

ABC PLAYERS PLAY PROPOSAL FORM
2025-2026 Season

Play: The Cemetery Club

Play Service: Samuel French, Inc.

Author: Ivan Menchell

Director: Joe Balding

Preferred Time: ☒ Fall ☒ Winter ☒ Spring ☐ Other

Cast Requirements: 1 Men, 4 Women, Boys, Girls, Any

Set Requirements:

Manhattan Apartment. Staircase. Bay Window. Piano.
Cemetery: 5 grave stones, stone bench, tree (leaves and barren)
1990's but could update to today
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Other Technical Aspects (costuming, lighting, dialect, etc.):

Sound-La Guardia Airport airplane noises. NYC accents a plus, however written dialogue lends itself to dialect. Lighting day and night. Doorbell.
Costumes: 3 same bridesmaids dresses (one made sexy)
Blonde wig, Fur coat, hat and muff

Plot Synopsis:

Three Jewish widows meet once a month for tea before going to visit their husband's graves. Ida is sweet tempered and ready to begin a new life, Lucille is a feisty embodiment of the girl who just wants to have fun, and Doris is priggish and judgmental, particularly when Sam the butcher enters the scene. He meets the widows while visiting his wife's grave. Doris and Lucille squash the budding romance between Sam and Ida. They are guilt stricken when this nearly breaks Ida's heart.

The Broadway production starred Eileen Heckart as Lucille. It was made into a film, starring Ellen Burstyn, Dianne Ladd, Olympia Dukakis.

"Funny, sweet tempered, moving." - *Boston Globe*

"Very touching and humorous. An evening of pure pleasure that will make you glad you went to the theatre." - *Washington Journal Newspapers*

Other Comments:

Characters are 50 + with Lucille, Ida and Sam having long monologues. Mildred has a short but important scene. Set and Props needs a creative designer as they are integral and seems to be the most complicated part of this play.

Budget Estimates:

Costumes:	\$150
Lights:	\$0
Programs:	\$50
Props:	\$100
Publicity:	\$100
Rehearsal Space:	\$0

Royalties:	\$400
Scripts:	\$200
Set:	\$100
Sound:	\$0
TOTAL:	\$1,100