

HARVEST

Posted by [David Walters](#) | Nov 11, 2025 | [Reviews](#)



Photo by Katie Burke

RATING 90%



By David Walters

If you've ever been part of a family and now have stepped away, *Harvest* by Jason Pyette, will bring you right back there. Though set in wheat country in Montana, family is family everywhere and the dynamics of one family play out in all others, worldwide, throughout time.

[Montana Actors' Theatre](#) has brought this production to New York (a New York premier for everyone involved), now performing at [Chain Theatre](#) only through November 22.

Everything about this production is Montana, the set, the actors, the play, the story. The audience is transported from the very beginning just looking at the set prior to the house lights going down as the set is so authentic it too seems to be a character in the play. It's the living/dining room of a Montana farmhouse that looks like it was cut out, put on a truck, and plunked down in the theatre. That house has been lived in.

Why I'm going on about the set is that the actors truly treat it like the home that they were raised in. That comfortableness adds to the reality and viability of this show. It's not a perfect show, some moments could be cut, the acting has highs and lows, but none of that matters as the story of *Harvest* and what it's saying brings in the audience emotionally and gets them invested in each of the characters. It wasn't just me either; audience members from Australia and Italy that were sitting with me (who also had families so we ended up discussing our experience of the show afterwards) felt the same emotional draw to what happened on stage. It's universal.

The patriarch of the family had a heart attack a year ago, and though he's capable of it, hasn't really gotten out of bed since. Of the six kids (now adults, five boys and one girl), only one, John (Chad Zuelke-has), stayed on the farm to try and keep it going. The daughter (Tylyn Turner), through some slight trickery, has managed to get everyone to return to the farm to try and convince them to stay a week and help with getting the wheat in on the 160 acre farm. Through much cajoling and guilting, they all say yes. Weather, fire, ancient equipment that keeps breaking, and the animosity of personal histories that have led them as adults to not really like each other that much conspire to keep them from their goal. As with many families, they never let each other grow up. The fabric of this family has been rendered and this in turn is reflected in the farming community around them that no longer operates the way it used to.

I've seen Broadway family dramas that didn't have the emotional depth and punch that *Harvest* has. Well worth a look.

The Harvest written and directed by Jason Pyette.

The cast features Pam Veis, TC Knutson, Grant Olson, Brian Gregoire, Tylyn Turner, Chad Zuelke, Aylan Pratt, and Samantha Pollington.

Lighting design by Brian Easton, sound design by Evan Leeds, original music by Matt Springer, and costume design by Angela Riggan.

November 6–22 at Chain Theatre.

Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#). All seats \$20.