



CAST

Jennifer Crawford	MARY ALLEN
Matt Eklund	BOB KNIGHT
Richard Crawford	JIM HOLMES
Martha Turner	HEATHER WALT
City Boy	ROSEMARY KENEFORD
John Rust	TED MAUGER
Tony Crawford	TONY CLARK
Verki Rust	JOY FORBES
Ingeborg Wright	PAT CARROLL
Dr. Ross	BROCKE KENEFORD
Ingeborg	VENETIA LAWLESS
Jill	RILEY BURMAN

The play is set in a recently renovated farmhouse in southern Ontario.

ACT I Scene 1 Wednesday, A hot summer afternoon, Scene 2 Thursday morning, Scene 3 Thursday afternoon, Scene 4 Thursday evening, after dinner, Scene 5 Late Thursday night.

ACT II Scene 1 Friday Morning, Scene 2 Friday noon, Scene 3 Friday, mid afternoon, Scene 4 Friday, late afternoon, Scene 5 Friday, late evening.

There will be one interval during which the bar will be open in the foyer.

PRODUCTION STAFF

PRODUCED BY	Donna B. B. B.
SET	Donna B. B. B.
SET CONSTRUCTION AND PAINTING	Donna B. B. B.
SET FURNISHINGS	Donna B. B. B.
STAGE MANAGERS	Donna B. B. B.
SOUND	Donna B. B. B.
LIGHTING	Donna B. B. B.
COSTUMES	Donna B. B. B.
PROPERTIES	Donna B. B. B.
PROMPT	Donna B. B. B.
MAKE UP	Donna B. B. B.
CONTINUITY	Donna B. B. B.
PUBLICITY PHOTOGRAPHS	Donna B. B. B.
FRONT OF HOUSE	Donna B. B. B.
BOX OFFICE	Donna B. B. B.
PROGRAMME	Donna B. B. B.
BAR	Donna B. B. B.

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TO

Hazelden Antiques & Pine Shop
Donna B. B. B. Ltd.
Marg Allen's Washroom by
Shirley K. Maternity Fashion's, Bayshore

Acting creates amusement rather than needed tension

By Paulette Robarge
Kana Theatre

A suspense thriller that should have the audience gripping the edge of their seats draws laughter instead as the cast fails to create the requisite tension in the solving of a mystery.

Kanata Theatre's last play of the season, *Jill*, by Canadian playwright Lizzy Hall, is fraught with acting so poor that a playwright among the potential of the script can only be frustrated.

Jennifer and Richard Crawford, married for 17 years and about to have their first child, have left the city to realize one of Richard's life-long dreams, to settle in the country and raise a child.

The kitchen of an old farmhouse they are in the process of having renovated serves as venue for the action. Jennifer, who has left a high-level advertising position in the city to please her husband and bear a child, is suffering from pre-natal anxiety and depression. Her attempts to befriend a pig-tailed child who favors the Crawford yard as a playmate fail, for the child is uncommunicative and, indeed, not visible to anyone else.

Drama Review
at Kanata Theatre
Earl of March Secondary School 8 p.m. May 16-18

Jennifer's mental stability comes under question. Does the girl *Jill* exist, and if so, in what form and what connection does she have to the farmhouse? The mystery unravels in the confusing atmosphere produced by a callous, uncommunicable husband, an irresponsible, drunken brother-in-law, the oppressive heat of the summer, and the bare of the workmen's power town.

Marg Allen as Jennifer and Jim Holmes as Richard are self-conscious and lack forcefulness. A script that calls for a certain degree of melodrama is never provided by a cast that undercuts Tony Clark playing the brother-in-law is slightly more palatable and convincing and Bob Knight as Matt Eklund, the workman, provides the light touch of comic relief that is called for by his role.

Jill, directed by Owen Knight and Peter Jefferson, is not a script wholly without fault either Jennifer Crawford is far more understanding and accommodating of her

husband than could realistically be expected of a successful, high-powered career woman.



In rehearsal for *Jill*, the next Kanata Theatre production to see Marg Allen, Tony Clark and Jim Holmes. Steve Sweet, Sequence Media

Kanata Theatre "Behind the Scenes"

by Annette Cople

While rehearsals for *"Jill"* are continuing three times a week - either at the Community Centre or at the Earl of March - the Production Crew are busy with the technical side of the play.

The Props people also attend every rehearsal, taking with them suitcases and boxes containing all the necessary props needed for that particular rehearsal. This sometimes involves catering for a meal, as is called for in *"Jill"*. Usually, the rehearsal "meal" consists of cookies or crackers and cheese, and the props girl sometimes has a hard time stopping the cast and other rehearsal attendees from devouring a week's supply of meals at one rehearsal!

Meanwhile, the costume girls are busy sewing and fitting costumes or, in some cases, borrowing clothes. For this production, one task has been to make a member of the cast look a convincing nine months pregnant.

The Set Designer makes a model of the set to give the Directors, Cast and Production Crew an idea of what the finished setting will look like. Downstairs in the basement at the Earl of March the set construction crew are building and painting the set. This sometimes involves making some of the furniture that will be used on stage, and for *Jill* this has included a Grandfather clock and a Welsh Dresser. Other furnishings are loaned from stores or homes and for *Jill* we have borrowed some furniture from Mrs. Green of Hazelden Antiques.

The Sound person also attends rehearsals, giving sound cues and providing sound effects.

Some of these effects are acquired by many ingenious methods!

The Light crew has studied the script and marked the lighting cues, although the lights will not be set until the set is up.

A lot of work goes into a Production, but everyone involved enjoys it. Cast members and Production Crew become one team in the final countdown. Technical difficulties are dealt with at the Technical Rehearsal, usually held two days before opening night. A full dress and make-up rehearsal follows the next night and then Opening Night.

Opening Night for *Jill* is Wednesday, May 12th - curtain time 8:00 p.m. Call our Box Office at 542-1715 for tickets and information.

Kanata Theatre looks forward to seeing you there.



OVER....!!

"At the end of Act I of JILL - it's on this week at Kanata, put on by the Kanata Theatre people - at the end of Act I, there's a long, loud, high, ringing scream. A woman, Jennifer, has just picked up a flashlight and gone down the cellar steps. There's no one else in the house and the house may be haunted - probably is. Jennifer disappears from view and after ten seconds, a marvellous scream! And, then you want to hurry on out to the wine bar for refreshments.

Jennifer, who screams, is played by Marg Allen. She gives a classy scream....and a fine performance in every other way all evening. I'll come back to her.

Just why Jennifer lets go like that isn't made clear in Act II and a few other things are left at rather loose ends in this play, JILL. It's by Lezley Havard. It's played at Lennoxville already. It's played in New York. It's a thriller-horror play. Jennifer, eight and one-half months pregnant...and Richard, her husband.... have moved out of the city into an old farm house. Jennifer - only Jennifer, sees from time to time a little girl of six playing in the garden. The girl never talks and when anyone is around but Jennifer, she vanishes. It turns out, a little girl of six just like this one had disappeared about five years before. That girl's name was jill. She was one of a pair of identical twins. So, Jennifer has - or thinks she has - been seeing the Jill of five years ago alive now. It's a kind of time-warp play.

Trouble is that playwright Havard can't solve her own play. Can't figure out herself whom Jennifer's really been seeing - who, what, where Jill is today. The ending is a good deal more than flat and less than satisfactory.

But more important, what you get at Kanata is a good production. And, in particular, a fine performance by Marg Allen as Jennifer. Allen is just calm-enough, dreamy-enough, attractive-enough, subtle-enough, loving-enough. The child she's going to have, we learn, may not be her husband's. She's probably got herself pregnant by her brother-in-law - because her husband, Richard, in fact, is sterile and really wants a child and now can think he's fertile.

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Allen handles the few minutes of this red-herring intrigue with fine understatement. My report is that Marg Allen, as Jennifer, is giving one of the good performances in Ottawa this theatre season.

Jim Holmes provides her with a solidly-portrayed, tempermental, edgy husband. The others in the cast are all good - though Tony Clark as the mooted brother-in-law/father does tend to swallow his words and I doubt you can seduce your sister-in-law if you mutter.

In the very small part of the police inspector, Pat Carroll was suitably impersonal. And, in the very small role of Mrs. Turner, Heather Walt did excellent work.

Good set. Good costumes. The direction is by Gwen Knight and Peter Jefferson. They've let the pace slow a bit pre-scream. But, on the whole, the direction is sound, efficient work. And, their show is worth seeing.

As for Marg Allen...She's not been on stage for seven years. One hopes she won't wait anywhere near that long before doing another part."











