

The Same Woman as a Whole

A Play by Bernard Mersier

Previously produced

Logline

A woman's journey down a symbolic road reveals a history of inherited pain and a path toward healing, as she confronts the ghosts of her past and forges a new, unified identity with the help of a silent chorus of women who have walked the same path.

The Hook

What if every woman carried the history of every woman who came before her? "The Same Woman as a Whole" is a poetic and visceral one-act play that explores the universal themes of trauma, resilience, and the power of female connection. It's a journey into the soul of one woman that mirrors the collective experience of many.

The Story

The play follows an unnamed WOMAN as she walks a desolate road. Through a series of powerful monologues and non-linear memories, she encounters and interacts with her younger self, her teenage mother, and a seemingly caring friend, only to push them all away due to the deep-seated trauma she carries.

A haunting CHORUS OF WOMEN, who exist in the shadows and hum a mournful melody, represents the ancestral pain and inherited strength that she embodies. As she revisits her past, she slowly realizes that these women are not just echoes of her pain—they are a source of support and unity.

The play culminates in a powerful moment of catharsis and triumph as the WOMAN embraces her identity, not as a broken individual, but as a composite of all the women who have endured similar hardships. She finds her strength in their collective spirit and steps forward, no longer alone, ready to help the next woman on the road.

Why It Matters

"The Same Woman as a Whole" is a timely and resonant piece of theater that speaks to the female experience with authenticity and grace. It tackles difficult themes—generational trauma, emotional neglect, and the cycle of abuse—without sensationalism. The play offers a message of hope and empowerment, celebrating the strength found in unity and shared experience. It's a story that will leave audiences moved, inspired, and reflecting on the invisible bonds that connect us all.

The Production

This play is designed to be a compelling and immersive theatrical experience.

- **Cast:** Two lead actors (the WOMAN and the FRIEND) and a small, versatile CHORUS OF WOMEN who can perform movement and vocal work.
- **Set:** Minimalist, with the "road" as the central, symbolic element. The stage can be a simple, dark space with a textured floor.
- **Lighting & Sound:** These elements are key to the play's emotional impact. A creative lighting designer and sound designer can bring the WOMAN's internal world to life, using wind, rain, and subtle light shifts to enhance the narrative.

The Team

- **Playwright:** Bernard Mersier
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