

Hello & First Name>>, *The Lake Effect* explores complex ties that bind family. [View Online](#) Or [Forward](#) to a friend.



"A Most Unexpected and Emotionally Fraught Family Portrait"



The Lake Effect
Review by Catey Sullivan
Chicago Theatre Beat
Abridged Review

No doubt that every family has its secrets, but those in **Rajiv Joseph's compelling, funny and border-line tragic *The Lake Effect*** are whoppers indeed.

Directed with an able hand by Timothy Douglas, this world premiere provides a portrait of strangers and siblings forced to

come to terms with each other after years of estrangement. **Joseph's three-person drama is skillfully wrought** for Silk Road Rising, **a complex, often surprising exploration of the ties that bind** be they forged by blood, friendship or violence.

With three, wonderfully layered characters, Joseph creates a puzzle of interlocking pieces that eventually forms a most unexpected and emotionally fraught family portrait.

Joseph's dialogue richly captures the fractious relationship between siblings while deftly filling in the blanks surrounding the cause of the family dysfunction. **Under Douglas' subtly effective direction, the three actors succeed in creating a richly realistic family dynamic as troubled as it is vivid.** This is a piece that evokes compassion, laughter and shock as it explores a family defined as much by its substantial rifts as by its bloodlines.

As Vijay, **Poss continues to establish himself as a actor of depth and breadth.** As Priya, **Gandhi is equally strong portraying a young woman who masks a deep vulnerability.** Finally, as Bernard, **Smith is marvelous, crafting a character who is defined by loyalty** and a demeanor that is ever-so-slightly simple and childlike.



NOTE: for a full version of this review, please visit [Chicago Theatre Beat](#).

BUY TICKETS TODAY!

The Lake Effect performs at Silk Road Rising at The Historic Chicago Temple Building, 77 W Washington St, Chicago.

Tickets are \$35 each and can be purchased by calling **312-857-1234 x201** or online at www.silkroadrising.org

\$8 parking available for patrons at Self Park 230 W Washington St (3 blocks west of the theatre, in the building with Cosi restaurant). Silk Road Rising is accessible by all major train lines.

Performance schedule: Thursdays at 7:30pm, Fridays at 8:00pm, Saturdays & Sundays at 4pm. *The Lake Effect* runs through May 26th.

[Tickets are selling fast - purchase your tickets today.](#)

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