

THE OUTLIER

A Play by Richard Ehrlich

RUNTIME: 70 minutes (real time)

CAST: 4 actors (2M, 2F) • Ages 60s-70s

SET: Single interior (living room)

TECHNICAL: Simple • One shadow box prop

THE PLAY

When two brothers reunite to settle their father's estate, a disagreement about a shadow box of political memorabilia becomes a reckoning about moral inheritance, empathy, and the question: What do we owe one another—and who gets to decide?

WHY PRODUCE THIS PLAY

- **Strong roles for older actors:** Four meaty, complex characters (ages 60s-70s) rarely seen onstage
- **Timely without being preachy:** Explores family division through character, not politics
- **Budget-friendly:** Single set, minimal tech, four-person cast
- **Emotionally powerful:** Restrained, rigorous drama that trusts the audience
- **Flexible programming:** Works for main stage or studio productions

AUDIENCE

Appeals to theatergoers seeking intelligent drama about family dynamics, moral complexity, and the cost of honesty. Resonates with anyone navigating divided families or wrestling with questions of loyalty, compassion, and belonging.

THE WRITER

Richard Ehrlich is a playwright and member of the Dramatists Guild whose work explores fault lines in American families. His plays include THE OUTLIER, THE INTERVIEW, THE THIRD CHAIR, THE WEIGHT, and FEARLESS SECRETS. He has received encouraging feedback from Broadway producers and NYC theater companies.

AVAILABILITY

THE OUTLIER is available now for readings, workshops, and full productions. Script and licensing inquiries welcome.

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