

RECENT TRAGIC EVENTS

BY CRAIG WRIGHT

DIRECTED BY DESTINY COLVILLE



OCTOBER 29TH-31ST

7:30PM

VIRTUAL EVENT

CONTAINS ADULT LANGUAGE AND CONTENT



THEATRE-DANCE@PLU.EDU



School of Arts +
Communication



Recent Tragic Events

Written by Craig Wright

Runtime

about 2 hours

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Nathan Lovitt*	Stage Manager
Adaline McCormick	Nancy, Joyce Carol Oates, and Audience Volunteer
Cassandra Paulsen*	Waverly
Henry Temple*	Andrew
Hanne Ferguson	Ron

This show contains mature content.

Recent Tragic Events

PRODUCTION TEAM

Destiny Colville* - Director

Destiny is a third year Communications and Theatre double major from Chanhasen, Minnesota whose recent directing credits include Vpstart One Act's Homeward (2020) and Home Show (2019). Destiny would like to thank the wonderful cast and crew of Recent Tragic Events, who have brought light and hope to this time with their art.

Annika Nordleaf-Nelson* - Dramaturg and Prop Master

Annika Nordleaf-Nelson is a junior theatre major from Poulsbo, WA whose recent credits include Stage Managing Alpha Psi Omega's A Piece of My Heart, Character B in Vpstart Crow's Precious Little, and Beggar Woman in Alpha Psi Omega's Blood Wedding. They would like to thank their family for their constant support in their pursuit of theatre, their dear pals Destiny, Dylan, Theo, Sarah, and Cara.

Dylan Nicholas Ruggeri* - Stage Manager

Dylan is a third year Political Science and Environmental Studies major with a Theatre minor from Stuart, Florida. His recent credits include Assistant Stage Managing Alpha Psi Omega's "A Piece of My Heart" and Theatre and Dance's "Comedy of Errors" at Pacific Lutheran University and "Romeo and Juliet" at ACT Studio Theatre. He would like to thank Theo, Sarah, Tony, and Annika, for being the dream team.

Marilyn Willis - Assistant Stage Manager

Marilyn is a sophomore Music Education major with minors in Theatre and Geoscience from Boise, Idaho whose recent credits include working on Tech Crew for A Piece of My Heart at PLU. She would like to thank her friends and family for always being there, the Recent Tragic Events

production team for this wonderful experience, and director Destiny for this wonderful opportunity!

Allison Sheflo - Set Designer

Allison is a junior Environmental Studies and Geosciences major from Issaquah, WA whose recent credits include working on Tech Crew for Comedy of Errors at PLU. She would like to thank her parents for all their support and her roommates for being all-around wonderful people!

Skye Llewelyn - Lighting Designer

Skye is a Junior Vocal Performance major from Tacoma, who recently 'designed' lights for the Broadway at the Movies musical revue. They are also the resident lighting designer and instructor at the Lakewood Institute of Theatre, being nominated for SOSSE regional Theatre awards in Lighting (Les Miserables, summer 2019, Pippi Longstocking, fall 2019). They would like to thank Abigail Shedd and Debbie Armstrong, INstitute employees, for never letting them just quit.

Felix Halvorson - Sound Designer

Felix is a sophomore Communications/English major from Seattle, WA whose most recent credit includes working on the Late Knight Production Team at PLU. He would like to thank Destiny for the opportunity to design sound for the show, and the whole team for a fun process!

Emelie Pennington-Davis - Costume Designer

Emelie is a junior English and Psychology double major from White Salmon, WA whose recent credits include Alice in "You Can't Take it With You", costume crew for "Medea" and "Sweeney Todd" and Costume Designer for "Spectrums of Color". They would like to thank Em, their fantastic roomies (honorary and otherwise!), their rabbit Juno and of course our lovely director Destiny for this fantastic opportunity. Enjoy the show, folks!

Recent Tragic Events

Recent Tragic Events is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.,
New York.

Playwrights Horizons, Inc., New York City, produced the New York Premiere of Recent Tragic
Events Off-Broadway in 2002.

The play was originally produced August 19, 2002 by Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company at
the Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theatre in Washington, D.C.

CAST



Adaline McCormick - Nancy and Joyce Carol Oates

Adaline is a Sophomore Studio Arts major and Theatre minor whose recent credits include West (Signum, Upstart Crow One Acts) at PLU, and Grandma (The Addams Family) and Molly (Peter and the Starcatcher) at Bonney Lake HS. She would like to thank the production team for all their work putting this show together at such an unusual time, and Hanne Ferguson for all their support.



Cassandra Paulsen* - Waverly

Cassie is a senior theatre major getting a BFA in acting from Vancouver, WA whose recent credits include Martha (A Piece of My Heart) at PLU, Bianca (Taming of the Shrew) at Tol & Smol Productions, and Adriana (Comedy of Errors) at PLU. She would like to thank her family for supporting her wildest dreams, and Glen and her housemates for all of the cookies.



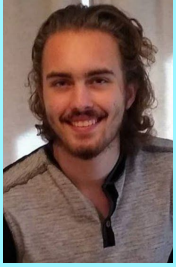
Hanne Ferguson - Ron

Hanne is a sophomore theatre major from Bonney Lake whose recent credits include Ensemble (Urinetown) at PLU, and Mal Beineke (The Addams Family Musical) at Bonney Lake High School. They would like to thank their partner Adaline, as well as the cast and crew of RTE, for their support.



Henry Temple* - Andrew

Henry Temple is a senior theatre major, communication minor from Yakima, WA whose recent credit include Andrew in Standish Media's short film Welcome Home, Kurt Kelly in Lakewood playhouse's production of Heathers, and Antipholus of Ephesus in PLU's production of Comedy of Errors. He would like to thank the incredible creative team of Recent Tragic Events for allowing this incredible story to be told during such challenging circumstances.



Nathan Lovitt* - Stage Manager

Nathan is a second year English major from Yelm, WA, whose recent credits include Tiny Tom in "Urinetown" and Spaz in "And Shit", both at PLU. He would like to thank his family and friends for always supporting him.

Director's Note:

I first encountered *Recent Tragic Events* and Waverly's story in high school. The play felt relevant even in 2014, with its hard questions that asked, do we have free will? Are coincidences real? What do we do when tragedy changes everything?

When I submitted this show to Vpstart last spring, I had no idea these questions would become even more relevant with time, or that they would end up being asked in this way, over Zoom amidst a global pandemic.

As we know, the tragedy of Covid-19 has changed everything; it has filled hospitals, closed businesses and halted the arts as we know them. Someday we will return to live theatre, but for now we have to live, perform and enjoy theatre differently.

For now, we are scattered across the country in our own bedrooms and living rooms, waiting for things to be normal.

The characters in *Recent Tragic Events* are waiting too, in the midst of a tragedy of unknown enormity. I invite you to join these characters in Waverly's living room on September 12th, 2001, as they wait and wonder what's next.

Dramaturg's Note:

September 11th, 2001 was meant to be a day just like any other day. But it wasn't. At 8:46 a.m. the first of several plane crashes that would take place within the next few hours, took down the North Tower of what used to be the World Trade Center. I could get into the details including the terrorist group that carried out the attacks or how it would affect future plane travel and even the following election, but that's not what *Recent Tragic Events* is about.

Recent Tragic Events is all about what you don't know. It's about being terrified for the state of our loved ones as well as the state of the world we live in. It's about not knowing how long whatever tragedies will last or if they'll occur again. And more broadly it's about not knowing the state of humanity itself and how we're supposed to continue when we experience *Recent Tragic Events*.

Special thanks to...

Raven Lirio,

Jevan Wilskey,

Madeleine Pfeiffer,

Reesa Nelson,

PLU Theatre and Dance faculty,

and all those who hold the 9/11 tragedy near