

# PITFALLS AND TREASURES



BY TARA MEDDAUGH

MARY'S  
MONOLOGUE

Copyright © 2021 by Tara Meddaugh

All rights reserved. No part of this monologue may be reproduced in any form or by any electronic or mechanical means, including information storage and retrieval systems, without permission in writing from the author, except by a reviewer, who may quote brief passages in a review. Any members of educational institutions wishing to photocopy part or all of the work for classroom use, or publishers who would like to obtain permission to include the work in an anthology, should send their inquiries via email to [tmeddaugh@gmail.com](mailto:tmeddaugh@gmail.com).

CAUTION. Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that *Pitfalls and Treasures* is subject to a royalty. All rights, including professional, amateur, motion picture, recitation, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound taping, all other forms of mechanical or electronic reproduction, such as information storage and retrieval systems and photocopying, and rights of translation into foreign languages, are strictly reserved.

**PITFALLS AND TREASURES – Mary’s monologue**  
By  
Tara Meddaugh

**About the play, *Pitfalls and Treasures*:**

Mary and Andrew are lonely and troubled seagulls, each ostracized by their former flocks. When Mary embarks on the desperate challenge of removing twine wrapped around Andrew’s leg, they both must decide how much to trust each other in the hope of finding a better life.

**About the monologue:**

While Mary is helping Andrew search through a littered parking lot for something that will help cut off the twine wrapped around his leg, she warns him of dangerous litter pitfalls which might appear treasures to Andrew if he is not careful. Andrew has sincere gratitude for Mary and marvels at how he survived without her. Mary warns him not to be too open and trusting of her—or anyone, as she gets lost in thoughts of her own experience.

**DETAILS**

Genre: Dark comedy/heightened/drama

Cast: Female

Age range: late teens through adult

Setting: Outside, parking lot

Time period: Present

Running time: Approximately 30 seconds

---

**MARY**

Even if someone is trustworthy, it doesn’t mean they can thwart death for themselves, or revive a nest full of eggs that will never hatch, or prevent leaving you entirely alone and excluded from everyone because they think a curse is wrapped around your neck and follows you everywhere you go—even though your neck is your best feature! So you were once told... Trusting an individual is not the same as trusting circumstances. Circumstances are reliably unreliable.

**END OF MONOLOGUE**

For more information on Mary and the play, *Pitfalls and Treasures*, visit:  
[www.tarameddaugh.com/pitfalls-and-treasures-a-10minute-play](http://www.tarameddaugh.com/pitfalls-and-treasures-a-10minute-play)

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



Tara's plays have been presented by theater companies such as Fusion Theatre, Mosaic Theater Company of DC, The Directors Company, Le Petit Theatre de Terrebonne, Theatre One, Tutti Bravi Productions, Westchester Collaborative Theater, Possibilities Theater, Tagragg Productions, One Armed Man, Oracle Theatre, Inc, The Acme Theatre Company, The Harlequin Players, Woman Seeking..., and numerous schools, universities and colleges including Gardner-Webb, Prince Williams, and Colgate. Her work has showcased at festivals such as the Artists of Tomorrow Festival in NYC, The Bangkok Community Theatre Fringe Festival, the Pittsburgh New Works Series and the Last Frontier Theatre Conference in Alaska. Tens of thousands of teachers, actors and students world-wide have utilized her monologues for competitions, course material, auditions, performances, and showcases. Tara has taught Playwriting at Carnegie Mellon, the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, and for The Westport Country Playhouse, and she has led Creative Dramatics Workshops for children in underserved areas throughout New York and New Jersey. Additionally, she has script consulted on several animation and VR projects. Tara's work has been published by YouthPLAYS, Smith & Kraus, Oxford Press South Africa, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA), Limelight Editions/Applause Acting Series, The Hunger Journal, Meriweather Publishing, Applause Theatre & Cinema, Performer Stuff and Ace-Your-Audition. She is a recipient of the Shubert Fellowship in Dramatic Writing, the Sloan Screenwriting Fellowship, the New Works for Young Women [Actors] Award, The Write Stuff Award, and is a member of the Dramatist's Guild. Tara holds her MFA in Dramatic Writing from Carnegie Mellon University.

For more information about Tara Meddaugh or her work,  
visit her website at [www.tarameddaugh.com](http://www.tarameddaugh.com).

For permission to perform, contact [tmeddaugh@gmail.com](mailto:tmeddaugh@gmail.com).