

Spring 2016

Obsessive Love and Nostalgia for Neverland: The Dark Side of Fantasy Fiction in John Logan's *Peter and Alice*

Jansen Castleberry

University of North Georgia, jlcast1647@ung.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.northgeorgia.edu/eng_capstone



Part of the [English Language and Literature Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Castleberry, Jansen, "Obsessive Love and Nostalgia for Neverland: The Dark Side of Fantasy Fiction in John Logan's *Peter and Alice*" (2016). *Department of English Capstone Abstracts*. 6.

http://digitalcommons.northgeorgia.edu/eng_capstone/6

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Department of English at Nighthawks Open Institutional Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Department of English Capstone Abstracts by an authorized administrator of Nighthawks Open Institutional Repository.

Jansen Castleberry
Fall 2015
Abstract

Obsessive Love and Nostalgia for Neverland: The Dark Side of Fantasy Fiction in
John Logan's Peter and Alice

John Logan's play *Peter and Alice* explores the relationships of the people behind *Peter Pan* and *Alice in Wonderland*. Peter Llewelyn Davies and Alice Hargreaves meet in a bookshop and reminisce about the authors and fictional characters that helped develop their identities. All characters in the play, J.M. Barrie, Lewis Carroll, Peter Pan, and Alice in Wonderland help expose dark secrets about Peter and Alice while helping them connect to one another. Throughout his play, Logan shows the reality and repercussions of fantasy fiction. *Peter and Alice* illustrates how the biographical backgrounds of Peter and Alice have woven together with *Peter Pan* and *Alice in Wonderland* to create a darker legacy for once lighthearted children's stories. Logan mixes lighthearted fantastical moments and dark quiet remembrances to create a full picture of Peter and Alice's lives. Logan creates Neverland and Wonderland on stage by bringing all of the components of the story together. Peter and Alice bare the weight of being the real life representations of beloved characters and also finding their own identity away from the characters. Peter and Alice live in an in between space. They are in between real and fictional. They are in between adults and children. They are in between being victims of their pasts and icons due to their past. Logan uses their dichotomy to show the different types of trauma inflicted by being a muse, being loved too much, and being loved the wrong way.

