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## Visions & Voices: A Trip to Bountiful: The Trip to Bountiful



This LibGuide was created to accompany the Visions & Voices event: A Trip to Bountiful. The Center Theatre Group will present a performance of A Trip to Bountiful on Wednesday, October 29th at the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles open to USC students.

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### About The Trip to Bountiful



This LibGuide was created to accompany the Visions & Voices event: *A Trip to Bountiful*. The Center Theatre Group will present a performance of *A Trip to Bountiful* on Wednesday, October 29th at the **Ahmanson Theatre** in Los Angeles open to USC Students.

**About this performance:** "The legendary Cicely Tyson, after a 30-year absence from the theatre, reprises her Tony Award-winning Broadway performance, taking the stage by storm in the critically acclaimed revival of Pulitzer Prize winner Horton Foote's masterpiece. Join us for a heartbreaking but ultimately inspiring tale that examines the fragility of memory and celebrates the enduring power of hope and faith." [Read more about the event at the Visions & Voices website](#)

#### About the play:

Carrie Watts begrudgingly lives with her busy, overprotective son, Ludie, and pretentious daughter-in-law, Jessie Mae. No longer able to drive and forbidden to travel alone, she wishes for freedom from the confines of the house and begs her son to take her on a visit to her hometown of Bountiful. When he refuses, Mrs. Watts is undeterred and makes an escape to the local bus station, where she befriends Thelma, a young woman traveling home.

### Subject Guide



**Christal Young**




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## Visions & Voices: A Trip to Bountiful: Horton Foote



This LibGuide was created to accompany the Visions & Voices event: A Trip to Bountiful. The Center

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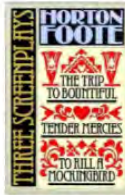
[The Trip to Bountiful](#)
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### About Horton Foote

**Horton Foote** (1916–2009) was an American playwright and screenwriter, perhaps best known for his Academy Award–winning screenplays for *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Tender Mercies*, and his live television dramas during the Golden Age of Television. He received the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1995 for his play *The Young Man from Atlanta*. In 1995, Foote was the inaugural recipient of the Austin Film Festival's Distinguished Screenwriter Award; he was awarded the National Medal of Arts in 2000. ([Visions and Voices](#))

### Works by Horton Foote @ the USC Libraries

See a [full list](#) of books and articles by Horton Foote in the libraries' collections.



#### Three Screenplays : To Kill a Mockingbird; Tender Mercies; The Trip to Bountiful

Call Number: Cinematic  
Arts: PS3511.O344 A6  
1989bc1

Horton Foote's uniquely personal style of screenwriting is at its peak in this collection of two Academy Award winners, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Tender Mercies*, and *The Trip to Bountiful*, a film widely named as one of 1985's best. All three show a modern Chekhov at work, revealing the deep currents of American society through the simplest details of daily life.



#### Farewell

Call Number: Leavey:  
PS3511.O344 Z468  
1999

In 1917, when Horton Foote was one year old, his family moved into a

house on his grandparents' property in Wharton, Texas. Seventy years later, he returned to that house where he still lives. And while the years between took this acclaimed writer many literal & figurative miles, he remained forever tied to his Texas roots - roots that he explores in *Farewell*. The results reveals memories of a complex Southern family full of secrets, an aspiring young actor shaped by the storytellers around him, a world changing at a frenetic pace. Foote's observations of his own lifetime would have been enough. Here is a man who remembers a time in which black & white children played together until school age, when segregation forced them apart. But by drawing on the experiences of those around him, he transforms his memoir into something else entirely: a glimpse into history, & a heartfelt tribute to the passions, ideals,

### Horton Foote DVDs

The [Leavey Library DVD collection](#) is a useful resource on additional Horton Foote works.

#### The Trip to Bountiful

Publication Date: 2014

Carrie Watts begrudgingly lives with her busy, overprotective son, Ludie, and pretentious daughter-in-law, Jessie Mae. No longer able to drive and forbidden to travel alone, she wishes for freedom from the confines of the house and begs her son to take her on a visit to her hometown of Bountiful. When he refuses, Mrs. Watts is undeterred and makes an escape to the local bus station, where she befriends Thelma, a young woman traveling home.

#### The Trip to Bountiful

Publication Date: Originally released in 1985

In an attempt to recapture the happiness she knew in the past, an elderly woman journeys back to the small town where she raised her children.



#### Of Mice and Men

Publication Date: Originally released in 1992

John Steinbeck's classic story of the friendship between two ranch hands. Best friends Lennie and George find themselves unemployed in

Depression-era California, unable to keep jobs because of Lennie's childlike mentality. But once they get hired at the Tyler Ranch, they enjoy a brief period of stability, until their supervisor's wife becomes the victim of Lennie's compassion, forcing George to make a compassionate decision of his own.

#### Courtship

Publication Date: Originally released in 1987

Somewhat autobiographical, the film is based on the story of Horton Foote's parents. Elizabeth has fallen in love with a young man her father condemns. No matter how strict and protective, her parents can't deter her growing independence.

#### 1918

Publication Date: Originally produced in 1985

Set in early 20th century Texas. At the height of World War I, Elizabeth and her husband face hard times when her previously disapproving father steps in to take care of her children so her beloved can go off to war.

& complexities of a small-town American life in the early part of this century. It is also a testimony to the power of storytelling. There is a frank simplicity in Foote's telling that makes *Farewell* a profoundly moving & illuminating reading experience, one that will long be remembered.



**The Carpetbagger's Children and the Actor**

Call Number: Doheny:  
PS3511.O344 C37  
2003

One of America's preeminent dramatists, Horton Foote returns to the fictional town of Harrison, Texas, with two captivating plays about the bewildering and unsettling encroachment of change in the American south. In a series of haunting dramatic monologues, *The Carpetbagger's Children* tells the story of three daughters who struggle against the pressures of modern life to uphold their father's dying wish. It is a timeless and elegiac portrayal of a once-vibrant family slowly disintegrating over time. *The Actor* tells the hilarious and moving story of a young man who'll make any sacrifice to keep his dream from being crushed under the weight of his parents' expectations. It's a charming exploration of artistic ambition from one of modern theater's greatest artists.



**The tears of my sister ; The prisoner's song ; The one-armed man ; and, The land of the astronauts**

Call Number: Doheny:  
PS3511.O344 T42 1993

**Tender Mercies**

Publication Date: Originally produced in 1982.  
Released in 1983

An alcoholic drifter comes into the life of a lonely widow and her young son in the barren flatlands of Texas. But when Mac is revealed to be a once-famous country singer, he must confront a painful past that includes his bitter superstar ex-wife.

## Visions & Voices: A Trip to Bountiful: Cicely Tyson



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### About Cicely Tyson

#### Cicely Tyson Image

(Image from IMDb)

**Cicely Tyson** was nominated for an Academy Award and a Golden Globe Award, and won Best Actress awards from the National Society of Film Critics and the National Board of Review, for her performance as Rebecca Morgan in *Souther* (1972). She has won three Primetime Emmys, and is celebrated for her moving performances in classics of the stage and the big and small screens, including *Roots*, *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman* and *The Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All*. She played a civil-rights activist in the mid-1990s television series *Sweet Justice* and co-starred in *Diary of a Mad Black Woman*. In 2013, she won a Tony Award, a Drama Desk Award and an Outer Critics Circle Award for her Broadway performance in *A Trip to Bountiful*. ([Visions and Voices](#))

### Films Featuring Cicely Tyson

Check out the [Leavey Library DVD collection](#) for additional works featuring Cicely Tyson.

#### **The Trip to Bountiful**

Publication Date: 2014

Carrie Watts begrudgingly lives with her busy, overprotective son, Ludie, and pretentious daughter-in-law, Jessie Mae. No longer able to drive and forbidden to travel alone, she wishes for freedom from the confines of the house and begs her son to take her on a visit to her hometown of Bountiful. When he refuses, Mrs. Watts is undeterred and makes an escape to the local bus station, where she befriends Thelma, a young woman traveling home.

#### **Roots**

Publication Date: Originally released in 1977

Follows several generations in the lives of a slave family. The saga begins with Kunta Kinte, a West African youth captured by slave raiders and shipped to America in the 1700s. The family is depicted up until the Civil War, when Kunte Kinte's grandson gains his emancipation.

#### **The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman**

Publication Date: Originally produced as a television movie in 1973

The history of blacks in the South as seen through the eyes of a 110-year-old former slave. Based on the novel by Ernest J. Gaines.

#### **Fried Green Tomatoes**

Publication Date: Originally produced in 1991

A chance encounter in a nursing home leads to an unexpected friendship between a dowdy housewife and a spry octogenarian who tells her the story of a fiercely independent woman half a century ago, inspiring the housewife to change her life, often with hilarious results.

#### **The Help**

Publication Date: 2011

In 1960s Mississippi, Skeeter, a southern society girl, returns from college determined to become a writer, but turns her friends' lives, and a small Mississippi town, upside down when she decides to interview the black women who have spent their lives taking care of prominent southern families. Aibileen, Skeeter's best friend's housekeeper, is the first to open up, to the dismay of her friends in the tight-knit black community.

#### **Because of Winn-Dixie**

Publication Date: 2005

The heartwarming 'tail' of a young girl whose life is changed by a scruffy, fun-loving pooch she names Winn-Dixie. The special bond between them works magic on her reserved dad and the eccentric townspeople they meet during one unforgettable summer.

#### **Souder**

Publication Date: Originally released in 1972

A sharecropper's wife keeps the family together after he goes to prison in 1930s Louisiana.