

'God of Carnage' is a comedic look at rage

By Lisa Britton

Go! Magazine

BAKER CITY — Most everyone has found themselves in an awkward situation when conversation is stilted and uncomfortable, and time drags on and on.

But what happens when emotions spike, fueled by a fierce sense of protection for children and maybe a little bit of drinking?

French playwright Yasmina Reza explores this scenario in "God of Carnage," a play that debuted in 2008 and won Tony Awards in 2009 for Best Play, Best Actor, Best Actress and Best Director. It was translated into English by Christopher Hampton.

Eastern Oregon Regional Theatre is presenting "God of Carnage" over two weekends this month: Aug. 12-14 and Aug. 19-21.

Shows are 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday at the theater, 2101 Main St. Tickets are \$15 adults, \$13 for EORT members and \$8 for students. Purchase tickets at www.easternoregonregionalthatre.com or by calling 541-523-9652.

This play does contain adult language.

THE PLAY

"God of Carnage" is, says Director Abby Dennis, "a comedy about rage."

When a playground dispute results in one child breaking two teeth of another with a stick because he was not allowed to join the gang, the two sets of parents decide to meet and discuss the matter.

The gathering is formal and awkward for these couples, who attempt to talk about the incident (the attacker should face his responsibilities, Veronica insists after she reads a typed statement explaining the situation).

And every time the talk seems to hit a smooth patch, Alan's phone suddenly rings (he's a lawyer) and everyone else must sit quietly and try not to listen to his side of the conversation.

But soon the civility devolves into childish behavior — foreshadowed early when Annette says "How many parents, defend-

IF YOU GO

'God of Carnage'

Aug. 12-14 and Aug. 19-21

Eastern Oregon Regional Theatre
2101 Main St., Baker City

\$15 adults, \$13 EORT members, \$8 students

Looking ahead

"Kitchen Witches" — Sept. 23-25,

Sept. 30-Oct. 2

"The Enchanted Bookshop" — Oct.

28-30, Nov. 4-4

"Scrooge in Rouge" — Dec. 2-4, Dec.

9-11

Auditions

Find out about upcoming auditions on the Facebook page for Eastern Oregon Regional Theatre, or visit www.easternoregonregionalthatre.com.



Lisa Britton/Go! Magazine

The cast of "God of Carnage" rehearses on Aug. 3, 2022. Pictured is, left to right, Julia Krohn, Kristian Krohn, Jay Billings and Channin Becker.

ing their children, turn infantile themselves?"

"Things get real," Dennis said. "Rum comes out, purses are thrown, very poor language is used."

"God of Carnage" has no intermission and only four cast members: Julia Krohn, Kristian Krohn, Jay Billings and Channin Becker.

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