

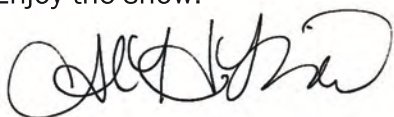
Dear Educator,

We are so excited that you are coming to The Coterie to see *Secret Soldiers: Heroines in Disguise* with your class! Thank you for valuing the live arts and offering this opportunity to your students. Live theatre is an incredible experience for all ages.

I know your time is valuable, so we have made it easy for you to extend the production into your classroom in a variety of ways so that you can choose what best fits your needs. I strongly believe your field trip experience does not end after the show is over. To start, you can use the questions on the back of this page to engage your students in a post-show discussion on the ride back to school. Back in your classroom, you can check out the many wonderful resources made available at www.coterie.edublogs.org. There are lesson plans, websites for teachers and students, and suggested reading lists for each production.

If you have any questions or would like more information about incorporating drama into your classroom, please don't hesitate to contact me. I also welcome your feedback on the Edublog resources.

Enjoy the show!



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A co-production with UMKC Theatre

SECRET SOLDIERS

HEROINES IN DISGUISE

BY WENDY LEMENT

THE COTERIE THEATRE

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Reflections for the Ride Home

Continue your performance experience by discussing the following questions on your ride home after the show:

- 1) Which nurse did you agree with: Nurse Bartlett, that the identities of the women soldiers should remain hidden to protect their honor and pension or with Nurse Hughes that the names should be made public to give them honor for their service and help move equal rights forward? Why?
- 2) In the group discussion, did anyone bring up a question or idea that changed your opinion? Did you agree with the group decision? Why or why not?
- 3) If you were Rosetta (Lyons) Wakeman, how would you feel throughout the journey of leaving home, disguising yourself, and becoming a soldier? How would you react when finding out your family did not support your decision?
- 4) Place yourself in the story: Which character do you most identify with? Why? Would you make any different choices than they did?

Vocabulary

Dysentery: a disease characterized by severe diarrhea and usually caused by infection

Enlisting: to volunteer for the armed forces, unlike being drafted which is to be selected for military service

Hippocratic Oath: an oath embodying a code of medical ethics

Mulatto: an out-of-date term for a person of mixed white and black ancestry

Pension: money paid regularly to a retired soldier

Regiment: a military unit consisting usually of a number of battalions

Rounders: a game of English origin that is played with ball and bat and that somewhat resembles baseball



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