

BLT 2023 Season – November Bar Show Audition Notice
***There Are No Beginnings* by Charley Miles directed by Gillian Gissing**

Playing Dates	Wednesday 22 nd to Sunday 26 th November 2023
Audition Date/Time	Sunday 12 th February 2023 14.30 to 15.30

About the Play

There Are No Beginnings is about the terrible impact Peter Sutcliffe (labelled the “Yorkshire Ripper”) had on women and girls living in Yorkshire in the 1970s. The fear and the restrictions placed on their freedom which became part of daily life for years. They were effectively put under curfew and grouped into ‘the innocent’ or ‘the others’ by the press and even some of those whose job it was to protect them and catch the killer.

Inspired by her mother’s experiences as a teenager growing up in 70’s Yorkshire, Miles became determined tell this story. The play is based on her extensive research and hours spent listening to local women. She says ‘This play was written for, and about, the women of Leeds – of the 1970s and beyond. Women who have failed to be portrayed with voice and agency, women who continue to be underestimated and forgotten.’

The play provides 4 excellent, challenging female roles. It’s full of insight, anger, empathy and humour. As such, it is the perfect companion to the November Main House production, ***The Incident Room***.

‘this stage is a platform for women’s voices.’

The Guardian, 2019

Characters

June is based on one of the women Miles interviewed. A Women’s Aid case worker who was supporting vulnerable teenage girls in Leeds at the time. June is probably in her 40s or 50s.

Sharon, her daughter – aged 15 at the start of the play and who must grow up quickly during the 5 dramatic years covered by the play.

Helen, one of the girls June looks after, who is being groomed by her ‘boyfriend’ – aged 14 when we first meet her.

Fiona, a WPC trying to build a career in the Police, is in her 20s.

These are playing ages only and all actors require credible Northern accents.

Audition Pieces

June	p 77-79	I'm not much used to grand speeches but... to To new beginnings...
Sharon	p 118-121	I always think it's a bit weird toasting your new life times like these cos to Here's to Helen.
Helen	p 96-97	Cos I'm angry. to Well I'm not.
Fiona	p 36-37	It's not my job taking care of people. to She'll thank me for doing this.
All	p 13-15	June: Stand up Ellen. to Fiona: Summat not right there, if you catch my drift.

If you'd like to read a copy of the script or request any Audition Pieces, please contact me by email on gillian@gissinghome.com