

CHARLES E. JEFFERS

549 FIRST STREET, NORTHEAST • HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA 28601

Myla Lichtman-Fields

23 Lee

Irvine CA 92620-6202

Dear Myla,

Our reading of THE PEACEMAKERS last night was a solid success. We did it in our cabaret venue which seats 70. We played to 32. The intimacy of the space went a long way in holding the audience; to use a cliché, riveted.

Time and technical constraints held us to a bare bones reading without projections and slides. We were unable to record.

I read Johnston; our Board president, an Equity actor, read Sherman; the other roles by an accomplished character actor from our pool.

We followed the reading with a discussion. The comments ranged from "fascinating" "gripping" "moving - I cried".

The consensus placed the work as a docudrama. The group agreed it could not be judged against the standards of the traditional "well made play". There was general agreement it need not be in that form. Were the play written along traditional lines additional characters needed to be introduced the audience felt.

Mentioned were a newspaperman to create scenes of heated dialogue with Sherman and Johnston and Lydia seen responding to Johnston if supported by historic material.

Breckenridge does not have the dimension of the others. His capitulation to Sherman seems abrupt. I could not tell what Johnston's position was concerning him. Perhaps a couple of lines from Johnston to Sherman before Breckenridge's entrance would clarify. The reasons for resigning the Vice Presidency would warrant an exchange with Sherman.

Playing Johnston was moving. The quotation letter to Lydia is a dream to play! I'm curious: how were Johnston's brother and wife killed?

The play is now in the hands of the Artistic Director of the Playmaker Repertory Co. in Chapel Hill having moved from the chairman of the UNC

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Theater Arts department.

I am sending a copy to Keith Martin, General Manager of the Charlotte Repertory Co. They run a new play festival mid-winter each year with staged reading of four or five plays. I want to get it in the pipeline for consideration.

With best regards,

Charles

March 20, 2001



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SCRIPT WORKSHOP #5

Playwright: Myla Lichtman-Fields

2nd place, 6th National Playwriting Competition

"THE PEACEMAKERS"

Thursday, September 23—Sunday, September 26, 1999