

A Place Where Nobody Dared To Go

Instead of giving the whole laundry list of nominees for the Tony Awards to be presented on June 15, I will touch on a few of the biggies.

BEST MUSICAL

[Cry-Baby](#) (the latest 1980s movie to be turned into a huge musical extravaganza a la Hairspray)

[In the Heights](#)

[Passing Strange](#)

[Xanadu \(have I not mentioned this before? Amazing... and no... it is not about the home of the future\)](#)

BEST PLAY

August: Osage County

Rock 'n' Roll

The Seafarer

The 39 Steps (based upon the Hitchcock movie of the same name)

BEST REVIVAL OF A MUSICAL

[Grease](#) (panned heavily by the critics... thank goodness for the reality series that cast Danny and Sandy)

[Gypsy](#) (Patti LuPone gets her Turn as Mama Rose)

[South Pacific](#) (the clear-cut favorite in this category... still find it amazing that this is its first revival)

[Sunday in the Park With George](#)

BEST REVIVAL OF A PLAY

[Boeing-Boeing](#)

[The Homecoming](#)

[Les Liaisons Dangereuses](#)

[Macbeth](#) (starring Tony nominee Patrick Stewart)

BEST BOOK OF A MUSICAL

Cry-Baby, Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan

In the Heights, Quiara Alegría Hudes

Passing Strange, Stew

Xanadu, Douglas Carter Beane

BEST ORIGINAL SCORE (MUSIC AND/OR LYRICS) WRITTEN FOR THE THEATER

Cry-Baby, Music & Lyrics: David Javerbaum & Adam Schlesinger

In the Heights, Music & Lyrics: Lin-Manuel Miranda

The Little Mermaid, Music: Alan Menken; Lyrics: Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater

Passing Strange, Music: Stew and Heidi Rodewald; Lyrics: Stew

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A LEADING ACTOR IN A PLAY

Ben Daniels, Les Liaisons Dangereuses

Laurence Fishburne, Thurgood

Mark Rylance, Boeing-Boeing

Rufus Sewell, Rock 'n' Roll

Patrick Stewart, Macbeth (who was a well-established star in

the Royal Shakespeare Company long before becoming Captain Jean-Luc Picard)

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A LEADING ACTRESS IN A PLAY

Eve Best, *The Homecoming*

Deanna Dunagan, *August: Osage County*

Kate Fleetwood, *Macbeth*

S. Epatha Merkerson, *Come Back, Little Sheba*

Amy Morton, *August: Osage County*

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A LEADING ACTOR IN A MUSICAL

Daniel Evans, *Sunday in the Park With George*

Lin-Manuel Miranda, *In the Heights*

Stew, *Passing Strange*

Paulo Szot, *South Pacific*

Tom Wopat, *A Catered Affair*

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A LEADING ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL

Kerry Butler, *Xanadu*

Patti LuPone, *Gypsy*

Kelli O'Hara, *South Pacific*

Faith Prince, *A Catered Affair*

Jenna Russell, *Sunday in the Park With George*

What surprises me is the Best Original Score Category. Is it original to have the score from a movie possibly with a few extra songs added to be considered? Two of the musicals listed are indeed movies turned into Broadway shows. I guess [Young](#)

[Frankenstein](#) was not original enough to warrant a nomination. I really need to find a copy of the 1980 movie *Xanadu* to see if it was really as good as I remember because it might help to explain why it seems to have gotten so many nominations. Or the Johnny Depp starring movie *Cry-Baby* that I do not remember at all. Will this become the next *Hairspray*? So much for originality.

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Where Have You Gone Joe Dimaggio?

Tonight was my first real rehearsal for *Little Women*. It seems like it has been forever since we had our read through almost 2 weeks ago. The director even commented that it seems like forever since I have been there. The last week has been for the March sisters to meet and discuss. Before rehearsal began, some of us were discussing the current musical [Spring Awakening](#). I know very little about it aside from the fact that it probably would be much too controversial to present in our small community theatre. We then played a game of sorts by connecting the dots between various musicals. For instance, what do *My Fair Lady* and [The Music Man](#) have in common. Or perhaps, *Gypsy* and *The Sound of Music*. Call it a mini quiz for you hearty souls brave enough to try.

Rehearsal itself was quite interesting. We did manage to sing through five of the seventeen songs in the show. Not bad when you have as many as 5 different parts singing at once. There were even times when two entirely different melodies were supposed to be sung at the same time. Let's just say that "The

Weekly Volcano Press” is probably the most challenging piece in the show.

After the songs I was a part of were finished, I was told that I could go if I wanted to. Hmm... Mr. Director not know Morat too well do he? I stuck around, listened, and tried to help those around me when I could which at times was quite interesting. I found myself trying to help the young man playing Theodore Laurence III (“Laurie”) by softly humming along as he sang his part in “Five Forever.”

I even found myself learning more about my character, the evil stock character villain Braxton Prendergast, by listening to the other songs being sung. I cannot wait to block the scenes I am in. Quite melodramatic (perhaps more popcorn or skittles to be thrown, but I doubt that that would be allowed... maybe some cheers for the villain would be appropriate). But all in all, I thought it was a very rewarding rehearsal.

THEN... I GOT HOME and caught the lowlights of the Yankees and Orioles game. So much for A-Rod’s return. Baltimore scored seven runs in the first inning. The final score was Baltimore 12... New York **2?! Which puts the Bronx Bombers record at 20-25. UGH!!!!**

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