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MAIN ST. 56 THEATER
PRESENTS:

*Shakespeare in
Springtime*


KING JOHN

DIRECTED BY:
E. JANE BURK

MARCH 22 & 23 @

7:30PM

MARCH 24 @

2:00PM

**ONLINE: ADULTS \$22
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Home of the Batavia Players

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Best wishes to
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successful season!

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This play explores the difficulties of the difficult reign of a difficult king. He was at times cruel, contentious, corrupt...a “wicked king” and a curiously elusive king. At the very end of the play as he is dying, he sums himself up, “I am a scribbled form, drawn with a pen.”

Some facts: John ascended to the throne in 1199 and he reigned for 17 years. He had two sons and three daughters by his second wife. His oldest son Henry became King Henry III who ascended to the throne in 1216. He reigned for 56 years.

On June 15, 1215, near Windsor, John signed the Magna Carta – the Great Charter. It happened because of the first time in England’s history when influential people co-operated together to make a national protest against bad government.

My sincerest thanks to everyone both onstage and backstage who worked so tirelessly to bring this extraordinary Shakespeare history play to our stage. Profound thanks to this amazingly talented group of people who were willing to take on the task of breathing life into these complex characters.

My thanks to you, the audience, for always supporting the Batavia Players here at our new home – The Main St. 56 Theater and to Mr. Shakespeare, “You were not for an age, but for all time”

Persevere,

EJB

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Shakespeare in Springtime



KING JOHN

CAST

Abigail Noonan	Chatillon
Anthony Haitz	King John of England
Cynthia Nelson	.....	Earl of Pembroke
Dorothy Gerhart	.....	Queen Elinor Lord Bigot
Elijah VanEpps	.....	Hubert de Burgh
Ephraim Hanna	.....	Prince Henry
Heather Ferris	.....	Lady Faulconbridge
Jack Patrick Crandall	.....	Earl of Salisbury
James Barcomb	.....	King Philip
Kendra Morrison	.....	Citizen of Angiers Melun, A French Lord
Kerrick Woysner	.....	Lewis the Dauphin
Kristin Gelia	.....	Constance, Arthur's Mother
Lawrence Rowswell	.....	Cardinal Pandulph The Pope's Legate
Lilah Mordell	.....	French Herald Messenger
Lily Kasprzyk	.....	Blanch of Spain Messenger
Patrick D. Burk	.....	Sheriff English Herald, Executioner
Richard Ferris	.....	Philip the Bastard Half brother to Robert Faulconbridge
Samuel Bowman	.....	Earl of Essex Duke of Austria, Peter of Pomfret
Sophie Crandall	.....	Arthur
Stephen VanValkenburg	.....	Robert Faulconbridge

NOTES & SCENES

The play starts as King John learns of the betrayal of his nephew Arthur, who has aligned himself with the King of France to usurp the throne. Arthur's father was King John's older brother Geoffrey. Arthur should have been next in line after Geoffrey's death, but John, with the help of his power-hungry mother, stepped in and claimed it for himself. The play explores the dramatic events that lead up to the demise of this ill-fated King.

Part One

King John's Palace

France, Before Algiers

French King's Pavilion

Part Two

Plains, Near Algiers

French King's Pavilion

A Castle Room

King John's Palace

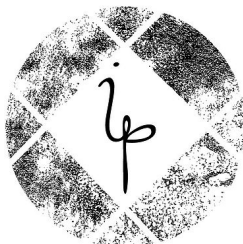
The Dauphin's Camp

Battle Field

French Camp

Orchard, Near Swinstead Abbey

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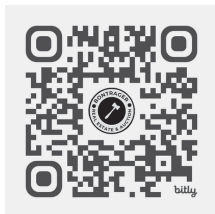
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CAST & PRODUCTION BIOS

James Barcomb (King Philip) James is thrilled to be working with Batavia Players again. Past performances include: ***A Cabaret Showcase: Opposites Attract*** (Ensemble), ***One Act Play Festival: The Bear*** (Luka), ***Into the Woods*** (Baker), ***Love's Labour's Lost*** (Biron), ***Merry Wives of Windsor*** (Falstaff), ***King Lear*** (Edgar), ***Antony & Cleopatra*** (Lepidus), ***Our***

Town (Professor Willard/Joe Stoddard), and ***12 Angry Jurors*** (Juror 3), for which he received the Harvie Award for Performance of the Year. James has also worked with the GCC Forum Players and Inclusive Theater of WNY. He would like to thank Jessie and his family and friends for their love and support, and the cast and crew for their dedication.

Samuel Bowman (Duke of Austria/Earl of Essex/Peter of Pomfret) Sam is a veteran of the theater, starting his 11th year of performing with the Batavia Players. Some of his favorite shows include ***Godspell***, ***Alice in Wonderland***, ***Guys and Dolls***, ***Fame***, ***Applause***, ***Newsies***, ***A Christmas Carole***, ***On Broadway 5 & 10***, two years of Summer Theater Camp and recently the ***Thriller Radio Revue***, ***Love's Labour's Lost***, ***Back on the Boards Again: A Tribute to Stephen Sondheim***, and ***The Drowsy Chaperone***. He has also done many shows outside of Batavia Players including ***The Sound of Music*** (Kurt VonTrapp), ***The Addams Family*** (Pugsley), ***Nunsense***, ***Beauty and the Beast*** (The Beast), and ***Shrek the Musical*** (Lord Farquaad). Sam has studied voice and dance for several years as well as playing the violin, cello and french horn. He would like to thank his parents, family, friends and cast for their support during the show and especially.

E. Jane Burk (Director) Jane has been active in community theater for over 50 years. She holds a BA Degree from SUNY Brockport. Her theater experiences range from Production Assistance to Acting to Directing. Jane has been active in the past with Batavia & LeRoy Rotary Shows, Gates Community Players as well as continuing to be an active member of the Batavia Players since the late 1960's. Jane has participated in many well received theater productions: ***The Lion In Winter***, ***The Importance of Being Earnest***, ***Mame***, ***Hamlet***, ***Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf***, ***The Tempest***, ***Cabaret***, ***Blithe Spirit***, ***King Lear***, ***Uncle Vanya***, ***Almost, Maine***,

Congratulations to
James Barcomb
and
the cast and crew of
King John
and
we wish everyone a
successful run at
Main St. 56 Theater...

“**BREAK
LEGS!**”

Dr. Alan and
Cathy Barcomb

Shakespeare in Springtime


KING JOHN

and ***Antony and Cleopatra*** to name a few. She has also been the Director or Assistant Director of the Shakespeare in Springtime Program. Jane is retired from the Batavia VAMC where she worked for 32 years. Her family includes her husband Patrick, 4 children & their spouses and 7 grandchildren. Jane continues to be thankful for the opportunity to support and be active in the Batavia Players and thanks the community for its ongoing support.

Patrick D. Burk (President & Artistic Director Batavia Players/English Herald/Executioner/Sheriff) Working in theater and on stage since a child, Patrick Burk is a veteran of a number of shows and appears on stage at the Main St. 56 Theater. Married to E. Jane, he is the dad of 4 children and PopPop to 7 grandchildren. He was a former actor at the Rochester Shakespeare Theater and GEVA Theater and enjoys performing, writing and designing shows. His favorite roles include the title character in ***The King & I***, Daddy Warbucks in ***Annie*** and the Gravedigger in ***Hamlet***. In 2018 his first movie, ***Macbeth***, which was shot entirely in the City of Batavia was released in cooperation with the Batavia Players and the Harvester 56 Theater. Mr. Burk loves the musicals ***RENT***, ***Xanadu***, ***Next to Normal***, ***Mamma Mia*** and ***Grey Gardens*** & the plays ***Romeo and Juliet***, ***Come Back to the 5 & Dime Jimmy Dean***, ***Jimmy Dean*** and ***Mary Stuart***.

Jack Patrick Crandall (Earl of Salisbury) Jack returns to the Main St. 56 Stage after his highly successful debut with Batavia Players as Russell in last month's production of ***Love Lines***. Other productions he has performed in include ***The Wizard of Oz*** (Scarecrow) and ***Seussical*** (Cat in the Hat). He is excited to perform again.

Sophie Crandall (Arthur) Sophie is a junior at Pembroke High School and has performed with Batavia Players in ***A Christmas Carol*** (twice), ***Antony and Cleopatra***, ***One Act Plays: Mr. Icky***, and ***Love Lines***. Sophie has participated in past Batavia Players' summer programs as a camper in ***Seussical Kids***, a junior counselor for ***Peter Pan Jr.***, and a student director in this past Summer Theater Camp production of ***All Shook Up***. She is a student representative on the Board of Directors for Batavia Players. Sophie looks forward to returning to other Main St. 56 Theater performances and programs in the future.

Heather Ferris (Lady Faulconbridge) Heather has appeared in ***This Ain't Your Mama's Shakespeare***, ***The Merchant of Venice***, ***Merry Wives***

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of Windsor, Mary Stuart, On Broadway 8, Into the Woods, Xanadu, Sweet Charity, Dracula the Musical and *Frankenstein a New Musical*. She directed *Hollywood Arms* and co-directed The Thornton Wilder *One Act Play Festival*. She and her husband, Richard, co-directed the 2022 version of *Christmas Carol*. She would like to thank Richard, her family, and friends for their support. She would also like to thank Jane Burk for the encouragement to return to the stage.

Richard Ferris (The Bastard) Richard has appeared in *Hollywood Arms, Annie, Six Characters In Search Of An Author, Frankenstein, This Ain't Your Mama's Shakespeare, On Broadway 8, Little Women, Sweet Charity, Christmas Carole, Into The Woods, Xanadu, Mary Stuart, Dracula the Musical, Merchant of Venice, Songs For A New World, Almost Maine,* and *Antony and Cleopatra*. In 2022, Richard co-directed Christmas Carol with his wife Heather, who he loves traveling the world with.

Kristin Gelia (Constance) Kristin has performed with Batavia Players in *Songs for a New World, Little Women the Musical*, (Jo March), *On Broadway 8, 9, 10, Grey Gardens* ("Young" Edie), *Annie* (Grace Farrell), *Mamma Mia!* (Tanya), *A Charles Dickens Christmas* (Mrs. Furnival), *Love's Labour's Lost* (Moth), *Back on the Boards Again: A Tribute to Stephen Sondheim, Uncle Vanya* (Sonia), *A Christmas Carol* (Mrs. Cratchit), *Almost Maine* (Sandrine/Suzette), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (as Janet for which she won a Harvie award for Outstanding Lead Female in a Musical Performance), *Cabaret: Opposites Attract*, and *Cabaret: Do Not Sing List*. Other past credits include *Fiddler on the Roof* (Chava), *Guys and Dolls* (Sarah Brown) and *Les Miserables* (Co-sette). Kristin would like to thank Andy and her family for their love and support.

Dorothy Gerhart (Asst. Director / Queen Elinor/ Lord Bigot) Dorothy has appeared in many Batavia Players productions including: *Our Town, I'm Herbert, August: Osage County, Hollywood Arms, King Lear, An Ideal Husband, The Women* (recognized as Outstanding Featured Actress), *Merry Wives of Windsor, Much Ado About Nothing, Merchant of Venice* (recognized as Outstanding Featured Actress), *Mary Stuart* (recognized as Outstanding Supporting actress and Performance of the Year), *Come Back to the 5 & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean, Hamlet, Love's Labour's*

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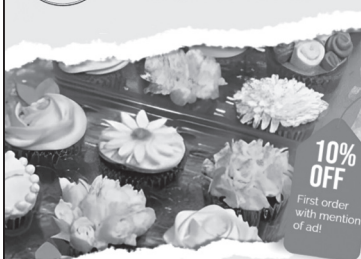
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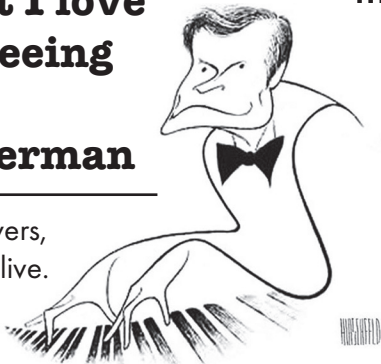
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—Jerry Herman

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Lost, Uncle Vanya, Christmas Carol, 12 Angry Jurors, and Verbatim for which she won Outstanding Supporting Actress. Film credits include: **Macbeth, Murder Creek, and The Last Dance**. Dorothy also volunteers to run tech for several Batavia Players' productions plus frequently heads up props for productions, and serves on the Batavia Players' Board of Directors. She is a percussionist with the Corfu-Pembroke Community Band.

Anthony Haitz (King John) Anthony Haitz is a GCC Theater Arts graduate and member of the Main St. 56 Theater Board of Directors. His credits include **Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992** (Daryl Gates), **9 Circles** (Daniel E. Reeves), **Tartuffe** (Tartuffe), **The Last of the Dragons** (King), **The Drowsy Chaperone** (Gangster 1), **12 Angry Jurors** (Foreman), **The Bear** (Grigory Stepanovich Smirnov), and **The Thanksgiving Play** (Jaxton Smithton). He has received two Harvie awards for Outstanding Featured Actor in a Play (**12 Angry Jurors**) and Outstanding Featured Male Performance in a Musical (**The Drowsy Chaperone**), as well as a GCC Excellence in Performance award (**9 Circles**). Anthony would like to thank Jane for giving him this opportunity and his family for their constant love and support.

Ephraim Hanna (Prince Henry) Ephraim is a senior at Batavia High School and is excited to make his debut on the Main St. 56 Theater stage. He has performed in several Batavia Drama Club productions including **The Alibis, The Trials of Robinhood** and **Les Miserables**. Ephraim's most recent performance was just a couple of weeks ago as Willard Hewitt in BHS's production of **Footloose**.

Lily Kasprzyk (Blanch of Spain/Messenger) Lily is a high school student who is homeschooled and also takes online classes through GCC. She is excited to return to Main St. 56 after her debut with Batavia Players in **Christmas Carol**. She has performed in other productions of **Wizard of Oz, Beauty and the Beast** and the **Lion King**. Lily also enjoys percussion and gymnastics as well as painting and photography. Thank you to her friends and family.

Lilah Mordell (French Herald/Messenger) Lilah is an 8th grader at Oakfield-Alabama Central School and was excited to make her debut at Main St. 56 Theater with the Batavia Players in the **One Acts** and then returned to perform in the **Christmas Carol**. Lilah has performed in **Mary Poppins, Seussical** and **Wizard of Oz** at her school and **Mean Girls**

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at Academy Theatre Arts. She is a Student Representative on the Board of Directors for Main St. 56 Theater. She would like to thank her Mom and Dad.

Kendra Morrison (Count Melun/Citizen of Angiers) Kendra is excited to return to the Main St. 56 Stage. She previously performed with Batavia Player's Summer Youth Theatre in roles such as "Bombalurina" in **Cats**, and "Mrs. Walker" in **The Who's Tommy**. Kendra has also performed in **Almost Maine**, **Antony and Cleopatra**, **The Drowsy Chaperone**, and **12 Angry Jurors**. Kendra was recently nominated for a Harvie Award in her performances in **Almost Maine** and **Do Not sing List**.

Cynthia Nelson (Earl of Pembroke) Cynthia graduated from Gardner-Webb University, N. C. with a B.A. in English, emphasis on theatre. Stage credits with Batavia players include **A Christmas Carole**, **Come Back to the Five & Dime**, **Jimmy Dean**, **Jimmy Dean**, **As You Like It**, **Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?** **This Ain't Your Mama's Shakespeare**, **Hamlet**, **Blithe Spirit**, **Curious Incident**, **King Lear**, **Love's Labour's Lost**, **The Importance of Being Ernest**, **Uncle Vanya** and **Almost, Maine**. Cynthia has received Harvie Awards for her performances in **Hamlet** and **Blithe Spirit**. She sends a thank you to her husband, Mitchel.

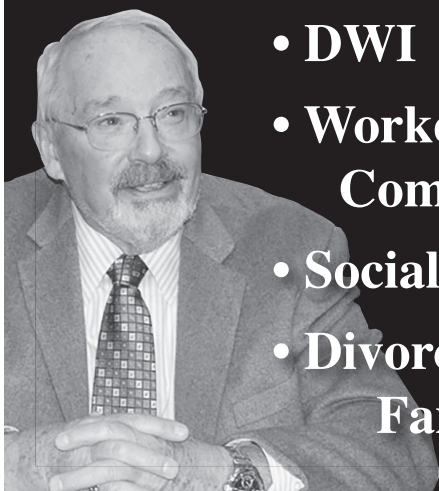
Abigail Noonan (Chatillon) Abigail is a native of Attica, NY. Post high school she took a break from theater to pursue linguistic studies at the University of Pittsburgh, where she was a member of a dance club. Since relocating back home she knew that theater was something she desperately missed. Abigail is very excited to be returning to the Main St. 56 stage after her debut last month as Nancy Scarapiano in **Love Lines**, and can't wait to see where this road will take her. Previous performances include **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, **Ashland Falls**, and **The Hobbit**. She would like to thank her cats for always keeping her calm, cool and collected.

Lawrence Rowswell (Cardinal Pandulph) Lawrence is delighted to return for this, his third Shakespeare in Springtime with the Batavia Players. In the past he portrayed Holofernes in **Love's Labour's Lost** and last year he was a Soothsayer and Guard in **Antony & Cleopatra**. He has worked in over eighty productions with more than two dozen WNY companies. In 2016 he won The Artie Award for Outstanding Actor in a Play.

Elijah VanEpps (Hubert) Elijah is a Lockport, NY based actor who recently returned to the stage with

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Batavia Players, performing in ***The Importance of Being Ernest***, ***Christmas Carol***, ***Almost, Maine*** (for which he received a Harvie Award as Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Play), ***Antony & Cleopatra***, ***The Drowsy Chaperone*** and ***12 Angry Jurors***. Prior to that he was in ***Xanadu*** in which he played Sonny Malone and in ***The Who's Tommy*** in the role of Capt. Walker. Outside of the Batavia Players, some of Elijah's favorite roles include Seymour in ***Little Shop of Horrors*** and Drake in ***Honk!*** Elijah attended SUNY Fredonia where he received a B.A. in Theatre Arts as well as several certifications in stage combat.

Stephen VanValkenburg (Sir Robert Faulconbridge) Stephen is a native of Battle Creek, Michigan currently living in Warsaw, NY. He has appeared in several productions with Batavia players including ***The Rocky Horror Show***, ***King Lear***, ***The Thornton Wilder One Act Play Festival***, ***Our Town***, ***Back on the Boards Again: A Tribute to Sondheim***, ***The Importance of Being Ernest***, and ***Almost Maine***. He is so thankful to be sharing the stage again with so many talented friends. Past stage credits also include ***The Music Man***, ***Annie***, ***Oklahoma***, ***Into the Woods*** and ***She Loves Me***.

Kerrick Woysner (Louis the Dauphin) Kerrick is excited to return to the Main St. 56 Theater stage after his debut performance in ***Love Lines*** with the Batavia Players! In high school, Kerrick performed in such shows as ***Kiss Me Kate***, ***The Music Man***, ***Guys and Dolls***, and ***Damn Yankees***. In college, he performed with the a cappella group ***Speakeasy*** and participated in the production of ***Almost, Maine***. Now Kerrick is a Trade Analyst with HSBC and is pursuing his passion of live theater and musicals. Kerrick would like to thank Mom, Dad, Grandma, Beth, Elliott, Owen, Suzanne, Frank, Athan, Travis, and friends for their support.

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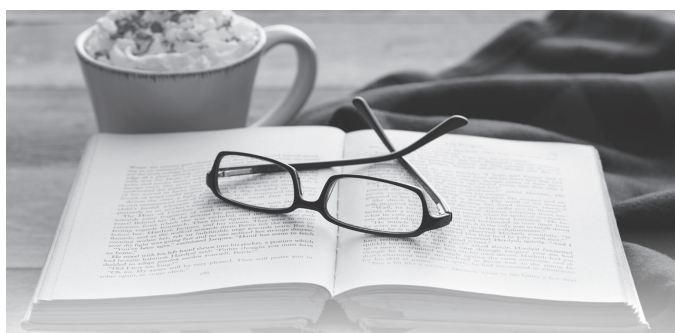
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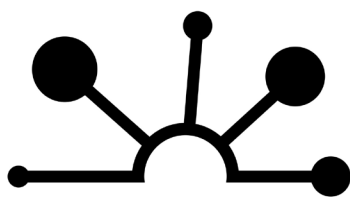
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**Your 2024 Membership is Tax Deductible.*

Please make checks payable to Batavia Players Inc.
and mail to: P.O. Box 256, Batavia, NY 14021-0256.
Questions? Contact Pat at burk.patrick1956@gmail.com



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BEHIND THE SCENES

Director	E. Jane Burk
Assistant Director	Dorothy Gerhart
French Accent Coach	Jessie Pierce
Stage Manager	David Adams
Scenic Design.....	E. Jane Burk David Adams
Set Building	David Adams
Set Decoration.....	Patrick D. Burk Lilah Mordell, Kevin Partridge
Costumes	Patrick D. Burk Dorothy Gerhart
Props	E. Jane Burk, Patrick D. Burk Dorothy Gerhart
Weapons Management	Elijah VanEpps Richard Ferris, E. Jane Burk
Tech Consultant.....	Darin Presley
Sound Designer.....	Ross Chua
Sound Technician	Emily Crawford
Lighting Designer & Technician	Tom Clark
Program Design.....	Heather Zerillo Patrick D. Burk, Kathy White
Head of House.....	Norm Argulski
Box Office	Jodi Coburn Sophie Houseman, Deacon Smith
Ticket Scanners.....	Sarah Hill, Heather Zerillo
Stage Door & Coats.....	Cary Zigrossi
Concessions	Sue Stading-Gaiter Colin Fleming-Stumpf
Ushers	Lucine & Bill Kauffman Michelle & Lyle Jones Cheryl Kowalik, Barb Matarazzo
50/50.....	Chris Crawford Karen Reamer, Jeff Yolevich

MAIN ST. 56 THEATER
PRESENTS:

FOUR THE RECORD

a cabaret showcase

APRIL 19 & 20 @ 7:30PM
APRIL 21 @ 2:00PM

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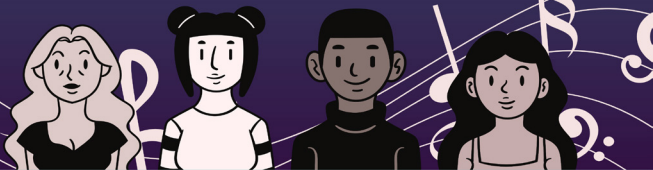
*PURCHASE OF YOUR TICKET MAY RESULT IN A MAXIMUM CHARGE OF
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MAIN ST. 56 THEATER

Home of the Batavia Players



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