



*Trifles*  
by  
*Susan Glaspell*

*An audio reading in collaboration with Chicago Radio Theatre  
Directed by Kevin Christopher Fox*

**Setting**

1916.  
The abandoned farmhouse of John Wright.

**Cast**

*in order of appearance*

George Henderson (County Attorney) ..... Greg Vinkler  
Mrs. Peters..... Stephanie Diaz  
Henry Peters (Sheriff) ..... Kevin Christopher Fox  
Lewis Hale, a neighboring farmer..... Neil Friedman  
Mrs. Hale..... Erica Elam

Foley Artist – Ele Matelan  
Original Music by Christopher Kriz

This audio presentation of Susan Glaspell's *Trifles* is presented by Peninsula Players Theatre, in collaboration with Chicago Radio Theater, as a part of Peninsula Players expanded winter play reading program, *The Play's the Thing – Summer Edition*.

Peninsula Players Theatre is America's Oldest Professional Resident Summer Theatre. *The Play's the Thing* is part of the Players' continued outreach programming, presenting professional play readings for the public. Learn more about Peninsula Players at [www.peninsulaplayers.com](http://www.peninsulaplayers.com).



# Cast



**Erica Elam (Mrs. Hale)** has previously performed at Peninsula Players in *The 39 Steps*, *The Hollow*, *The Full Monty*, *Rumors*, *Comic Potential*, *Panic*, *And Then There Were None*, *The Tin Woman*, *Born Yesterday*, *The Actuary*, and *Almost, Maine*. She has also performed at The Kennedy Center, The Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Court Theatre, Remy Bumppo Theatre Company and Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Erica teaches improvisation and acting at The School at Steppenwolf and The Second City in Chicago, with whom she has traveled the world performing on Norwegian Cruise Lines. Erica is a graduate of The University of Georgia, The Second City Conservatory, The School at Steppenwolf, and the University of Pennsylvania where she recently earned her Master's in Applied Positive Psychology.



**Kevin Christopher Fox (Director/Sheriff Peters)** Originally from Asheville, NC, Kevin is an actor/ director based in Chicago for the past 25 years. Chicago directing highlights: world premiere of *Assassination Theater* by Hillel Levin (Russell Lane, LLC); *Bakersfield Mist* and *Widowers' Houses* (TimeLine), the world premieres of *Graveyard of Empires* by Elaine Romero and *The Gun Show* by EM Lewis, and *Pull of the Moon*, *Accidental Rapture*, & *The Book Club Play* (16th StreetTheater), *Lay Me Down Softly* and *Hughie* (Irish Theatre of Chicago, formally Seanachai Theatre Co.). Regional highlights: the world premieres of *The Spiritualist* by Robert Ford and *Sundown Town* by Kevin Cohea (TheatreSquared) and *The Actuary* by Steven Peterson (Peninsula Players).

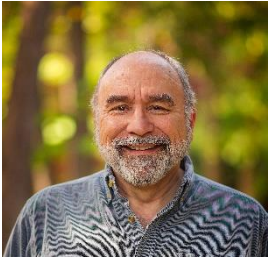


**Neil Friedman (Lewis Hale)** is happy to be back working with the Peninsula Players. Chicago credits: Goodman Theatre, Paramount Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, Theatre at the Center, Court Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre and Steppenwolf. Regional credits include: Peninsula Players Theatre; The People's Light Theatre; The Fulton Theatre; Utah Shakespeare Festival; Capitol Repertory; The New Victory Theatre; Flat Rock Playhouse; Coconut Grove Playhouse; The Clarence Brown Theatre; Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis; Austria's Vienna English Theatre. Neil is a proud recipient of Chicago's Joseph Jefferson

Awards.



**Stephanie Diaz Reppen (Mrs. Peters)** appeared on stage most recently at Goodman Theatre, as Connie Gonzales in *Roe* (and previously in *Destiny of Desire*). An actor and puppetry artist, her work has been seen in Chicago at The Gift Theatre, Lookingglass, Shakespeare Project, Remy Bumppo, Victory Gardens, Steppenwolf, Lifeline Theatre, Chicago Dramatists, Teatro Vista, The Chicago Physical Festival and the Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival. Regional credits include Creede Repertory Theatre, Milwaukee Rep, First Stage Milwaukee, Mixed Blood, Seattle Rep, Kansas City Rep and Shakespeare Santa Cruz. As a voiceover artist, her work spans over 20 years and includes video games, commercial spots and audiobooks. She is the recipient of a 2019 3Arts Award, a member of The Chicago Inclusion Project, and a proud Guatemalan-American. Black Lives Matter!



**Greg Vinkler (George Henderson)** is delighted to have played a part in the Players' wonderful history for 31 years. Besides putting the seasons together, as well as the winter play reading series, he has directed 32 productions (including *Chicago*, *Lombardi* and *The Full Monty*) and performed in 51 shows. For his work with the Players, he was honored with the inaugural Door County Artist of the Year Award. Greg has performed extensively in Chicago, appearing at Chicago Shakespeare (39 productions), Goodman, Steppenwolf, Court, Writers, Northlight, Marriott Lincolnshire and Victory Gardens theaters, and has received three Joseph Jefferson Awards (12 nominations), two Artisan Awards and an After Dark

Award. Regionally he has performed at Milwaukee Rep, Paper Mill, Fulton, Pittsburgh Public and BoarsHead theaters. Greg appeared on Broadway in the Tony Award-winning revival of *West Side Story* and also at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon, the Barbican Theatre in London, Vienna's English Theatre and Singapore Rep.



**Ele Matelan (Foley Artist)** (She/Her/Hers) has designed, choreographed, and performed Foley for over 80 productions in Chicagoland with companies including Locked Into Vacancy Entertainment, Theatre of Western Springs, Lifeline Theatre, Oak Park Festival Theatre, Otherworld Theatre, The Second City Training Center, and WildClaw Theatre, where she serves as lead designer for Deathscribe, the annual international live horror radio festival. She has guest lectured on stage Foley at Northwestern University's School of Sound and at Harvard University's School of Music, and has consulted for theaters ranging from London, UK to Livonia, MI. She is also a featured voice actor on Hartlife NFP's *Our Fair City* and *Unwell*.



**Christopher Kriz (Original Music)** Christopher is a composer and sound designer based in Chicago. Previous Peninsula Players designs include: *Miss Holmes*, *Salvage*, *The Actuary*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Alabama Story*, *The 39 Steps*, *Outside Mullingar*, *Lend Me A Tenor*, *Butler* and many others. Winner of four Joseph Jefferson Awards with a total of 19 nominations. Chicago credits: Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf, Chicago Shakespeare, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Remy Bumppo, Victory Gardens, First Folio, Timeline, The Gift Theatre, American Blues, and many others. Regional credits: Seattle Repertory Theatre, Kansas City Repertory Theatre. Kriz is a proud member of United Scenic Artists 829. To hear more of his work, please visit [christopherkriz.com](http://christopherkriz.com).



**Susan Glaspell** (Playwright, (July 1, 1876 – July 28, 1948) Glaspell was a renowned American playwright, novelist, fiction writer and actor who along with her husband, George Cram Cook, founded the Provincetown Players, considered the first modern American theater company. In 1916, aspiring playwright Eugene O'Neil's first play, *Bound East for Cardiff*, was produced by Glaspell's company.

Glaspell was born and raised in Iowa, the middle child of a schoolteacher and a hay farmer. In 1893, the family sold the farm and moved to Davenport, where she excelled in school and started writing for newspapers. At age 21, Glaspell entered Drake University, an unconventional move for a woman at the time, and graduated in 1899. As a newspaper reporter for *The Des Moines Daily News*, she again blazed trails for female reporters by covering court cases, murder and politics. Glaspell reported on a sensational murder case in rural Iowa and after the trial, she quit her job as a reporter to focus on her creative writing. In 1909, her first novel, "The Glory of the Conquered," was published and became a New York Times best-seller. Inspired by this murder case, she wrote the play *Trifles* in 1916 and in 1917 a short story entitled "A Jury of her Peers." Her body of work includes 15 plays, nine novels, numerous short stories and a biography of George Cook. Her play *Alison's House*, based on the life of Emily Dickinson, earned her the 1931 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. To learn more visit, The International Susan Glaspell Society at: <http://blogs.shu.edu/glaspellsociety/about-the-susan-glaspell-society/>