

## delicacy of a puffin heart

### Audition Monologues

For the audition, we ask that you select and perform **any 1-2 minute monologue** in the style of the show. Below, we have provided two example audition monologues– feel free to use them for your audition!

You do not have to have your monologue memorized beforehand; however, we encourage you to familiarize yourself with it. We will provide printed copies of the two example monologues below, but if you bring your own monologue you will need to **provide your own copy**.

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#### Audition Monologue Example 1

**Play:** *Eleemosynary*

**Playwright:** Lee Blessing

**Scene Synopsis:** Echo has been living with her grandmother for a while because her mother wanted to focus on herself and didn't want to take care of her. Echo is seeing her mother again for the first time in many years.

Uncle Bill hardly remembers you, you know that? I asked him what you were like as a little girl, and he couldn't even say. He remembers Grandma even less. He didn't have one interesting thing to say about her – about Grandma. They don't have a single picture of her, either. Not even in their minds. To them, she's just a woman who lived a big, embarrassing life. They all think they've saved me just in time. Not just from Grandma – from you, too.

So I started wondering if they weren't right. Maybe the smartest thing would be to forget you completely. And Grandma. After all, what did I ever get from the two of you, except a good education? You especially – what were you ever to me, except a voice on the phone now and then? And I looked around the new room where I was staying, and it was real nice and... blank, the way a thing is before you put any time into it. I thought, I could live a whole new life here. I could invent a whole new me. I could be Barbara if I wanted to, not Echo. I could fit in. I don't mean I'd become like Whitney and Beth. I'm not that crazy. But I could become like Robinson Crusoe, and adapt myself to a strange and harsh environment. I could live in a kind of desert. I could even flourish. Like you have. I could live without the one thing I wanted. But I kept hearing your voice. That voice on the other end of the

phone, hiding behind spelling words, making excuses – or so energetic sometimes, so... wishing. I don't even remember what you said, just the sound of it. Just a sound that said, "I love you, and I failed you." I hate that sound. And I will never settle for it, because no one failed me. No one ever failed me. Not Grandma and not you. I am a prize among women. I'm your daughter. That's what I choose to be. Someone who loves you. Someone who can make you love me. Nearly all the time. I'm going to stay with you. I'm going to prepare you for me.

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### Audition Monologue Example 2

**Play:** Elsewhere

**Playwright:** Adam Szymkowicz

**Scene Synopsis:** Celia blames Teddy for her rage and then makes an ultimatum.

All the dishes are broken. Are you happy now? I'm going to have to have new dishes delivered. I liked those dishes, Teddy. Those dishes were my favorite dishes ever. I got them when I moved in here. They have sentimental value. I don't know why you made me do that. Maybe you were unaware of the sentimental value of the dishes. You're oblivious to my dishes, of course you are. But have you no heart? Each broken dish was a part of me. A part of me I can never get back. Whenever I eat on the new dishes, I will always remember this day and how you caused me to be cold at night even though there were things you could do to prevent it. When I'm dying of pneumonia, I will eat my last meal off these new dishes and I will remember you and curse you for your unfeeling nature. You are the devil. You are the worst creature to ever walk the planet. I will die. I will die of neglect unless you intercede. It's your choice. I'm drowning. All you have to do is reach out your hand to pull me from the icy water. Do you understand? Either you sleep in my bed or you have to move out.