

The Trip to Bountiful

By Horton Foote

Act I: In and around Houston, Texas, 1953.

Sc. i: The apartment of Ludie and Jessie Mae Watts.

Sc. ii: The apartment of Ludie and Jessie Mae Watts, the next morning.

Sc. iii: The Houston Bus Station, later that day.

Sc. iv: A bus en route to Harrison, Texas, that night. Act. II: In and around Bountiful, Texas, the next day.

Sc. i: The Harrison Bus Station, early morning.

Sc. ii: The Harrison Bus Station, a few hours later. Sc. iii: Bountiful.

There will be a 15 minute intermission after Act I.

Production Staff

DirectorMichael Brogdon
Assistant DirectorJosh Robertson
Stage ManagerJosh Roberson
Stage Crew Danielle Costello, Andrew Thomas, Cast
Props Mistress Mary Helen Taylor
Costumes MistressMary Helen Watson

Set constructionMichael Brogdon, Patti Cook, Danielle Costello, Ashley Gilmer, Joanne Griner, Jordache Jordan, Josh Robertson, Adrian Taylor, Mary Helen Taylor, Andrew Thomas, Mary Helen Watson.

The Cast

Mrs. Watts	Joanne Griner
Jessie Mae	Patti Cook
Ludie	Ken Kinard
Thelma	Ashley Gilmer
Houston Ticket Agent	Candice Brantley
Houston Ticket Agent	Jeri Pruette
Houston Bus Station Porter	Tom Pruette
Houston Bus Passenger	Katherine Fisher
Houston Bus Passenger	Jacop Reddick
Houston Bus Passenger	Rachel Sullivan
Houston Bus Passenger	Mary Helen Watson
<i>Roy</i>	Jordache Jordon



Candice Brantley (*Ticket Agent*) is a newlywed nurse, graduate student, and amateur photographer. Candice was involved at Theatre Albany as a young child and returned to the stage in high school. In college, Candice had stints in two heavy metal bands. In October, Elvis ordained her Las Vegas wedding to AJ Brantley.



Patti Cook (*Jessie Mae*) is glad to be back on stage after directing *Into the Woods* this past summer. Past roles include Jacqueline from *Don't Dress for Dinner*, Claire from *Rumors*, and three of the four Futrelle sisters from Fayro, Texas. Patti thanks Michael and Josh for the opportunity to play such a "lovable" character.



Mike Ethridge (*Sheriff*) was last seen as Cinderella's Father this past summer in *Into the Woods*. He has been with Theatre Guild since 1997 and looks forward to many more years. He wants to thank Michael for casting him and hopes you enjoy the show.

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE Katherine Fisher (*Bus Passenger*) has been a resident of Valdosta since 1992. Previous theatrical experience includes Valdosta's living history play, *Paths to Paradise*, and church dramas. She has two daughters and is an active member of her church, River Street Church of Christ. Katherine hopes you enjoy the show!



Ashley Gilmer (*Thelma*) is making her TGV debut in *The Trip to Bountiful*. She spends most of her time with her family and assistant coaching junior league soccer. She enjoys theatre, movies, sports, running and reading.



Joanne Griner (*Mrs. Watts*) returns to trod the TGV boards after a five year hiatus. She has played lead roles in previous Theatre Guild productions: *Auntie Mame, All My Sons, The Curious Savage, On Golden Pond* and *Driving Miss Daisy*, as well as many supporting and featured roles. She wants to thank Michael, Josh and the fantastic cast of *Bountiful*!



Jordache Jordan (Roy) is a uniquely named military veteran originally from Columbus, Georgia where he began a love of acting in elementary Shakespeare plays. He thanks God for his talents and opportunities, his beautiful wife and her support, all who attend the performances and the wonderful directors, cast and production crew.



Ken Kinard (*Ludie*) has been a long-time member of TGV, acting in a number of comedies, dramas, and musicals. Ken was last on the stage in TGV's *Caught in the Net*. Some of his other shows include *Sordid Lives*, *Rumors*, and *Oklahoma!*



Jeri Pruette (*Ticket Agent*) is a United Methodist pastor and a retired college professor. She has been Lady Macbeth, Antigone, Madame Arcati, and numerous other characters in college and community theatre. This is her first performance in Valdosta since her days as a VSU student.



Tom Pruette (*Porter*) is a retired college professor. Theatrical experience includes the role of Dr. Brandman in *Blithe Spirit*. This is his first performance in Valdosta.



Jacop Reddick (*Bus Passenger*) was last seen on the TGV stage as John Brooke in *Little Women*. He was also in several one acts and the musical *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* in high school. Jacop loves making amateur films and hopes one day to be a professional film actor.

Photographs compliments of

PHOTOGRAPHY



Rachel Sullivan (*Bus Passenger*) is 18 years old and a senior at Hamilton County High School in Jasper, Florida. This is her first play at Theatre Guild Valdosta, but she has participated in numerous church plays and also was Aunt Em in her school's production of *The Wiz*.

Mary Helen Watson (*Bus Passenger*) has been a member of TGV since 1992 when she moved to Valdosta from Carbondale, Illinois. She has served in many positions on the TGV Board, directed a number of plays, and appeared on stage. Her most recent role was as the Grandmother in Neil Simon's *Lost in Yonkers*. It is a pleasure for her to once again be on stage.

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From the Director...

If I had a nickel for every time someone told me that "life is a journey," then I'd be rolling in about six bucks worth of dough. However, expressions usually become cliché for good reasons. I think that life is, indeed, a journey, and that the paths we choose to travel carry us through space, time and human experience. I think that if we look at the whole deal as one big, collective journey, then it's within our nature to track our own progress along the way as it compares to the progress of our fellow travelers. Sometimes, we seem to move faster or slower than everyone else. Often, it seems as if we're stuck and left to stagnate while everyone else continues along their merry little way. Sometimes, we think we passed our destination a long way back, but we didn't have sense enough to get off the dang bus. Once in a great while, we look around and find ourselves to be just utterly and miserably lost.

The characters in this play are all on journeys. They're all headed for different destinations, traveling under different motivations, and moving about at varying rates of speed. Our focus, however, is on this one particular trip taken by our protagonist, Carrie Watts. Carrie feels that she missed her destination years ago. Her best times are no longer yet to come. She's stopped growing. She's stopped changing. The colors in her world have faded. She spends her time waiting for the next stop, and she knows that the next stop is probably going to be her last. Carrie feels that she has lost the person she used to be. She hopes that, if she retraces her steps back to Bountiful, she might find the Carrie Watts she wants to be again. She's looking to end her journey where she started it, in the place she's always known as home. When she gets there, she might learn that home isn't necessarily always a place, and that colors don't have to be less precious just because they've faded.

I thank my wonderful cast and crew. Joanne Griner, you never fail to amaze me. Patti Cook, you'd find the good time in watching grass grow. Josh Robertson, you're the kid I'll always pick first to be on my kickball team. You're all fantastic, and it's been a great trip.

Coming next....

the GINGERBREAD players of THEATRE GUILD VALDOSTA MARCH 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, and 24 PRESENT

- Book Ly: Boald Dahl Diamalited Ly: Richard R. George

