



# SHARED SENTENCES

BY EMILY JOY WEINER

WITH SOME ADDITIONAL MATERIAL BY  
BARBARA ALLAN, KEVIN BARRON, ZUDAYDAH RIVERA,  
AND TANASHA GORDON

DIRECTED BY LISA ROTHE



***Written by EMILY JOY WEINER***

***With additional material by BARBARA ALLAN, KEVIN  
BARRON, ZUDAYDAH RIVERA, and TANASHA GORDON  
Produced by Houses on the Moon Theater Company***

## INFO PACKET



@housesonthemoon

[www.housesonthemoon.org](http://www.housesonthemoon.org)



SHARED SENTENCES is a 90 minute play exploring the toll of incarceration on families and loved ones. The story follows Olivia, a lonely aspiring artist, who finds herself in a United Prison Families meeting, a support group for those with an incarcerated loved one. The play explores the complicated dynamics of race, class, experience, education, and privilege among individuals joined by shared trauma, and celebrates the strength we find in supporting each other.



***“[The play is] a dance between hope and sadness from the dark into the light.”-- SHARED SENTENCES Audience Member, November 9, 2022***

***“Whether the subject is trauma, addiction, poverty, stress, or injustice, the overarching message of Houses on the Moon’s work is that life’s burdens are easier to shoulder when they’re shared. Theatre can be a home for anyone who is searching, from here to the moon and back.”--Alexandra Pierson, [American Theatre Magazine](#)***

## **PROJECT HISTORY**



SHARED SENTENCES began in 2018 with interviews of people with incarcerated loved ones: parents, siblings, partners, and friends who wanted to share their stories. Following the initial interviews, Houses on the Moon facilitated an 8-week storytelling workshop series with a select group of individuals, including an 84-year-old former elementary school teacher whose mentally ill husband murdered his father over 50 years ago; a 25-year-old transgender man whose parents have both been incarcerated throughout his life; and a 40-year-old daughter whose father has been serving a life sentence since she was three years old. Working with the play's artistic team, playwright Emily Joy Weiner adapted stories and experiences from this group into an original play. SHARED SENTENCES had its Off-Broadway world premiere at 122 CC (150 First Avenue, NYC) from October 26-November 12, 2022.

SHARED SENTENCES was originally developed by Houses on the Moon Theater Company with further development at Bethany Arts Community and Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts at Fairfield University.



**HOUSES ON THE MOON THEATER COMPANY** was founded in 2001 with a mission to dispel ignorance and isolation through the theatrical amplification of unheard voices. Through creative workshops, original performances, post-show conversations, and accessible ticketing, Houses on the Moon unites communities through the public sharing of untold stories.

**EMILY JOY WEINER** (Playwright) the Co-Founder and Artistic Director of Houses on the Moon Theater Company. Since 2001 she has been creating, developing, performing, producing, and directing new works that address the complex and sensitive issues of our time. Most recently, Emily directed the Off-Broadway production of Houses' **THE SANTA CLOSET** at Teatro Circulo, guided the company through its production of **DE NOVO** at Next Door at NYTW, directed the world premiere of **THE ASSIGNMENT** at the ART/New York Theatres and continues to guide the touring, live storytelling production of **gUN COUNTRY**. She has performed all over NYC and beyond with some highlights including **OTHELLO** at the West End Theater, **COMING THROUGH** at the American Place Theatre, **FINDING THE WORDS** at the Lucille Lortel, **AN EPIDOG** with Mabou Mines and **FEFU AND HER FRIENDS** at Williamstown Theatre Festival. The League of Professional Theatre Women recently honored Emily with the Josephine Abady Award for her work with Houses in the creation of multicultural works.



## **WORD OF MOUTH**

***“Shared Sentences delivers a dramatic and lasting experience for the audience: the story shocks us with the quiet power of emotionally damaged people to go beyond conflicts to give each other deeply needed compassion, respect, and humanity.” –Tita Anntares, [Garden State Journal](#)***

***“Presented with compassionate humor...the audience learns of the presumptions that are often made of the incarcerated and the common issues those who care for them must encounter.”--Michael Dale, [OnstageBlog.com](#).***

***“The actors were superlative...You don't want to miss this!”  
--Eva Heinemann, HI! DRAMA***



## **BOOKING**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BOOKING, PLEASE CONTACT  
[INFO@HOUSESONTHEMOON.ORG](mailto:INFO@HOUSESONTHEMOON.ORG)**

**↑ HOUSES ☾  
ON THE MOON™**