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Sweat lynn nottage character breakdown

Race was never the main theme in, Sweat by Lynn Nottage, but it helped move the story along and added greatly to some of the characters development. The play takes place in a small town in Pennsylvania where there is one main line of work everyone goes into. Many of the citizens have been in Reading, Pennsylvania for multiple generations and feel connected to the city. The play focuses on six characters who lives focus around where they work and the bar the are always at. Nottage intentionally used multiple races in this story so she could portray how America is a melting pot of all races and to show how everyone deals with a changing atmosphere they are living in. In the play times are changing and everyone deals with it in their own ways. ...show more content... The way she would talk to Oscar as if he was not on the same level as her just because her family has lived in the same town for the past three generations. Tracey tells Oscar, (pg.49), “ you wasn’t born here, Berks.”, right after he tells her he was born here shows how she is lashing out at him to make him feel unwelcome in Reading. Her racism towards others was most likely taught to her at a young age and is her first defense mechanism when she feels threatened or oppressed. Nottage created the character of Tracey because there are many people who, like Tracey, are not ready for change and have an “if it ain’t broke don’t fix it” mentality. People like Tracey have a narrow minded view of the world around them and they only see and care about what affects them and their small ...show more content... Whenever someone tries to move on up and better their lives they get made fun of, lose their friends, or in Oscar’s case get beat up. Early in the play Chris talks about how he wants to go college and do something other than work at the factory his whole life. However, Jason makes fun of him and tries to keep him from rising up and being the best person he can be. In Cynthia’s case she gets promoted to a management position within the company and proceeds to lose all of her friends because they believe she betrayed them. Everyone would rather see their peers fail than succeed because misery loves company. They will not view themselves as huge failures because no one around them is going anywhere either, so when one does move up they feel threatened and lash out to keep the person at their Chris is a young African American man; he’s Cynthia and Brucie’s son and Jason’s best friend. In 2008, Chris and Jason are 29 years old and have just been released from eight-year prison... read analysis of Chris Jason is a young white man of German descent; he’s Tracey and Hank’s son and Chris’s best friend. In 2008, Jason and Chris are 29 years old and have just been released from... read analysis of Jason Tracey is a middle-aged white woman of German descent; she’s Jason’s mother and Hank’s widow. In 2000, Tracey and her best friends, Cynthia and Jessie, have worked at Olstead’s Steel Tubing in... read analysis of Tracey Cynthia is a middle-aged African American woman; she’s Chris’s mother and Brucie’s wife. In 2000, Cynthia and her best friends Tracey and Jessie have worked at Olstead’s Steel Tubing in Reading, Pennsylvania, for... read analysis of Cynthia Stan is a white man of German descent in his fifties. In 2000, he’s the bartender at the bar in Reading, Pennsylvania, where most of the play takes place. Stan became the bartender after losing... read analysis of Stan Jessie is an Italian American woman in her forties; she’s a close friend and coworker of Tracey and Cynthia. In 2000, Jessie and her friends have worked at Olstead’s Steel Tubing in Reading, Pennsylvania... read analysis of Jessie Brucie is an African American man in his forties; he’s Chris’s father and Cynthia’s estranged husband. In 2000, nearly two years after being locked out from the textile mill where he works, Brucie... read analysis of Brucie Evan is an African American man in his forties; in 2008, he’s Chris and Jason’s parole officer after they’re released from their eight-year prison sentences. Evan encourages Chris and Jason to be straightforward with... read analysis of Evan Hank was Tracey’s husband and Jason’s father. He passed away prior to the events that take place in 2000; it’s implied that he was killed in a work-related accident at Olstead’s Steel Tubing... read analysis of Hank Freddy is a mutual acquaintance of Tracey, Cynthia, Jessie, and Stan who works at Olstead’s Steel Tubing. Near the beginning of the play, an article appears in Reading, Pennsylvania’s local paper reporting... read analysis of Freddy Brunner In 2000, Howard is the manager of the bar in Reading, Pennsylvania, where most of the play takes place. He oversees Stan, the bartender, and Oscar, the busboy. In 2008, when Chris and... read analysis of Howard It’s the year 2000 in Reading, Pennsylvania and a group of friends go to work at the steel mill and then decompress at the bar like they’ve been doing for over 20 years. But, unbeknownst to them, their lives are about to be uprooted. Their steel mill, Olstead’s, is making some changes and the blood, sweat and tears, not to mention the generations of loyalty these workers have shown, don’t seem to amount to much. These middle class, unionized, steelworkers have made plans to save money, go on vacations and then retire with a nice, healthy pension, but when rumors start flying that the company is considering layoffs, and flyers are hung to recruit non-union Latino workers for less money, the war between community and capitalism begins, and tensions start destroying not only jobs, but also relationships. This poignant play takes a look at the de-industrial revolution through the lens of a history play, but also delves into the issues of today: the economy, immigration, race relations in America, and politics. Lynn Nottage’s Sweat gives us characters filled with the good and the bad. Nottage never tells us who’s right or who’s wrong, but always shows us who’s human. And while its trajectory is dark, even devastating, Sweat is damn funny, too: Nottage knows well that the natural reactions to the assaults of life faced by these particular people are a savage sense of humor, and, more damagingly, a swan dive into the comforts of alcohol and drugs. Sweat moves fluidly between these passages (and others set elsewhere but at the same time) and scenes from eight years before, when the bulk of the action takes place. In the foreground of these scenes, set in a bar favored by workers at the local metal tubing plant, are three middle-aged women, fast friends who together have put in more than 60 years working machines on the factory floor.Auditions will be held on: Saturday, February 22, 2020 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm Sunday, February 23, 2020, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm Callbacks will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 from 7:00pm to 10:00pm You will be notified by email if you are required for callbacks. No appointment needed. Actors only need to attend one day of initial auditions. Non-equity only. Some pay for all actors. All auditions, and any necessary callbacks, will be held at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre. Street parking available. Venice Family Clinic’s parking lot is available on weekends and on weekdays after 6 p.m. Do not park at our neighbors AAMCO/Viking Motors or SGI or you will be towed.Please prepare a CONTEMPORARY (within the last 25 years) dramatic monologue, showing range and character.Rehearsals will begin Mid-March and are held Monday through Thursday evenings from 7:00pm to 10:00pm, Saturdays from 1:00pm to 6:00pm and Sundays from 6:00pm to 10:00pm. Actors are not called for all rehearsals - only rehearsals when they are used for a scene.The show opens May 2 and runs through May 24, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm and Sundays at 2:00pm. Please note that actors MUST be available for all performances.Headshot, resume, and list of all conflicts for the rehearsal period. All conflicts must be submitted prior to callbacks. If additional conflicts arise after casting, it may result in an actor being replaced.In reference to the character descriptions that follow—most characters we encounter currently are on the binary and are written with he/him or she/her pronouns and you will see that in the following descriptions. But, however limiting the descriptions are, our casting seeks to be as inclusive as possible and we invite gender non-conforming, gender fluid, transgender and non-binary actors to submit for the roles they most identify with. We will also list race/ethnicity when specific to the character but are otherwise seeking all races and ethnicities; we encourage Arab, Asian, Black, Caucasian, Latino, Native, and Multiracial actors to audition for all roles. In addition, we will list disability when specific to a character, but are otherwise seeking actors with disabilities as well as non-disabled actors for all roles. Please let us know if you have any questions, concerns, or if there are any accommodations we can provide. We are actively committed to casting an inclusive show that reflects the community.Blue collar. He is Chris’s best friend in the 2000 scenes. In the 2008 scenes they have taken very different paths. Jason, with white-supremacist tattoos etched into his face and neck, is sullen and angry about his prospects as he faces his life after prison. In the flashback scenes he expects to follow in his parents’ footsteps as generations of Reading residents have-to work in the factory and retire with a comfortable pension. Facing the loss of this life promise, he makes choices that take him down a path of nearly non-redemptive action.(lead) 22-28, African-AmericanBlue collar. He is Jason’s best friend in the 2000 scenes. He has higher plans than his friend, Jason. He’s enrolled in the local college and doesn’t want to continue to work in the factory. After prison he has discovered the sustaining solace of religion, and hopes to get his life back on track by taking up the college studies he was forced to abandon.Blue collar, widow. She is Jason’s mother, loud, a partier, racist though her best friend, Cynthia, is African American. She has strong feelings and finds it difficult to be empathetic. However, the circumstances and heightened emotions of the story make her sympathetic.(lead) African American, 40-50Blue collar. She is Chris’s mother. Cynthia applies for and, to everyone’s surprise, wins a promotion to management, causing a painful rift with Tracey, who had also applied and resents being supervised by a former equal. She attributes Cynthia’s selection to tokenism. More trouble comes when rumors of layoffs begin swirling, and Cynthia finds herself caught between her duties as a manager and her sympathy with her friends in the union.Blue collar. He is the bartender, though not the owner of the bar that is the center of most of the action. He, too, worked in the factory, as did his father and grandfather, until an accident caused by a faulty machine almost cost him a leg. He’s an avuncular type who keeps the peace when necessary, with the help of his Dominican bar-back, Oscar. (supporting) White, 40-50Recently separated from her husband, she usually drinks herself to passing out in mourning for her life. She wishes she had made different choices.(supporting) African-American, 30-40Parole officer, deals with both Jason and Chris in the 2008 scenes after their release from prison. He’s tough and compassionate.(supporting) African-American, 45-55He is Cynthia’s estranged husband and Chris’s father. He works at the city’s other plant whose union’s workers have been locked out for two months after the union balked at draconian pay cuts. He has been hitting something harder than the bottle.(supporting) Dominican-American, early 20’sBar-back. He is a quiet, proud, hard-working, outcast who has ambitions to work in the factory but the union won’t allow him in.Please reloadNon-Equity, no pay. Y.E.S. does not charge tuition or fees to participate. Questions or requests for additional information should be directed to Kristie Mattsson at kristie.mattsson@morgan-wixson.org.

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