



BARRIER ISLAND (Part of the Galveston Cycle)

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2 Act Full-Length (4 Women-5 Men)

As a fearless and stubborn community rests their lives against the historic wall that protects Galveston Island from natural disasters, a younger generation challenges the emotional disasters no wall can protect.

CHARACTER:

Laura—Age:early-mid 30s. Attractive and strong, if at times cold—has hidden warmth.

LAURA

I remember all those trucks filled with sand rolling down the road. I don't know how they got them down on the beach. And on a windy day that year—sand just danced down the street—and it'd get in your eye. And everyone was so excited. We're going to have a real beach—not just rock. My Dad said that this place was going to take off—become this huge resort. People were investing in hotels and shops. That year was filled with that buzz in the air you know? And they started in the fall—to make sure the entire island was surrounded by white sand before summer. When I was a kid, walking on the beach always hurt. Nothing but shell and rock—because this rock wasn't meant to be lived on—just to protect the mainland from a storm—but the water between your toes made up for it—made you forget. But this—was something special. I went down there one night—and walked on the sand. Sand. It was nice. *(Beat)* But then of course, we had one of those May storms—nothing even too big. And all that sand was swept out to sea. Gone. In one night. Before the summer even came. My dad didn't speak for a month. He'd bought five new properties that year. He had to sell them at a loss. I don't know. It was nice they tried to change it. But some things can't change. And somehow you always come back to where you started—no matter how much you hope or dream about getting away.

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