

Audition Notice

The Long Road by Shelagh Stephenson

Directed by Jane and Nick Foster

Production Assistant: Vicky van Manen



COURTYARD THEATRE
CHIPSTEAD PLAYERS

Performances	Monday 2nd November to Saturday 7th November 2026
Read-through	Tuesday 2nd June 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Rehearsal Room (bar opens at 7.00 pm)
Auditions	Wednesday 10th June at 7.30 pm and Sunday 14th June at 2.00 pm (both in the Rehearsal Room)

Rehearsals will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1st September at 7.30 pm and Sundays from 11th October at 2.00 pm.

If you can't make the read-through, but would like to audition, please contact Vicky for a script (phone 07734 869664 or email vicky.vanmanen@icloud.com)

If you would like to audition, but can't make either of the audition dates, please contact Jane or Nick (phone 07971 179952 or e-mail jane_foster16@hotmail.com) and we will arrange another time to see you.

Synopsis

When eighteen-year-old Danny is fatally stabbed in a random attack, his family is left trying to make sense of an unimaginable loss. At the centre of the play is his mother's determination to understand the violence that took her son's life, a journey that brings her face to face with his killer, and forces the whole family to confront grief, anger, and the possibility of forgiveness.

This powerful play evolved out of a period of research with prisoners, and the author dedicates it to "all those prisoners taking their first faltering footsteps towards redemption and understanding, and all those victims who choose to meet them on the road."

Characters and audition pieces

Please note that the ages given in the descriptions below are not critical. However, due to the nature of the play and the very strong language used, you must be age 16 or over to audition for the part of Emma

Mary – Fifties, Danny's mother

Audition pieces:

- P4 "I'd fallen asleep" to "the world was changed in an instant."
- P14 "You should have told them" to P16 "I'd like that"
- P33 "Were you actually going to send this?" to P35 "Or maybe you disagree?"
- P44 "Hello" to P45 "Good for him."

John – Fifties, Danny's father

Audition pieces: P5 "I've taken up running" to "like an empty cupboard."
P11 "You shouldn't have left him" to P12 "You are blaming me."
P33 "Were you actually going to send this?" to P35 "Or maybe you disagree?"

Joe – Around 20, Danny's brother

Audition pieces: P3 (start) to "I'm doing the best I can."
P11 "You shouldn't have left him" to P12 "You are blaming me."
P33 "Were you actually going to send this?" to P35 "Or maybe you disagree?"

Emma – Around 18, in prison for Danny's murder

Audition pieces: P6 "Everybody hates me" to P7 "Something like that."
P28 "I was just asking about your arm to P31 "turns girl into killer."
P44 "Hello" to P45 "Good for him."

Elizabeth – Thirties/forties, a counsellor

Audition pieces: P14 "You should have told them" to P16 "I'd like that"
P28 "I was just asking about your arm to P31 "turns girl into killer."