

HELLO, I'M EDGAR LOESSIN WITH LOESSIN AT LARGE. IMAGINE, IF YOU WILL, A PLOT WHERE MAC BETH AND HIS LADY HAVE A CHILD. THEIR AMBITIONS FOR HIS WELFARE EXCEED ALL LEVELS OF DECENCY AND MORALITY. THEY WILL DO ANYTHING, AND I DO MEAN ANYTHING, TO GET THEIR SON OFF THE MILE LONG WAITING LIST TO ATTEND AN ELITE PRE-SCHOOL, CALLED BRIGHT IDEAS. PLAYWRIGHT ERIC COBLE TAKES THE SCHOOL'S NAME AS THE TITLE FOR HIS QUITE ENJOYABLE SATIRICAL COMEDY. HE ALSO BORROWS NOT VERY SUBTLY FROM SHAKESPEARE. THE MACBETHS BECOME THE BRADLEYS. WIFE GENEVRA, PLAYED WITH HUMOROUS SKILL BY LAURA MURPHY, IS NICELY PARTNERED BY THE QUITE TALENTED CLYDE BERRY AS HUSBAND, JOSHUA. THE BRADLEYS, ARE JUST MIDDLE CLASS FOLKS, BUT THEIR

AMBITIONS AND GOALS FOR THEIR PRECIOUS CHILD PRODIGY, NAMED MAC, SOON BRING THEM INTO THE WORLD OF THE PRIVILEGED, THE NOBILITY, IF YOU WILL. THE UPPER CRUSTS HAVE NAMES SUCH AS MISS HEATH, MRS. CAITHNESS, ROSS, COACH ANGUS, AND MRS. LENNOX, WHO ARE, OF COURSE, THE NOBLEMEN IN MACBETH. THREE ACTORS, FOYE DASHIELL, JOHN CAUTHEN AND TENNILLE HADDEN PLAY MULTIPLE ROLES AND DO SO WITH AMUSING INVENTION. THE BRADLEYS EXPLORE SEVERAL SCHOOLS, EACH MORE OUTRAGEOUS THEN THE ONE BEFORE. THE GENERAL IDEA IS THAT IF YOU GIVE YOUR CHILD TO THEM FOR FOUR YEARS HE WILL EMERGE AS A MAN. AND WHAT'S MORE, A MAN WHO IS PERFECT IN EVERY WAY. THE BRADLEYS SUCCUMB TO THE VARIOUS PREPOSTEROUS EDUCATIONAL THEORIES AND PRACTICES. AT

BRIGHT IDEAS, THE PRE-SCHOOLER IS EVALUATED IN 39 AREAS FOR INSTANCE. THERE ARE FIERCE COMPETITIONS, HIGHLY COVETED AWARDS, AND NOT ONE MOMENT IS UNSCHEDULED IN THE CHILD'S LIFE. WE NEVER SEE THE CHILDREN, BUT GET LARGE DOSES OF THE RATHER MESSED UP MOMS AND DADS. AS FOR THE BRADLEYS, WELL YOU KNOW HOW THE MACBETHS END UP. GENEVRA AND JOSHUA BRADLEY FARE ONLY SLIGHTLY BETTER. JEFF CORRIVEAU HAS GUIDED HIS PLAYERS WITH DEFT, PARODIC YET BELIEVABLE BEHAVIOR IN PATTY ELLISON'S CLEVER, PLAY BLOCKS SET. GOOD LIGHTING BY WILLIAM MCGHEE AND FUN COSTUMES BY LAURA WIGGINGTON CONTRIBUTE TO THE SLICK PRODUCTION. LAURA MURPHY IS AN ACTRESS WITH LOTS OF CREATIVE ENERGY. I WISH THAT THAT SHE AND DIRECTOR

CORRIVEAU WOULD GET TOGETHER AND DISCUSS THE ORCHESTRATION OR PROGRESSION AN ACTOR MUST USE IN DEVELOPING A CHARACTER. SHE IS ALLOWED TO DO TOO MUCH TOO SOON. SHE PLAYS THE END OF THE PLAY FROM THE VERY BEGINNING AND GIVES HERSELF NOWHERE TO GO WHEN SHE IS TRULY BONKERS AMIDST A SEA OF BALLOONS. I MIGHT ADD THAT MAC'S BIRTHDAY CAKE SEEMS MIGHTY SMALL FOR PEOPLE OF SUCH S. HOWEVER, THIS IS BY FAR ONE OF THE BETTER EFFORTS OF THE GENERIC THEATRE THAT I HAVE SEEN. IT BODES WELL FOR THEIR SEASON. THIS IS EDGAR LOESSIN WITH LOESSIN AT LARGE AND I'LL SEE YOU AT THE NEXT OPENING.