



Acts of Love: ...Don't Win a Girl's Heart Anymore

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by Duncan Pflaster

Kathryn Chetkovitch's new play *Acts of Love* is standard soap opera fare- a boy brings his girlfriend home to meet his parents, and a shocking secret is revealed. However, Ms. Chetkovitch's supreme character development and [Marc Geller](#)'s taut direction keep the play interesting and exciting.

That's all I can really reveal about the plot, lest I give away the gradually more and more astonishing (not to say far-fetched) twists.

Andrew Rein bristles with collegiate angst as Tom, and Abby Royle plays Annie with alternating layers of calculation and feigned innocence. But the play belongs to the two mature actors- Andrew Dawson is gloriously curmudgeonly as Ed, especially when his hardened veneer begins to crack, and Diane Tyler is full of repressed longings as Sheila.



The scenic design by Aaron Mastin is a wonderfully detailed Summer cottage (though why there's a conspicuous pair of ice skates is confusing).

The show has just been extended through December 16
The Lion Theatre on Theatre Row
410 West 42nd Street (between 9th & 10th Avenues)

Tickets: \$45. For reservations call: (212) 279-4200 or visit www.ticketcentral.com

Duncan Pflaster is an award-winning playwright (2 time winner, Spotlight On Award, "Best New Play" 2005 and 2006), whose plays have been produced in Florida, Georgia, New Jersey, and New York. He also has been known to direct, write music, play the ukulele, and (if his arm is twisted) act.