

1960

FORT SMITH LITTLE THEATRE, INC.

Presents

A Workshop Reading

of

THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH

by

Thornton Wilder

(By special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.)

Directed by

TOM OLIVER

Produced by

MARY ANN THOMPSON

CAST

(In order of appearance)

Announcer.....Ed Drimmel
 Sabina.....Carla Mitchell
 Mrs. Antrobus.....Mary Elizabeth Sims
 Telegraph Boy Selwyn Lichty
 Gladys..... Charlotte Milstead
 Henry.....John Woods
 Mr. Antrobus..... Bob Davenport
 Judge..... Selwyn Lichty
 HomerAllan Langdon
 Miss E. Muse..... Mary Ann Thompson
 Miss T. Muse.....Louise Gisler
 Fortune Teller.....Lois Bliss
 Mr. Fitzpatrick.....Ed Drimmel
 Mr. Tremayne..... Selwyn Lichty
 Fred Bailey.....Allan Langdon
 Hester.....Louise Gisler
 Ivy.....Mary Ann Thompson

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The Time is Now and Always.

ACT I

The home of Mr. and Mrs. George Antrobus in Excelsior, New Jersey.

ACT II

The Boardwalk at Atlantic City.

ACT III

The home of Mr. and Mrs. George Antrobus in Excelsior, New Jersey

NOTES ABOUT THE PLAY

The Skin of Our Teeth was first presented in New Haven, Connecticut, on October 15, 1942. In the original cast were Tallulah Bankhead, Frederic March, Florence Eldridge, Florence Reed, and Montgomery Clift. Thornton Wilder, the author, won the Pulitzer Prize for the writing of this play. Wilder is best remembered for his play Our Town, another Pulitzer Prize Winner.

The Skin of Our Teeth was written as a war play. However, it is as timely today as it was in 1942. Mr. Wilder chose as his theme the durability of the human race and the survival of the fittest. When the United States entered World War II, rather than present his thesis as a tragedy, Mr. Wilder, instead, wrote the play as a comedy, gently poking fun at the race, historians, the theatre, and anything else which attracted the attention of the public.

This play was not an immediate success even though it won the Pulitzer Prize. Audiences became too embroiled in the author's and the director's and staging of the play to take time to listen to what the author had to say. However, anyone familiar with Our Town will know that that play was presented in an unconventional way, and that it was a success. In spite of this, The Skin of Our Teeth received in the beginning a mixed response from both audiences and critics during its first New York production. It was given a very successful New York production by the Theatre Department selected the comedy for production on a tour of Europe next year.