

STARKVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE

Presents



*The  
Exact  
Center  
of the  
Universe*

A Comedy by  
Joan Vail Thorne



Mississippi Theatre Association Festival  
January 18, 19 and 20, 2002

# STARKVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE

Presents

## Act Two of THE EXACT CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE

By  
JOAN VAIL THORNE

DIRECTED BY BOB ANDERSON  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR...JOAN EMBREE

Set Design by Bob Anderson

### CAST OF CHARACTERS (In order of Appearance)

APPLETON POWELL, JR.....LYLE TATE  
VADA LOVE POWELL.....MARSHA WILLIAMS  
MARY LOU MELE.....MARIANNE ULMER  
MR. POWELL.....LYLE TATE  
ENID SYMONDS.....TERRY MCDOWELL  
MARYBELL BAXTER.....MADELINE GOLDEN  
MARY ANN MELE POWELL .....MARIANNE ULMER

The setting is Vada's sitting room...a small town in the Deep South  
Act Two takes place in the nineteen-sixties

#### The Travelling Crew

Lights and Sound Operator.....Edwin Ellis  
Properties.....Wingfield Bouchard and the cast  
Sound Design ..... Edwin Ellis  
Stage Crew.....Bob Anderson, Clyde Williams,  
Joan Embree, Wingfield Bouchard, and the cast

Produced by Special Arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

Wayne Durst and the MSU Department of Communication  
Jack White and the MSU Honors College  
Dr. George Walker  
Paula Mabry and the Starkville High School Theatre  
Joan Wilson

## **A BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF ACT ONE**

**Time: the nineteen-fifties**

“Vada Love Powell, the self-appointed doyenne of a small Southern town, has invited Mary Lou Mele to tea. It’s Vada’s intention to scare off another prospective bride for her beloved son, Apple, but she meets her match in Mary Lou, who’s pretending to be her twin sister, Mary Ann, whom Apple secretly married that very afternoon.

In scene two, Vada must face her best friends, Marybell Baxter and Enid Symonds, in Enid’s tree house, where the three gather to ‘play canasta and consume sweets.’ Marybell and Enid agree that Vada ‘had this one coming,’ but Vada pretends that nothing untoward or out of the ordinary has happened. It’s a complete surprise when Apple returns with his shy bride, who astounds even Vada with her love for him.

**Act Two begins ten years later.**

Excerpted from:

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