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### Crimes of the Heart

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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# Crimes of the Heart

By Beth Henley

Stage Direction by Doreen Dunn  
Scenic Design by Stephanie Gerckens  
Costume Design by Marcia Hain  
Lighting Design by Jayson Pritchard  
Sound Design by Matt Christian

## CAST

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Lenny MaGrath .....	Elizabeth Daniels
Chick Boyle .....	Meg Ward
Doc Porter .....	Drew Aber
Meg MaGrath .....	Molly Camp
Babe Botrelle .....	Beth Triffon
Barnette Lloyd .....	Luke Dixon

## PRODUCTION STAFF

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Artistic Director/Co-Producer .....	Dennis Romer
Audience Services Director/Co-Producer .....	Elizabeth Saltzgiver
Production Manager .....	Rebecca Morrison
Dialect Coach .....	Melissa Nutting
Stage Manager .....	Kelley Monts de Oca
Assistant Stage Managers .....	Matt Buettner, Christine Nickel
Technical Director .....	Rich Uhrick
Assistant Technical Director .....	Trent Kugler
Costume Shop Supervisor .....	Marci Hain
Master Carpenter .....	Roger Payne
Master Painter .....	Jessica Jackson
Master Electrician .....	Elliot France
Props Master .....	Jayson Pritchard
Wardrobe Master .....	Maureen Strobel
Light Board Operator .....	Carmen Rowlands
Sound Board Operator .....	Tyler Stratton
Front of House Manager .....	Tiffany Rollins
Box Office Assistants .....	Abi Baxendale, Luke Dixon, Kylie Holmes, Mayme Moyer

Originally produced by the Actors Theatre of Louisville, Inc., in February 1979.

*Crimes of the Heart* received its New York Premiere at the Manhattan Theatre Club in 1980.

Produced on the Broadway Stage by Warner Theatre Productions, Inc./Claire Nichtern, Mary Lea Johnson, Martin Richards, Francine Lefrak.



## SETTING

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The small southern town, Hazelhurst, Mississippi in the fall, five years after Hurricane Camille

*There will be one fifteen minute intermission.*

## BIOGRAPHIES

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**Doreen Dunn** (Director) has directed many productions for Otterbein Summer Theatre, including *Black Comedy*, *Hayfever*, *The Mousetrap*, *Nunsense*, *How the Other Half Loves*, *Oh, Coward!*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and *Closer than Ever*. For Otterbein College Theatre, personal favorites include *The Secret Garden*, *The Cherry Orchard*, and *Noises Off*. Other directing credits span the globe from New York to Paris to Edinburgh, and also CATCO, Players' Theatre, and the Phoenix Theatre Circle. A graduate of Northwestern University, Doreen has also won two Ohio Arts Council Playwriting Fellowships and is a member of five professional theatrical unions. She currently directs the Performing Arts Program for Eastland-Fairfield Career & Technical Schools.

**Stephanie R. Gerckens** (Scenic Designer) is pleased to return to her alma mater, Otterbein College, where she previously designed *Longevity Abbreviated*, *Blood Brothers*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Antigravity*, and *Moonchildren* (co-production with CATCO). Her design credits at CATCO include *Boston Marriage*, *Escanaba in Da Moonlight*, *Lobby Hero*, *Murder in Green Meadows*, *The Shorts Festival 2004*, and *Taste of Sunrise*. *Jungle Book* and *Miss Piggie-Wiggle* were designed for Phoenix Theatre. She has also designed scenery for Ohio Wesleyan University, Weathervane Playhouse, Miami Valley Dinner Theatre (La Comedia), Chicago's Remains Theatre, Griffin Theatre and Pegasus Players and Circa-21 in Rock Island, Illinois. She spent two seasons at Actors Theatre of Louisville as Resident Assistant Scene Designer and Charge Scenic Artist. Stephanie has painted for theatre, television and film with clients including The Oprah Show, Carnegie Hall, The Massachusetts Museum of Science, Arena Stage, BalletMet, Opera Columbus, the independent feature film *Lawn Dogs* (Lead Painter) and professional scene shops in Boston, Washington D.C. and Chicago.

**Maureen Strobel** (Wardrobe Master) is a rising sophomore BFA Design/Tech major from Louisville, KY. Previously, she has worked as the Assistant to the Costume Designer for *Jesus Christ Superstar* and Assistant Wardrobe Master for *The Ugly Duckling +2*. Maureen thanks Mom, Dad, and Emily for their continued love support.

**Beth Triffon** (Babe) is a junior BFA Acting major from Bexley. Her previous shows at Otterbein include *Medea*, *The Ugly Duckling +2*, and *The Women of Lockerbie*. She thanks Doreen for this great opportunity, the crew for their hard work, the wonderful cast, her friends, family, and of course Great Uncle Spark Dude.

**Rich Uhrick** (Technical Director) has returned to his alma mater, and this is his second full season since. Before his return, he worked in Regional Theatres across the Midwest and New England, including Actors Theatre of Louisville, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, New American Theatre, Kansas City Repertory Theatre (at UMKC) and The Court Theatre in Chicago. He received his Master's in Theatre Technology from UMKC in 1997. He is also a published poet. His latest poem, *The Littlest Boy* is coming out in an anthology this fall. He now lives in Columbus with his wife, Lisa. They work with the Ohio Pug Rescue to provide abandoned or surrendered Pugs [dogs] foster homes. In August, he plans to volunteer his skills for Habitat for Humanity.

**Meg Ward** (Chick Boyle) is a BFA Acting major from Gahanna. Previous Otterbein credits include *Black Comedy*, *Anton in Show Business*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Music Man*, and various workshop productions. She is thrilled to be working with Doreen and such a fabulous cast. Coming up this fall Meg will portray Launcelot, the Clown in *The Merchant of Venice*. Much love and appreciation to her family, friends, Travis, The White House, Great Uncle Spark Dude and God for the glorious gift of laughter!



**Kelley L. Monts de Oca** (Stage Manager) is a sophomore BA from Reynoldsburg. Previously at Otterbein she worked as Assistant Stage Manager for the classroom project *Becausehecan* and *Roudning Third* Stage Manager for the new play, *Swamp Baby*. This summer she's also working as Assistant Stage Manager for *The Pavilion*. Kelley would like to thank the cast, Doreen, Matt, Chrissy, and the rest of the crew for all their hard work and her family and friends for their love and support.

**Christine Nickel** (Assistant Stage Manager) is an incoming freshman BFA Design/Tech major from Groveport. She recently graduated from the Eastland Performing Arts Program at Reynoldsburg High School, and is excited to be working with the Otterbein Summer Theatre company. She was also an Assistant Stage Manager for *Rounding Third* and will finish the season as an Assistant Stage Manager for *The Pavilion*. Christine would like to thank God, her friends, and everyone in the Otterbein Summer Theatre company.

**Melissa Nutting** (Dialect Coach) has just finished her first year with the Otterbein faculty teaching Speech and Dialects and Theatre History. She holds an M.F.A. in Acting from the combined program of Carnegie Mellon University and the Moscow Art Theatre and a B.F.A. from Carnegie Mellon. Melissa comes to Otterbein directly from New York City where she is a founding company member of the American Studio Theatre and also served as resident vocal coach. Favorite roles include Marina in *Volodya* (LaMama E.T.C.), Margaret in *Richard III* and Emilia in *Othello* (AST), Clytemnestra in *The Greeks* (Moscow Art Theatre, and the title role in *Miss Julie* (CMU).

**Roger Payne** (Master Carpenter) is a sophomore BFA Design Technology major from Columbus. His past credits include OST 2004 (Technical Apprentice) and a bunch of other stuff. He would like to thank his parents, friends, and of course all of his brethren of Pi Beta Sigma, OFA!

**Tiffany Rollins** (Front of House Manager) is a senior BA Theatre major from Whitehall. Her previous credits include Assistant Stage Manager for *A Guy, A Girl, and Gershwin* and *The Butter and Egg Man*, House Manager for *The Laramie Project* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and Front of House Manager for Otterbein Summer Theatre 2003 and 2004. She would like to thank her mom and Plank for all of their support.



**Marcia Hain** (Costume Designer) has been a member of the Otterbein Theatre Tech Staff since 1989. She runs the costume shop full time and has also designed for the productions of *Dance 2005 Passions*, *The Ugly Duckling + 2*, *The Music Man*, *Schoolhouse Rock, Live!*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *A Guy, A Girl and Gershwin*, *Blithe Spirit*, *The Secret Garden*, *Oklahoma*, *Hay Fever*, *Dance 2000*, *Pinocchio*, *How The Other Half Loves*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, *1776*, *A Few Good Men*, and *Sherlock's Last Case*. She also served as Associate Designer for *Phantom*. Ms. Hain has an extensive background in Home Economics as well as commercial costuming and free-lance design and construction.

**Jayson Pritchard** (Lighting Designer/Props Master) is excited to be a member of the summer theatre family. He has most recently been a lighting designer for the world premiere production of *Swamp Baby*. Before that, he created the lighting for *BecauseHeCan* here at Otterbein and *Cheaper by the Dozen* at Westerville South High School. His lighting can also be seen next fall in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* on the mainstage. He wishes to thank the theatre faculty for giving him a second chance, his family for their undying support, and the brothers of Pi Beta Sigma for being there. OFA!

**Matt Christian** (Sound Master) is completing his third and final appearance here at Otterbein Summer Theatre. A recent graduate, Matt is currently working for Mill James Productions in central Ohio. His previous Otterbein credits include Sound Designer for Otterbein Summer Theatre 2004, *Swamp Baby*, *Music Man*, *Medea*, and *Betty's Summer Vacation*. Matt would like to thank his parents, his wonderful girlfriend Melissa, and his fine brethren of Pi Beta Sigma. "OFA"

**Drew Aber** (Doc Porter) is going to be starting his junior year at Otterbein this fall. He is majoring in Musical Theatre here, and has been seen in a number of productions, including most recently *Jesus Christ Superstar*. He is excited to make his Otterbein Summer Theatre debut with such a wonderful cast, crew, and director. Drew thanks the tenants of the Green Roof Inn for being cool, and his family for being cool, too. Drew hopes this is "bio" degradable! (Bad joke).

**Matthew Buettner** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a BFA Design/Tech major from Hilliard. In past productions he was Stage Manager for *Rounding Third*, Assistant Stage Manager for *Dance 2005: Passions*, and has been on crews for *Violet* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. He would like to thank the great cast and crew of *Rounding Third*, and his parents for allowing him the opportunity to do what he loves to do.



**Molly Camp** (Meg) is very excited to be returning for her third season of Summer Theatre! Past Otterbein credits include *The Women of Lockerbie*, *Anton in Show Business*, *The Laramie Project* and *The Butter and Egg Man*. Outside of Otterbein, Molly performed in *The Comedy of Errors* and *Kindertransport*. Molly would like to thank the cast, crew and Doreen for all of the fun rehearsals, Melissa Nutting, her friends, Tom, and fellow senior classmates and her Family for all of their love...especially Uncle Spark Dude.

**Elizabeth Daniels** (Lenny) is a sophomore BFA Acting major from Hillsboro, OR. In her first year at Otterbein she appeared in the workshop *Definitely Eni Geddis* and the Director's Circle project *Swamp Baby*. She would like to thank Doreen Dunn for allowing her to be a part of this fun and challenging show; and Matt, Christine, and Kelley for all of their hard work and patience. She also thanks God and her beautiful mother for the understanding and encouragement.

**Lucas Dixon** (Barnette Lloyd) is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Huntsville, TX. Lucas was last seen as the Doctor in the world premiere of *Swamp Baby*. Other Otterbein credits include the workshop production of *Bowl of Soup*, as well as the classroom workshop production of *Becausehecan*. He would like to thank Doreen for the opportunity, the cast for being awesome, Kelley and her assistants for being awesome, Molly for the kidney, and Uncle Spark Dude for the pecans, Rosie for licking his face, and his family for their support.

**Elliot France** (Master Electrician) just graduated from Otterbein in June, and could not be more excited. During his tenure at Otterbein he served such positions as Stage Manager for *The Music Man*, Assistant Technical Director for *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and Assistant Lighting Designer for *Broadway Babies*. This summer marks his fourth year at Otterbein Summer Theatre. During this coming year he intends to work as resident Stage Manager/ Lighting Designer for Columbus Dance Theatre. Elliot would like to thank his parents for their unending love and support, and his "special girl" for being there no matter what!

**Jessica Jackson** (Master Painter) is a Design/Tech major from Columbus. Her pervious Otterbein credits include Otterbein Summer Theatre 2004, deck chief for *Violet* and *The Women of Lockerbie*, Master of Backstage for the premiere of *Swamp Baby* and other various crew work. Jessica would like to thank her parents and her better half, Erik, for all their love. Also, she wants to thank her friends in the company for good laughs and a great season. "The mediator between the head and the hands must be the heart...or something like that."



# THE PLAYWRIGHT

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Elizabeth Becker Henley was born on May 8, 1952, in Jackson, Mississippi. Growing up, Henley always dreamed of becoming an actress. After graduating from highschool, she attended Southern Methodist University where she wrote her first play, a one-act entitled *Am I Blue* which was produced at SMU's Margo Jones Theatre in 1973.

Henley's first professionally produced play, *Crimes of the Heart*, was the co-winner of the 1979 Great American Play Contest sponsored by the Actors Theatre of Louisville. A black comedy about three sisters, one of whom has just shot her husband, *Crimes of the Heart* then moved to New York where it won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best American Play of 1981.

Henley's other plays include *The Wake of Jamey Foster* (1982), *Am I Blue* (1982), *The Miss Firecracker Contest* (1984), *The Debutante Ball* (1985), *The Lucky Spot* (1986), *Abundance* (1990), *Control Freaks* (1992), *Signature* (1995), *L-Play* (1996), and *Impossible Marriage* (1998).

In addition to her stage plays, Ms. Henley has written a number of screenplays including the acclaimed film version of *Crimes of the Heart* which was nominated for an Academy Award and featured Diane Keaton, Jessica Lange, Sissy Spacek, and Sam Shepard. Other screenplays by Henley include *Miss Firecracker* starring Holly Hunter, Mary Steenburgen, and Tim Robbins, and *Nobody's Fool* (1986) starring Rosanna Arquette and Eric Roberts. She also collaborated on *True Stories* (1986) with Steven Trobolowsky and David Byrne, the lead singer of the Talking Heads who directed and starred in the film.

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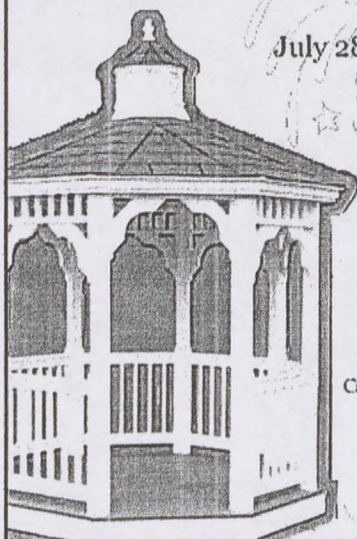


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