

Newport Harbor's Failure: A Love Story Chimes With Beautiful Humanity
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Failure: A Love Story is a gentle and romantic tale highlighting the complexities of love, loss, and being human. When a man enters the Fail Family Clock Shop and meets the Fail sisters, he is met with the repetitive cycle of love and loss. Newport Harbor carefully crafts this beautiful narration of what it means to live and paints a picture of the circular nature of time.

Nelly (Reiko De La Pena) fantastically represents the youngest Fail sister with her bubbly and optimistic perspective, dancing across the stage in song and rapidly shifting from one topic to the next. Jenny June (Rylee Richardson) is strong and confident with a booming tone and a bold presence, emphasizing her determined character. Gerty (Eden Newcott) emulates the eldest daughter, with a focused and subtle attitude. When she finally comprehends the loss of her sisters, her pain and grief consumes her as she emotionally crumbles into herself.

Mortimer's (Nicholas Earnhart) initial blasé character develops wonderfully as he connects with the sisters. His physicality shifts from a straight posture to a slump as he is weighed down by endless grief and loss. John N (Brady Whitaker) fantastically depicts isolation and feelings of an outcast with his shaky voice and the stark contrast in his attitude when interacting with animals as opposed to people.

The Gramophones (Angeline Kliwer and Claire McNamer) excellently set the play in the 1920s atmosphere with their beautiful, jazzy vocals and their sophisticated confidence. Their soft gentle waves and flowy gaits across the stage create an eye catching bridge between the music and the story.

The Music Composition (Jack Arrow) underscores the show elegantly, bringing the story to life and enhancing the vulnerability of the characters. The 21 original songs fit seamlessly within the show, building an immersive and atmospheric experience.

The Scenic (Bernard Czarny, Mitzi Camacho, Magnus Warmesley, Jade Deneen) construction emulates the rickety and humble attitude of the Fail family with the rustic bare bone wood panels creating an impressive two story shop and home.

Lights (Colette Anderson, McKenzie Dixon, Magnus Warmesley) exquisitely depicts a starry sky with light bulbs hanging above at differing heights. The changing luminosity beautifully represents time running out and the overcoming sense of grief.

Love might be a risk, but seeing Newport Harbor's Failure: A Love Story certainly isn't.