

Study Guide

by Samm Madsen,
Dramaturg

With Two Wings



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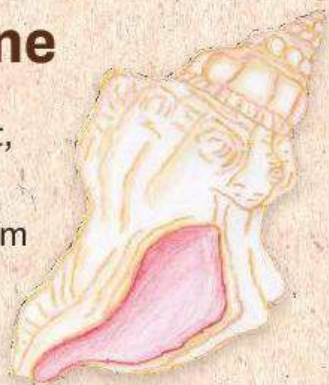
Anything you see in a **purple** nest with this icon signifies additional online content (like cool interviews and contest rules). Scan this QR code or visit <http://4thwalldramaturgy.byu.edu/with-two-wings> for access.



Writing Treasures with Anne



This is our playwright, Anne Negri. She is an incredible woman from Wisconsin. She teaches theater to kids in grades K–8 during the year and then writes plays during the summer. Not only is she a great writer, but she has great writing tips for kids like you!



1. Start by making an outline.

I start by making a little outline of where I think the story could go; that always helps me.

2. Force yourself to write the first draft.

The hardest part for me is to get the story written. It's always really rough. It's cheesy. It's everything I don't want a play to be. But once I finally have that draft, then I can get to the fun part.

3. Don't be afraid to rewrite!

The fun part for me is going back and editing. I think the first thing I put out is the worst you could possibly get. After that, what's left is refining it—taking a line out or realizing this line should be for this person instead of that person—and it just gets better and better and better.

4. Set deadlines (or have someone else help you set them).

I try to write a play a year, mainly when I am on summer vacation. It's actually hard for me to give myself personal deadlines. Luckily, in the last couple of years I've had companies that have said, "Hey! We want you to work on this for us and here are the deadlines." That's very helpful to me.

5. Get feedback (but don't let it get you down).

[When I workshop my plays], I bring the notebook on stage. When the feedback starts, no matter what anybody says, I nod—and then I either write it down because I actually think it applies to the play . . . or when someone says something that is kind of rude or like they are trying to rewrite my play, I just nod and pretend to write it down.

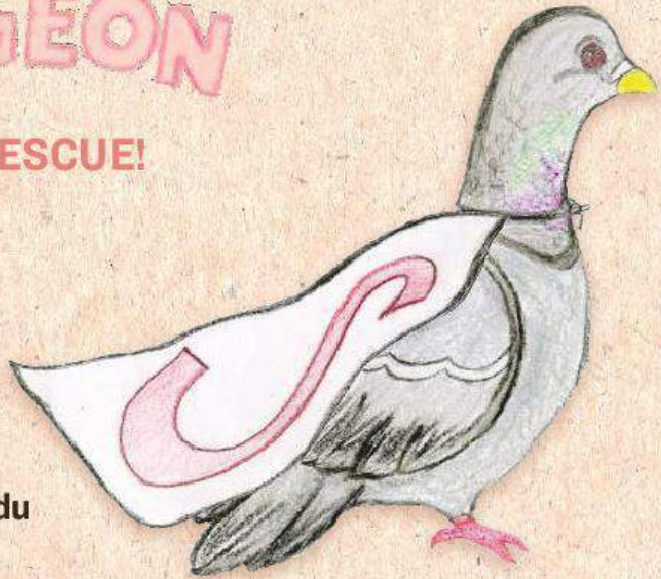
WRITING CONTEST

Anne Negri started writing when she was in elementary school, and so can you! In her play, Meta and Lyf let their imaginations run free and pretend to be a species of “smidgeons” (small pigeons). What if we could learn *more* about smidgeons? What if *you* are the one to write a scene about these creatures? What if your scene is so *great* that it gets selected for acting students at BYU to perform it? Sound too good to be true? Well it isn’t! We are inviting our audience members to submit a 1- or 2-page script for two characters, based on the title:

SMIDGEON

TO THE RESCUE!

The top three scripts will be performed and recorded by BYU acting majors and then posted on **4thwalldramaturgy.byu.edu** for the world to enjoy.

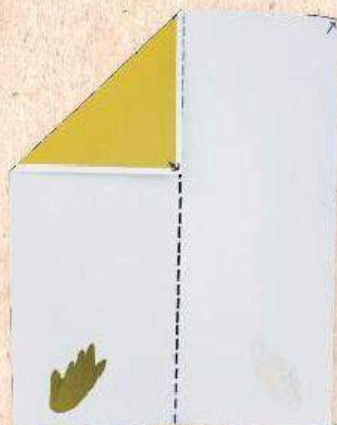


- Interview with Anne Negri
- Full Smidgeon Contest Details
- Example Scripts

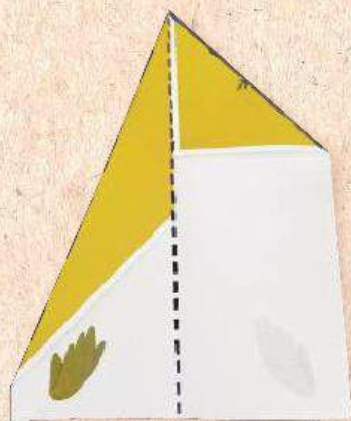
Games Galore with Meta, Taur, and Lyf



So you want to fold a champion paper airplane like me, huh? All you need to get started is a standard 8.5×11 piece of paper! (You can find this cool design online and print it out at home for free if you want!)



1. Fold the paper in half, hot dog style (fold the two long ends together).

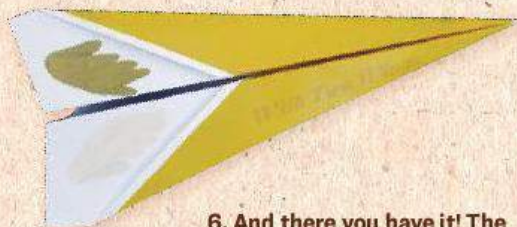


2. Open up the paper like a book. Fold the top two corners in toward the crease you just created in the middle (the dashed line). I've shown you how it should look on the left.

3. Fold the edge with the arrow pointing to it to the middle dashed line. Again, I've already done the left side for you to copy.



4. Fold the paper in half, so all of your previous folds are on the inside.



5. To make the wings, fold the ENTIRE top edge (with the arrow pointing to it) down to the bottom. Repeat on the other side.

6. And there you have it! The Best Paper Airplane Glider Ever! You can experiment to make it even better by adding paper clips in different places, or using thicker paper. Happy flying, dudes!



- Full text of the Icarus myth by Ovid
- *With Two Wings* airplane printable
- Bonus secret-code game with Meta



When I was researching my newspaper article, I decided to dig up more dirt on the story Lyf's mom tells her. Here's the real myth. You're welcome.

THE WINGED GAZETTE

Icarus Report

By Taur - Official Investigative Journalist

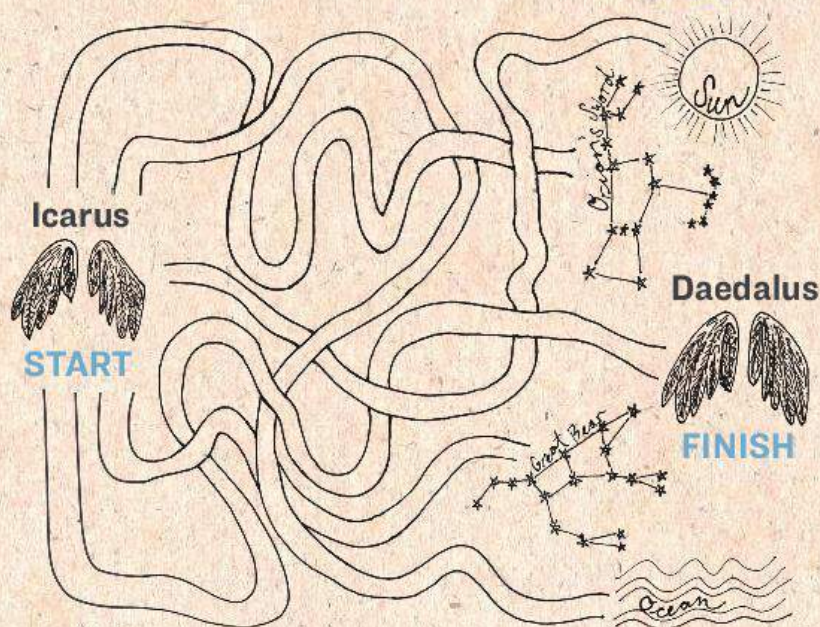
Myth Name: "Icarus and Daedalus" as recorded by Ovid.

Story: Inventor Daedalus is captive on an island with his son, Icarus. Daedalus invents wings so both of them can fly away. Before they take off, Daedalus counsels his son to fly "the middle course" so the sun doesn't melt the beeswax holding the wings together and the ocean doesn't dampen the feathers, making Icarus unable to fly. That wasn't the only trouble



thought Icarus also had to avoid certain constellations that might hurt him, like the great bear, or the tip of Orion's sword. When Daedalus and Icarus took flight, Icarus couldn't fly a middle course. He was tempted by the warm sun, so he flew too high where the sun melted his wings, sending him plummeting to certain death in the ocean!

Hi! I'm Lyf. Don't listen to Taur; Icarus's story doesn't have to end that way. I drew this map so he can have a different ending. Help Icarus choose the right path to make it over the ocean to his father.



Music Matching

This is our composer, CJ Madsen. He helped us create a musical theme (or short song) for each character in the show. When CJ wrote the themes, he asked each actor to bring him three words that describe the character they are portraying and then used those words to write a song on the spot! While you wait for the show to start you will hear those themes playing in the theatre. See if you can guess which character below (drawn by our talented makeup/hair designer, Madison Miller) goes with the song that is currently playing. Then watch the show to see if you were right! The themes will play the first time we see each character.





Making Music... For You!

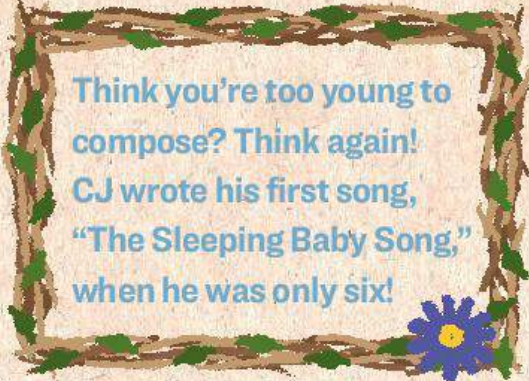
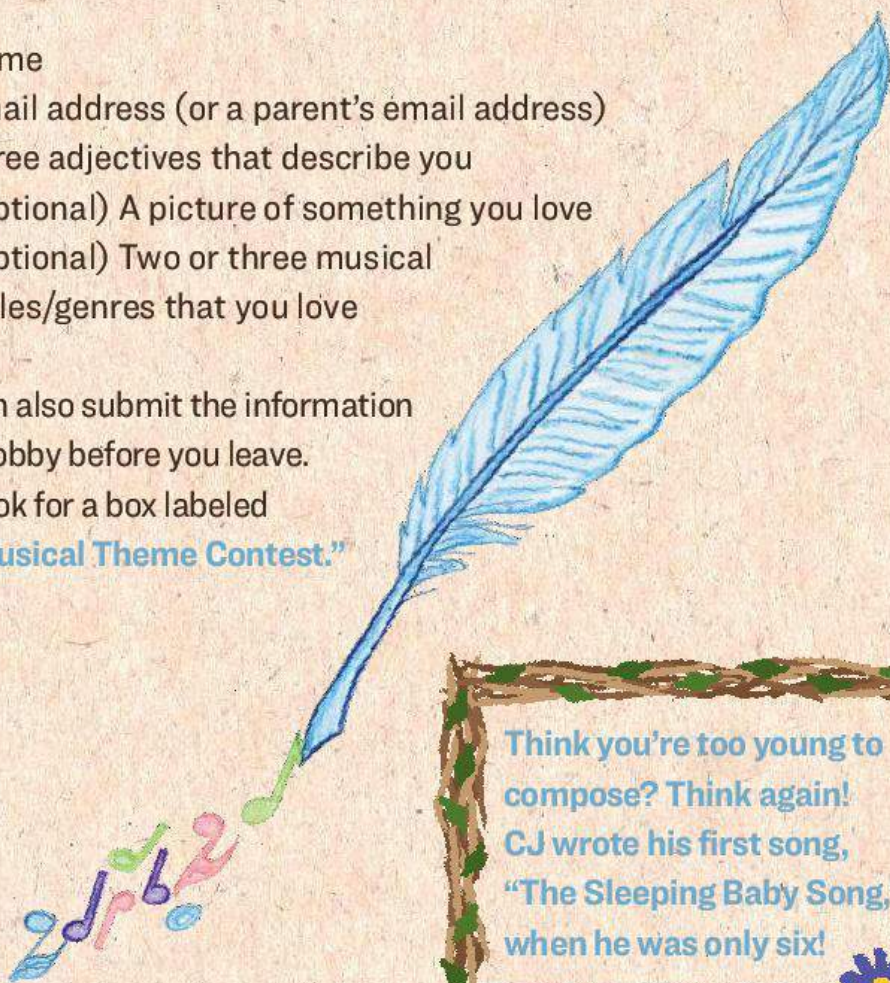
After identifying all of the beautiful themes of the show, do you wish you had your own musical theme? Today might be your lucky day! CJ has generously agreed to record personal theme songs for three randomly selected audience members. To be considered, submit the following to dramaturgy@byu.edu by Saturday, October 26th, 2019.

1. Name
2. Email address (or a parent's email address)
3. Three adjectives that describe you
4. (Optional) A picture of something you love
5. (Optional) Two or three musical styles/genres that you love

You can also submit the information in the lobby before you leave.

Just look for a box labeled

"My Musical Theme Contest."



Think you're too young to compose? Think again! CJ wrote his first song, "The Sleeping Baby Song," when he was only six!



- Full Contest Rules
- The Complete *With Two Wings* Soundtrack
- Character Theme Sheet Music—Beginner and Advanced

“One-wingers Welcome”

With Two Wings deals with disability, family, love, and courage. These themes make it the perfect show to premier BYU's first spectrum-friendly performance on October 16th. Talleri.McRae, a theatre accessibility consultant, came to visit BYU in 2018 to help us prepare. Here are her answers to some common questions about accessible theatre.



What is a spectrum-friendly performance?

A spectrum-friendly performance relaxes the unspoken theatre expectations of “sit down in the dark and be quiet!”. Patrons are free to talk and make noise to respond to the play, or bring an iPad to doodle on if that helps them process the show. They can walk around in designated areas, or take a break and leave the theatre at any time and come back when they are ready. With relaxed rules everyone feels more welcome to come as they are and enjoy the show.

Who is a spectrum-friendly performance for?

- People with autism or other sensory issues, such as those uncomfortable in the dark or sensitive to unexpected sounds.
- Whole families—including babies—because crying is okay.
- Grandparents, little kids, or anyone who might benefit from being able to take a break during the show.

What are some ways we are helping all audience members feel welcome at BYU?

The concept of “radical hospitality,” comes from Mixed Blood Theatre Company in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Radical hospitality is knowing your space (like a house or a theatre) so well that you can offer reasonable accommodations to people who might benefit from them. For example, we know it can be tricky to find the elevators and bathrooms here, so we made signs to help point the way and which allow patrons to engage with designer art on the way.

Having one wing (or one leg) can be both a disability and a strength—it doesn't have to limit what we do, it just causes us to be more creative about how we do it. Even if we don't have a visible disability, we all encounter obstacles in our lives. After the show, discuss your strengths and weaknesses with your family. How can you use creativity to help overcome your family's obstacles? What things can you do to make your home more “radically hospitable” for everyone?



- **Interview with Talleri McRae**
- **Tips for leaders (old and young) to make group activities more accessible**
- **My Story: Growing Up with a Disabled Mom**

