

# Ish a show, now get outa my way.

[A Miracle on 34th Street](#) opens this Friday and we definitely have a show to come and see. This was not always apparent by the number of people we had drop out and then had multiple recasting of the actors involved. My first entrance in the show was to be as the Drunken Santa who gets fired from the parade. While I still play that role, I have another part in the opening scene.

We have a great cast, wonderful crew and excellent director. I get to be on stage with a few of my favorite people to work with. We have new faces and quite a few young faces. Be sure to get your reservations early. I've heard them talk about it on the local station and I only listen to about 20 minutes in the morning.

I get the evening off tonight, so I get to get some of the things done that have been waiting for just such a moment. Short post, but I will be busy soon.

Come see a show...

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## Real life on stage

On a spur of the moment decision, I decided to go to the theater today. A show called "Fat Pig" by Neil LaBute. The director of the show was enthusiastic about this show before it was even a sure thing. After watching it I can understand why. If you read this before the show is over this weekend, and you like theater, go See [the theater page](#) to get more

information. It is rated 'R', so leave the kids at home.

The show was vulgar, crude and occasionally ugly. It was also very real. While you may not know a person exactly like any of the four characters, you probably knew at least one.

Talking with people after the show made us think that we were watching people, kind of like intruding in their lives or spying on them. Not at all like watching a show to entertain. It was occasionally very funny. At other times it made you think.

I can't say I enjoyed the show. I really enjoyed parts of the show, but the show as a whole was not an enjoyable experience. It was a thinking and introspective experience and it has my full recommendation to stop what you are doing to catch the show.

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## **An evening with lines**

Studying lines for tomorrow night's rehearsal. I have some fun parts and they are the smaller roles. The intoxicated Santa at the beginning of the play is going to be a lot of fun all on 3 lines. Another 3 lines, and being on stage with my 3rd daughter makes the role of Dr. 2 very fun. Another 3 lines for another small part and 3 more for my 4th small part. 12 lines all memorized.

Some lines were taken away and I was given the part of Kris Kringle's friend and Dr from the Maplewood home, Kris' home away from the North Pole. This should be fun.

Anyway back to the lines...

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## **I think we need a lawyer...**

Some trouble with casting the latest show I'm in. At one point in time all of the roles were cast and everything was going well. I'm not sure what happened but we lost one of our male actors and one of the females. We had volunteers to take up the missing female parts, but we still need one more male. I'm sure our director is at her wits end.

The male parts available would be an lawyer for the court room all in Act 2. If that part wasn't desired, the new male actor could play Mr. Macy and other assorted roles. We have about 4 weeks left for rehearsal, and are almost desperate for this. We have other actors with multiple roles, but because all of us are in the courtroom scenes, we can't take on this one additional role.

Hey, it is only about 40 lines. Anybody in the Williams County OH area want a chance to be on stage????

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## **What part did I have?**

Our rehearsals have started for the WCCT's production of "Miracle on 34th Street". I started with a few male roles, since they were small roles and would be easily played by 1 actor. I started out with 4 such roles. Then 3 others were added, with lines from one or two being combined with one of the new parts. Today I was moved to a different role and lost another. Such is the way of community theater.

I'm just happy I get to keep the role I wanted. And I am again on stage with one of my daughters...

We do have a great Santa Clause with a real beard. In my opinion, our Santa is one of the best actors on our little stage. It is a pleasure to work with him again. A few other actors that I've been on stage with are also in the cast. And we also have many new people on stage. I always like seeing new people on stage. They are the way our theater grows.

I'll have to add a countdown the the opening. It should be a fun show...

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## **Off to see a show**

I will be in the company of two very lovely ladies this evening while I am entertained by the wonderful actors of the Williams County Community theater.

It was a wonderful evening that started with dinner at the local Mexican restaurant. There was a time I could not say that in Williams County since there was more than one Mexican restaurant. Now we just have one restaurant and a Taco Bell (which is not a Mexican Restaurant). Good food, good company, what more could you ask for.

Well, we went on to the theater and saw a wonderful show, that is what we could have asked for. The Ohio part of my family was completed when my oldest daughter made it to the theater.

The show was "The Little Shop of Horrors". It should be known, that I loved the 1960 black and white movie. I was not a fan of the 1986 musical version. The play is what the 1986 movie is based on. I was only looking to be impressed by the

many people working on the show. I did not think the show would impress me. Happily, I was mistaken. The show itself brought back many memories of the original 1960 show. Of course, I still wonder why they had to add music, but that is me. ☐

The story was the one I remembered. Mysterious, blood thirsty plant makes a small rundown flower shop a place to stop. For me the sign of a good musical is that the music does not interfere with the story. The three street urchins were a treat to watch and listen to. If the rest of the show had been pedestrian, these three would have made the show. They were that fun. The actor playing Mister Mushnik was also very good in his role. He had the worried shop keeper down to a 'T'. The actors playing Audrey and Seymour had very good chemistry and their acting and singing voices meshed well. They were interesting and fun to watch.

Now on to Audrey II. The voice and acting of the monstrous plant were two separate actors. From what I saw, they must have put a lot of work into their performances. Matching 'mouth' and plant movements to the words coming from offstage must have been a difficult timing situation. I saw this performance two times this weekend, and I was impressed both times. Again a plus to the show.

Now those who know the show and have seen it on stage before may have noticed I missed a character or two (5+???) . One final actor played the remaining roles. I was very impressed. Many different characters from one actor. He made each and every character different from the others. Even though everyone in the audience could tell that this was the same actor, he impressed me with the talent he displayed on each character. That and being able to sing while pretending to be under the influence of laughing gas... Wow!!

I wish I would have been able to see this show the first weekend. I would have loved to give my opinion to others who

were still wondering if they should see it. From what I could tell, it almost sold out the last weekend. A good turnout for a wonderful show.

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## **Just watched a little football**

I took my two youngest daughters to lunch today, and then scampered back home to allow my youngest to get her stuff together to head back to school. On the way to Fort Wayne, we stopped in Hicksville to see a play Jamiahsh was in. About 10 minutes into the play, I mentioned to my daughter that I was guessing Jamiahsh's character would be the murder victim. Not just because he was annoying the 'director', but because, these shows are predictable. At least to some extent. I will admit that I didn't get the 'real' murderer. A very fun performance.

Then off to Fort Wayne with a stop at a Walmart to get pictures developed and some scrap booking supplies. That took some time this evening. A rather late dinner and I got my daughter back to school some time after 8:00pm. Then the hour drive back home.

When I got here, I decided to relax and watch the end of Sunday Night Football. By the time I started watching, the game was just about over and it was only halfway through the 3rd period. At least during the game I did find out that most of the teams for the league championship series have been decided. Only the Phillies and Rockies need to complete their series. And they had a snow out... I think some cities should have domed stadiums (or more exactly retractable domes) if

they start competing in October/November. Sometimes it is just too cold for baseball.

I also heard that the Bears won, so we should see another Whatever post... ☐

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## **It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...**

There is one problem with being involved in the theater. When you plan a holiday show, the rehearsals start well before the actual holiday season. And since our Christmas show starts at the beginning of December, the rehearsal is also earlier. I don't like to do Christmas until after Thanksgiving.

Anyway, it will my job to bring Santa Clause to life in "Miracle on 34th Street". Ok, so I'm not playing Kris Kringle/Santa Clause, but I am playing 2 different Santa Clauses. And some other part I cannot remember right now.

For those of you who do know the show, the first Santa I play is the drunk Santa that loses his job because he was trying to stay warm on the float. One little drinks never hurt, does it?

To make the show even better for me, I get to act with one of my daughters again. This is always a thrill for me. Should be fun.

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# The Younger set

Children and young adults (7 to 18?) are invading our theater. It is, of course, time for the annual Children's Theater.

As long as I remember, we've always had a good turnout for this acting forum, but this year it is an absolute invasion. There were at least 40 younger members of society on stage during the first evening. Tonight was the third evening of theater for the youngsters, and there was still at least 35 roaming stage and backstage. It is really good to see this in the theater. This is the future of theater. In the next few years some of these actors will be back on stage as adults. Always good to see.

I am wondering where the child relatives of other Tangents bloggers are. Didn't see any nieces, nephews or children of the Tangents group. Oh well, since I volunteered to help again, you will all know where I will be..

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## What about them oats.

I was allowed to attend a dress rehearsal of ["Wild Oats" at the WCCT's Little Theater off the Square.](#) (Is that a mouthful?) If you don't have a wedding to attend, a daughter to pick up, or some other things that will take up all of your time for the next two weekends, make some time to see this wonderful little show.

Yes, this is a melodrama. Be prepared to laugh, boo and maybe even hiss. There were twists, turns and setups galore. Love, laughter and greed. And religion, we had religion too. And of course there was the sowing of wild oats.



I won't give anything away, but I really recommend this show. I would give a run down of the cast and crew, but I didn't see any programs yet, and I wouldn't want to miss anyone.

I really wish I could see this show with a full audience. It is one of those shows that will feed off the audience energy. So go, be prepared to have a good time and join in the fun.

One more word – Take in some canned food for the Food bank. 1 can of food will get you money off the admission. Great way to give to the community. One non-profit helping another. Great idea.