



**Jayne Deely** (they/them)

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## EDUCATION

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### INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON – BLOOMINGTON, IN

MFA Playwriting, GPA 4.0 (Advisors Peter Gil-Sheridan, Diana Grisanti, Tanya Palmer, Liz Duffy Adams)

### FORDHAM UNIVERSITY IN LINCOLN CENTER – NEW YORK, NY

Honors Program, B.A. in Playwriting/English, GPA 4.0, graduated summa cum laude

## SELECTED PLAYWRITING HISTORY

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### *Upcoming: When Pluto was a Planet, or, the millennial disappointment play*

Fresh Group Pepper Playground Playgroup, Public Reading June 2024, NYC

### *I never asked for a gofundme (2023)*

*Developed at the New Harmony Writers Conference (2023)*

*Eugene O'Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference Finalist, 2024*

*Dramatists Guild Foundation National Fellowship Finalist 23-24*

*Diverse Voices Playwriting Initiative at Illinois State University 2024 Finalist*

*Terrence McNally New Play Incubator Semi-Finalist (2024)*

Available for Premiere.

Millie is back home in Mobile, AL for a prestigious fellowship she couldn't pass up. Her partner, Avery, just had top surgery. Quasi-aunt and righteous woman of God Teresa overhears Millie at CVS and assumes Avery has breast cancer. Cue casseroles, care packages, and checkbooks – a gofundme to SAVE AVERY! *I never asked for a gofundme* is a new queer comedy about gender and religion that asks what it means to be worthy of care.

### *Walter Mercado presents: a queer Puerto Rican (not just) Christmxxs Spectacular (2022)*

*Avant Barde Theatre, Scripts in Play Reading Festival - Staged Reading (January '24)*

*Austin Film Festival 2023 Semi-Finalist*

*Lift Every Voice New Play Festival, American Stage (March '23)*

*Eugene O'Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference Semi-Finalist, 2023*

*Workshop Production, IU Bloomington, Fall 2022, directed by Raelle Myrick-Hodges (as 'Decolonizing your mind with Walter Mercado')*

Available for Premiere.

We all need a little help sometimes. Identity is confusing. Dating is HARD. Some of us go to therapy. And some of us – wait until it gets bad enough that our dead abuela (lookin HOT, btw) sends three Puerto Rican ancestors/icons our way on Christmas Eve to get us back on track by taking us on a tour of our past, present, and future.

Meet Zee. It was just supposed to be three dates, but Walter Mercado has other plans. A Christmas play about gender, Puerto Rico, and accepting a helping hand from the ancestors.

Oh, and sobre todo mucho, mucho, mucho ... Not yet.

### ***unqle play – Full-length (2022)***

*Fulton Theatre Festival of New Works: Stories of Diversity – Staged Reading ( 2023)*

*Kennedy Center American College Theatre Fest. Winner – Latinx Playwriting Award (2023)*

*Kennedy Center American College Theatre Fest. Dist. Achievement – Paula Vogel Playwriting Award (2023)*

*Constellation Stage and Screen Woodward/Newman Award - Top 10 Finalist (2023)*

*The Jane Chambers Playwriting Award Finalist (2022)*

*Bay Area Playwrights Festival Semi-Finalist 2022*

Available for Premiere.

*unqle play* unqle play is the story of unqle and fave, both gay, one sober, one not, one dying, one not, one cis, one not, navigating their relationship, their history, and their shared legacy within the context of one epic last conversation. It is a 90-minute negotiation of terms of what it means to tell someone's story, how much we can ask of those who leave us, and what it means to say goodbye.

Bear witness to a moment of history as two loving combatants spar through generational ideas of queer liberation using drag, Sondheim, and Catholicism in this highly theatrical exploration of love, grief, and the shifting values of the queer community.

### ***30 Seconds – Full-length (2021)***

*Alleyway Theatre, Maxim Mazumdar New Play Award, Finalist, 2022*

*Renaissance Theaterworks' Br!NK Residency Award 2021*

*PLAY/write: The Jackie Demaline Regional Collegiate Playwriting Competition, Honorable Mention 2021*

*Coe College Playwriting Festival Winner 2021*

*Eugene O'Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference Semi-Finalist 2021*

*Bay Area Playwrights Festival Semi-Finalist 2021*

*IU Bloomington At First Sight Festival 2020 – Staged Reading*

Available for Premiere.

Max is a precocious kid, overachieving and a little anxious, sure, but mostly well adjusted. She's got a lot going on, but she's on top of it. Adult supervision not required. Besides, adults are overrated and for the most part, unhelpful.

When Max starts receiving mysterious threatening notes at school, she embarks on her own hunt for the culprit, which leads her down a path from which she might never find her way back, as a simple whodunit threatens to leave us all wondering what it means to be a kid in a chaotic world.

A play about memory that asks if we're all just seeing what we want to see and challenges us to look at who we're willing to believe and why.

## AWARDS

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Finalist, Dramatists Guild Foundation National Fellowship – 2023-2024

Finalist, Diverse Voices Playwriting Initiative at Illinois State University 2024

Finalist, Anderson Center at Tower View's 2024 Emerging Artist Residency Program 2024

Semi-Finalist, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference – 2023 – *Walter Mercado*

Finalist, Constellation Stage and Screen Woodward/Newman Award – 2023 – *unqle play*

Winner, Kennedy Center Latinx Playwriting Award – 2023 – *unqle play*

Distinguished Achievement, Kennedy Center Paula Vogel Playwriting Award – 2023 – *unqle play*

Finalist, Maxim Mazumdar New Play Award, Alleyway Theatre – 2022 – *30 Seconds*

Finalist, Jane Chambers Award – 2022 – *unqle play*

Winner, Kennedy Center Region 3 Full-Length Play Award – 2022 – *unqle play*

Distinguished Achievement, The Kennedy Center Latinx Playwriting Award – 2022 – *Waycross*

Semi-Finalist, Bay Area Playwrights Festival – 2022 – *unqle play*

Semi-Finalist, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference – 2021 – *30 Seconds*

Semi-Finalist, Bay Area Playwrights Festival – 2021 – *30 Seconds*

Winner, BriNK Residency Award at Renaissance Theatreworks – 2021 – *30 Seconds*

Winner, Coe College Bi-Annual Playwriting Award – 2021 – *30 Seconds*

Winner, John Cauble Award for Outstanding Short Play, KCACTF 2021 – *Outraged*

Honorable Mention, PLAY/write: The Jackie Demaline Collegiate Playwriting Comp, 2021 – *30 Seconds*

Top 40 Finalist, UCF Pegasus Playlab 2020 - *Passing*

## SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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ASSOCIATE INSTRUCTOR, IU BLOOMINGTON

09/2020 – 12/22

Classes taught: Intro to Playwriting, Playwriting Workshop, Script Analysis

- ➔ Maintain a supportive, encouraging learning environment in which students feel equipped to take risks without focusing on product. There is no good or bad, there is only inspiration and intention, and I consider it my job to help students most clearly tell their stories in the way that feels right to them.
- ➔ Foster discussion that focuses on interrogating a playwright's intention; what play were they trying to write, what play did they write? What stuck with us? What questions are we left with?
- ➔ Acknowledge that creating art is a vulnerable task, and honor that every time we share our work.
- ➔ Solicit submissions for and help organize the 'undergrad shorts' night of new plays by undergrad writers, which takes place during IU's At First Sight Festival of New Works.

PLAYWRIGHT-IN-RESIDENCE, NEW VOICES FOR THE THEATRE, SPARC June 2022

- ➔ Read, evaluate, and help select plays to be produced as part of the New Voices program, making it a priority to create a group of plays and playwrights that offer a variety of experiences, backgrounds, voices, and goals.
- ➔ Plan and facilitate a two week intensive playwriting workshop for the selected playwrights (ages 15-18), covering the basics of playwriting structure and rewriting, workshopping their plays within the small cohort, and offering exercises to sharpen and strengthen their plays prior to a rehearsal process.
- ➔ Act as support for the playwrights as they move into a rehearsal process, assisting them as they navigate their role in the room and their relationship with their director, actors, and production team.

## SELECTED ACTING HISTORY

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UNQLE PLAY	Niece	IUB (dir. Andrew Borthwick-Leslie)
THE WELL OF HORNINESS	Garnet McClit	IUB Theatre and Dance (dir. RJ Hodde)
PROVENANCE (Reading)	Cindy Jacobs	Repertorio Espanol (Leah Gardiner)
CLEMENTINE IN THE LOWER 9	Cassy (World Premiere)	Palo Alto Theatreworks (Leah Gardiner)
SPEECH AND DEBATE	Diwata (Reg. Premiere)	Aurora Theatre (Robin Stanton)
A CIVIL WAR CHRISTMAS	Raz/Ensemble	Palo Alto Theatreworks (Robert Kelley)

## LANGUAGES

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English, Spanish

## SKILLS

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Final Draft Pro, Scenearchive, experienced in Mac and PC, Word, Excel, Powerpoint