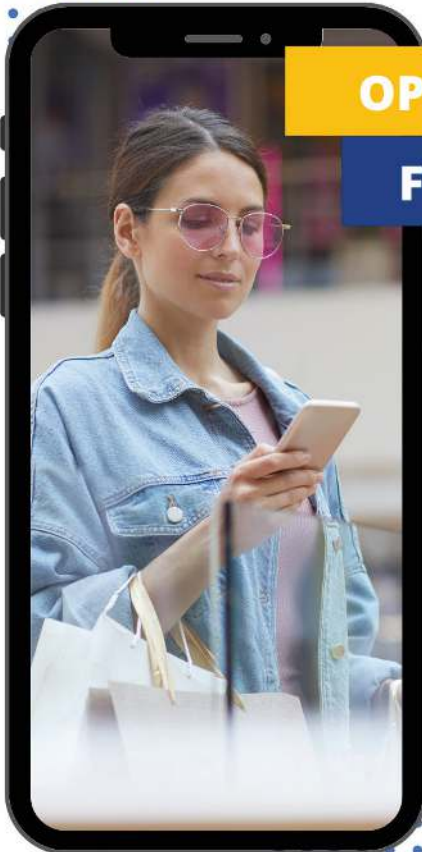
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