

SYNOPSIS OF *THE DRAPER*
(A full length one act in fourteen scenes: 95 minutes)

TIME:

The present, recent past, and possible future

PLACE:

A stylized set represents various locations in The Garment District of New York: Portia's apartment, Spindle's Fabric Shop, and glimpses of a parallel universe

CHARACTERS: (five women and three men)

PENELOPE MELTON, an orchestral violinist; late twenties

PORTIA MELTON, Penelope's sister, a costume designer; mid-twenties

RACHEL MELTON, Penelope's and Portia's mother, a textile executive; fifty

GEORGETTE FOULARD, Portia's caregiver; late-thirties

NATHAN WOOLSEY, a photographer; early thirties

JULIAN DORNICK, a British-born journalist; mid-thirties

KATRINA SPINDLE, a German-born shopkeeper; mid-sixties

SIEGFRIED SPINDLE, Katrina's German-born nephew; late twenties

PLOT SYNOPSIS: From her apartment in the Garment District of New York, Penelope Melton, an orchestral violinist, speaks to hidden cameras recording her every move. She recounts the decline of her dying sister, Portia, who spends hours in a wheelchair, staring out a window facing Spindle's Fabric Shop. Portia notices that the feeble and infirm women who enter the shop never leave, so suspecting a nefarious gendercidal scheme, she entreats Penelope to investigate. Once inside the shop, Penelope meets Katrina Spindle and her nephew, Siegfried, a former physics prodigy who asks Penelope to stay and play her violin. While she graciously complies, Siegfried becomes smitten, falling hopelessly in love. Meanwhile fearing for Penelope's life, Portia leaves the apartment and ventures into the shop with her caretaker. Relieved that her sister is unharmed, Portia meanders around, admiring the fabrics, then suddenly vanishes, leaving only her wheelchair. A police investigation ensues involving a journalist and photographer who spread news of the mysterious shop and its disappearing patrons. Both Siegfried and Penelope become suspects, and while Penelope continues searching for Portia, Siegfried attempts to prove the existence of a fold in the fabric of infinity that leads through unseen dimensions to a parallel universe.

THEMES: *The Draper* is a dystopian mystery that explores the effects of globalization on The Garment District as well as the metaphysical implications of recent theories in physics, and the conflicted feelings of a family in which death is imminent.