

A Staged Reading Dedicated to Frank Gleeson

# Clifden's Daughter

By Mary Santarelli



Irish American Heritage Center  
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It is truly an honor to be part of the 2024 iBAM! Celebration, an event that pays homage to the incredible depth and diversity of Irish Arts. My heartfelt thanks to Cliff Carlson and Cathy Curry Carlson, whose support made this first public staged reading of *Clifden's Daughter* possible.

"A Hundred Thousand Welcomes" to each of you here today. May your imaginations roam freely... I hope this story captures your hearts, piques your curiosity, and lingers with you long after the final line.

## Cast:

Millie	Josephine Craven
Declan	Gary Henderson
Fergus	John Williams
Father Brian	Patrick Carton
Lucy	Laurie Lister
Eamon	Alec Synakowski
Narrator	Kevin Cassidy
Musicians	Katie Grennan & John Williams

Directed by Josephine Craven

Produced by Listen to Lit

Special thanks to Brendan O'Shea, for writing the song that is the soul of this play, "*Clifden's Daughter*."

A breathtaking sunset photograph of Sky Road in Connemara inspired this play, and I am thrilled you've joined us on this narrative journey. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my husband, Jim, and our beautiful family—Mia, Annie, Jimmy, Chris, and Ryan—whose support & encouragement are my constant companions; to my parents, who nurtured my storytelling tendencies; to my dear friends, who cheer me on and joyfully tolerate my creative musings; to Actor's Craft Studio and Maureen Cashin Bolog, for shaping this piece in its developmental stages; to Josephine Craven, for believing in this play and helping me conceive of it beyond words on a page; to Frank Gleeson, for blessing this project in his sweet & humble way; to Brendan O'Shea, for the song that brought me to tears; to iBAM!, for extending this incredible opportunity to us; and finally, to the cast & musicians, whose extraordinary gifts bring this story to life.     - Mary Santarelli