# ISLAND

### – From a New Two-Act Play –

### BY SUSAN MINOT

#### **PROLOGUE**

(AMBIENT SOUNDS: GULLS. Projection on scrim of MAIN STREET: a classic small island street. Behind the scrim: MIRANDA SNOW carries a box and heavy mooring chain. A man in his 30s/40s, behind her, drags a wheeled bag, looking lost, which indeed he is. JONA-THAN is "from away." He is watchful and interested, with a quick innocence.)

**JONATHAN** 

Excuse me.

(Miranda stops.)

Is this... What island are we on?

**MIRANDA** 

North Haven.

**JONATHAN** 

Oh no. I have a feeling I'm on the wrong island.

**MIRANDA** 

Where do you want to be?

**JONATHAN** 

Vinalhaven. I'm not sure I want to be there, but that's where I'm supposed to be.

**MIRANDA** 

This is not Vinalhaven. (Points to the audience.) That's Vinalhaven.

**JONATHAN** 

It's so close.

**MIRANDA** 

Yes, but the Vinalhaven ferry goes another way further away. You got on the wrong ferry.

### **JONATHAN**

I did? Ha... Does that happen a lot?

**MIRANDA** 

No.

**JONATHAN** 

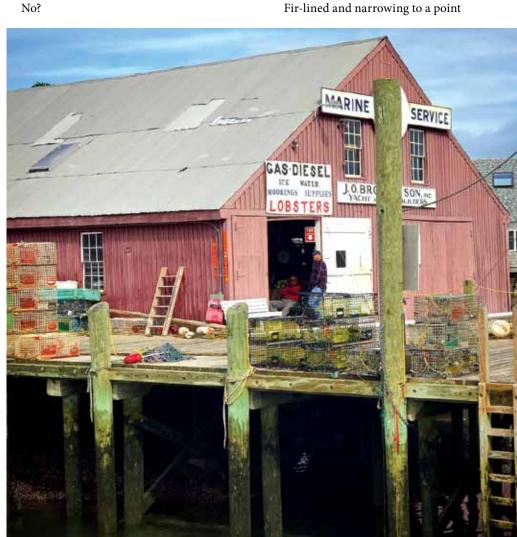
No?

#### **MIRANDA**

Most people here know where they're going. (BLACK)

(Early morning birdsong.)

SCENE ONE: ISLAND ROAD, DAWN (Projection of ISLAND ROAD.



## Make it a Maine Made Holiday Season! Buy quality gifts made locally by our talented artisans.



37<sup>th</sup> Augusta Arts & Crafts Show

November 10th & 11th

Augusta Civic Center Civic Center Dr., Augusta (exit 112 off I-95)

Saturday 9-4, Sunday 10-3 THE LARGEST HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW IN MAINE!

Definitely worth the trip to Augusta and right off the exit! 41<sup>st</sup> Holiday Arts & Crafts Show December 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>

USM Sullivan Gym 66 Falmouth St., Portland

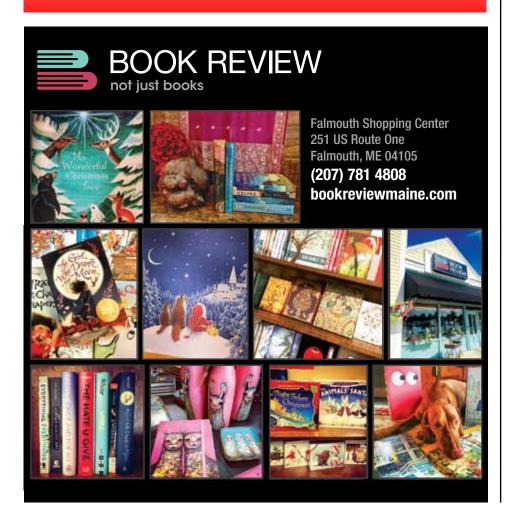
Saturday 9-4, Sunday 10-3 OUR 2nd LONGEST RUNNING SHOW AND LAST OF THE SEASON!

Holiday shopping made fun & easy!



www.unitedmainecraftsmen.com ~ a non-profit organization ~ 207-621-2818





### **WORDS**

in the distance. A person appears stage right walking a dog. DOG WALKER (CLARA) is mature but ageless. She moves down stage left at a slow pace then back to upstage right, stopping and starting so that she seems to be walking on this road. She is the narrative presence. The other characters do not acknowledge her.)

### DOG WALKER

(Entering.)

This is the best time of day on island.

Peaceful. The sun not up. Walking the dog.

(To the dog.)

Come on, Maisie. Out of there. Sunrise feels like a miracle. The same thing happened yesterday and will happen tomorrow. It couldn't be less of a miracle. Still. You feel the planet beneath you, almost feel it spinning. Islands are more quiet than other places. Sounds carry, as if you were on a stage.

(Motorboats hum in the distance.) Boats head out to haul their traps. Today is August 3rd. It happens to be my sister-in-law Dottie's birthday. She's going to be 81. Our island is North Haven. In Penobscot Bay. We're one of a hundred islands dotting the bay, mostly unpopulated. Twelve miles long, three at the widest point, and thin as a finger in some places. Our year-round population is 351. In the summer, it's four times that. The summer people come and go.

(Behind the scrim, SUMMER PERSON walks stage right to left.)

Here's one now. Come on, Maisie. Don't know who that is. Mostly I recognize 'em, but less and less these days.

(The sound of a BICYCLE CLICKING BY.) There's one of the Chandler boys. Look just like their father.

(Sound of a car motor passing. She waves.) That's my niece, bringing her husband to work down at the Reynolds' place. I know all the islanders: I'm one myself.

(Sound of a baby CRYING.)
The Fosters have a new baby. Got their hands full with two already.
Lots of us are born here and live here all our lives. We get married here, have babies here, are widowed here.

(Behind scrim TWO WALKERS enter stage left to cross right on their brisk morning walk.)

### 1ST WALKER

I'm not kidding, this is the last time we all get a house together.

2ND WALKER

But where else are you going to find?

1ST WALKER

Me? I'm not moving. They can be the ones to move.

(They exit.)

### **DOG WALKER**

Summer people aren't always friendly. We year-rounders might not look friendly, but we are. You just have to bother saying hello. (SOUND OF JOGGING SNEAKERS ON PAVEMENT. A female jogger, SAL-LY WELD, appears from stage right, running. She slows down, seeing the dog.)

**SALLY** 

Look at you, puppy! Morning, Maisie.

DOG WALKER

Morning.

**SALLY** 

(Bending to pat the dog)
Yes, you're Daisy's friend, aren't you?

**DOG WALKER** 

That's right.

**SALLY** 

You have a good winter, Maisie?

DOG WALKER

Not too bad. April always lasts too long.

SALLY

Winter was hard.

(Standing, a little disturbed)

You have a nice walk... Bye, Maisie.

(Exits left.)

**DOG WALKER** 

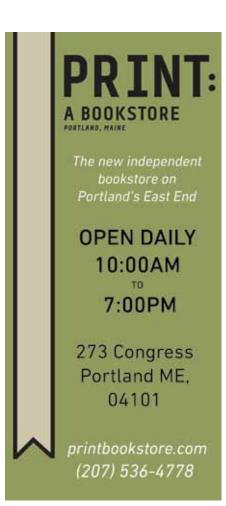
That's one of the Weld girls. I think she's the older, Sally.

(Sound of FERRY HORN)

The morning boat. Leaves 7:30. Ferry goes back and forth three times a day. Come on along, Maisie. Trip's just over an hour from the mainland. Or America, as we call it.

(Heading off stage left.)

Don't go there much. If we can help it. (Exits.) ■





### MAINE'S PREMIER INTERNATIONAL AUCTION COMPANY

"We're thinking about moving to a smaller place, but we don't know what our things are worth..."



Find out what your treasures are worth.

- FREE APPRAISAL TUESDAYS 10:00 AM-NOON & 1:30-4:00 PM
- SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS
- SEND US A PHOTO

Meissen Buddha nodder sold for \$19,800

ine Art | Antiques | Decorative Items | Jewelry | Coins | Vehicles



Always Accepting Quality Consignments 51 Atlantic Highway (US Route 1),  $\,\,|\,\,$  Thomaston, Maine  $\,\,\cdot\,\,207.354.8141$ 

THOMASTONAUCTION.COM | APPRAISAL@THOMASTONAUCTION.COM