ALMOST, MAINE
by John Cariani

SYNOPSIS
Welcome to Almost, Maine, a town that’s so far north, it’s almost not in the United States—it’s almost in Canada. And it almost doesn’t exist. Because its residents never got around to getting organized. So it’s just...Almost.

One cold, clear Friday night in the middle of winter, while the northern lights hover in the sky above, Almost’s residents find themselves falling in and out of love in the strangest ways. Knees are bruised. Hearts are broken. Love is lost, found, and confounded. And life for the people of Almost, Maine will never be the same. ALMOST, MAINE: It’s love. But not quite.

HISTORY
ALMOST, MAINE was developed at the Cape Cod Theater Project (Andy Polk, Artistic Director) in 2002, and received its world premiere at Portland Stage Company, where it broke box office records and garnered critical acclaim. ALMOST, MAINE opened Off Broadway in the winter of 2005/2006 at the Daryl Roth Theatre (Jack Thomas/Bulldog Theatrical and Bruce Payne, Producers) and was subsequently published by Dramatists Play Service. To date, ALMOST, MAINE has been produced by nearly 2000 theater companies in the United States (and by over a dozen companies internationally) making it one of the most frequently produced plays of the past decade.

PLACE
Various locales in Almost, Maine, a small town in northern Maine that doesn’t quite exist.

TIME
The present. Everything takes place at nine o’clock on a cold, clear, moonless, slightly surreal Friday night in the middle of the deepest part of a northern Maine winter.

SCENES & CHARACTERS

PROLOGUE
PETE and GINETTE, who have been dating for a little while.

HER HEART
EAST, a repairman, and GLORY, a hiker.

SAD AND GLAD
JIMMY, a heating and cooling guy; SANDRINE, his ex-girlfriend; & a salty WAITRESS

THIS HURTS
MARVALYN, a woman who is very good at protecting herself, and STEVE, an open, kind fellow whose brother protects him.

GETTING IT BACK
GAYLE and LENDALL, a longtime girlfriend and boyfriend.

INTERLOGUE
Pete, from the “Prologue”

THEY FELL
RANDY and CHAD, two Aroostook County boys; best friends

WHERE IT WENT
PHIL, a working man, and his hardworking wife, MARCI

STORY OF HOPE
HOPE, who has traveled the world, and a MAN, who has not.

SEEING THE THING
RHONDA, a tough woman, and DAVE, the not-so-tough man who loves her.

EPILOGUE
PETE and GINETTE, from the “Prologue”