



WESTERN  
CANADA  
THEATRE

# Quick Study Guide: Little Red Warrior and His Lawyer

Written and Directed by KEVIN LORING

A Savage Society (Vancouver) and Belfry Theatre (Victoria) co-production  
in association with NAC Indigenous Theatre (Ottawa)

February 20th - March 2nd 2025 at the Sagebrush Theatre



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# Introduction:

This season, Western Canada Theatre brings to audiences *Little Red Warrior and His Lawyer* by Award Winner Kevin Loring, a fierce political satire that combines Indigenous storytelling and land law. This study guide contains background knowledge and useful facts for a deeper understanding of the play and story.

In this quick study guide you'll find useful background information, fun classroom activities, and discussion questions.

Have questions about booking your class to see a Western Canada Theatre production? Email us at [terri@wctlive.ca](mailto:terri@wctlive.ca)

# About the Playwright

Kevin Loring is an accomplished First Nation's playwright, actor, and director from Lytton, BC. His plays have reached critical acclaim, including winning the Governor General's Award for English Language Drama for his play *Where the Blood Mixes*. His writing and stories tackle issues such as generational trauma, domestic abuse, and elder neglect. Loring is currently the Artistic Director of Indigenous Theatre at the National Arts Centre.

**Did you know:** This is not the first time WCT has done a play written by Kevin Loring! Back in 2012 Western Canada Theatre put on *Where the Blood Mixes*. [Click here for more information on that production!](#)



# Cast and Crew Information

## **CAST:**

GORDON PATRICK WHITE | Little Red

SHEKHAR PALEJA | Larry

LUISA JOJIC | Desdemona

KEVIN McNULTY | Floyd

NICK MIAMI BENZ | Queen

## **CREATIVE TEAM**

KEVIN LORING | Director & Playwright

JOHN DOUCET | Set Designer

SAMANTHA McCUE | Costume Designer

JEFF HARRISON | Lighting Designer & Technical Director

TROY SLOCUM | Sound Designer

ANGELA BEAULIEU | Stage Manager

GEOFF JONES | Assistant Stage Manager

JAMIE BURNS | ATD / Video Technician

PETER (SPIKE) LYNE | NAC Production Manager

# Synopsis

Red is the last remaining member of the Little Red Warrior First Nation. When he discovers a land development company has invaded his traditional territory and started condo construction, he attacks one of the engineers in a fit of rage. Red meets Larry, his court-appointed lawyer, who bails him out of jail and invites him to stay in his home—much to the dismay of Larry’s wife, Desdemona. But Desdemona’s disdain for Red soon turns to ardour, and Larry learns that when you invite a coyote into your coop, he might just walk away with all the chickens.



Kevin McNulty and Sam Bob in *Little Red Warrior and His Lawyer* by Kevin Loring. Photo by Emily Cooper.

# Classroom Activities

## Coyote Mask

“Coyote Stories are a part of our sptékʷł Stories, about animal beings with human aspects who are presented in our Creation or Foundational Stories... Coyote being the most powerful and consequential of them... The Coyote character in Nlaka’pamux culture is vain, selfish and vengeful. He embodies the worst of human character. And that makes him funny.” - Kevin Loring, pulled from the Playwright’s Preface in *Little Red Warrior and His Lawyer*.

It’s time to get creative! Create a coyote mask with your students and learn all about Coyote and his trickster ways. You can create a mask template by using half a paper plate with holes for the eyes, and creating a snout and ears with the other half. Glue this all together with a popsicle stick to hold the mask! Let the kids be creative and colour/decorate their own masks, while learning about Coyote through Indigenous storytelling.

## Storytelling Activity

Back in 2022, The Wren News, a local news organization, shared a story by Kenthem Thomas all about Coyote and the Kukpi7 tree. Share this story with your students and discuss the importance of the land and how these stories are connected to it. As a bonus effort, take the kids outside (if weather allows) and tell the story surrounded by nature and trees.

[Link to Story of Tk’emlups: Coyote and the Kukpi7 tree](#)

# Discussion Questions

Use these questions to discuss the show with your students after you have seen the production.

1. Little Red makes a comment about how he is John Smith and Desdemona is Pocahontas. Why does he say this? What is the cultural context of that statement at that moment in the play?
2. Since the Queen has now passed away, how does this change her appearance in this show?
3. A part of the play jokes about how our province is called 'British Columbia.' If you had the power to change the name, would you? What would you call it instead?
4. One of the major plot twists in this story is when it's revealed that Desdemona is the lawyer supporting Smith, Smythe, and Goldsmith. Why do you think she keeps this a secret? What is her motivation?



# Curriculum Connections

**Arts Education:** Exploring and Creating, Communicating and Documenting

**Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies:** Ideating, Making, Sharing

**English Language Arts:** Comprehend and Connect, Create and Communicate

**Mathematics:** Reasoning and Analyzing, Understanding and Solving

**Positive Personal & Cultural Identity:** Relationships and Cultural Contexts, Personal Values and Choices, Personal Strengths and Abilities

**Personal Awareness & Responsibility:** Self-determination, Self-Regulation, Well-Being

**Social Responsibility:** Contributing to Community and Caring for the Environment, Solving Problems in Peaceful Ways, Valuing Diversity, Building Relationships.



# Works Cited

<https://thewrennews.ca/in-depth/>

<https://wctlive.ca/littlered/>

<https://nac-cna.ca/en/stories/story/kevin-lorings-little-red-warrior-and-his-lawyer-arrives-at-the-nac>

