

Anne Patterson

Theatre 101-04

30 September 2018

The Play that Left me Hanging

I went into the theatre with the consensus that I would keep an open mind about *Translations* and how the show would go. Although I rather enjoyed the acting itself, I was not a huge fan of the storyline and plot. I was waiting for the plot to thicken, or there to be a real moment of excitement, but for me that moment never came. I was able to suspend my disbelief after the first few scenes. At first the language barrier with the cast all speaking in English was very difficult to follow, but after I adjusted to that I was able to suspend my disbelief to believe the characters and the given circumstances of *Translations*. At a few points though I had to break from my suspension of disbelief and this occurred for me at least, when I could not understand the accents of the characters. Overall I enjoyed attending the show but was highly disappointed with the ending, I am not a fan of cliffhangers. This cliffhanger especially pushed my buttons as it seemed that plot thickening, exciting moment was on the brink of happening and the play just ended.

The actors were cast well and did fit their given rolls. They each had very different personalities but all worked well together. The scene where this was most prominent was the scene towards the middle of the play where Don Blaheta and Garrett D. Reese entered the school room to explain what the english are doing here. The objective was to get the Irish cast members to understand they were there to make a map of Ireland and the obstacle was their language barrier. There was a good pace to the scene was Blaheta at first was talking slowly trying to get the Irish cast members to understand, but when Matthew Howard stepped in to translate the dialogue picked up speed. The cast in this scene worked very well as a cohesive group and it was clear they had a sense of connection and overcame the task of speaking all in english with pretending not to understand one another. It felt very real and there was an element of humor to the scene to which really made me see they had a good connection as a cast. My criticism would be how other actors interacted with Erica Johnson. This confused the story for me and was

