



NOVEMBER 16 - 22, 2001

EMMA'S CHILD The premise of Kristine Thatcher's partly autobiographical drama is deceptively simple. Jean Farrell (Peggy Goss) is a middle-aged woman with a supportive husband (Rod McLachlan) who's tried unsuccessfully to conceive a child for 15 years. When the couple finally decides to adopt, Jean is so child-hungry that she agrees to accept any infant. However, when an available child is born unhealthy, only Jean wants to proceed with the adoption. She finds herself drawn to the helpless infant, thus creating a rift in an otherwise strong marriage. There's no melodrama or music, but the humor is witty and literate. Credit the playwright, director Meryl Friedman and a talented cast (including Kristin Brennan, Erin J. O'Brien, Kim Leigh Smith and Steve Totland) for this refreshingly real and intimate theatrical production. No Title Productions at the Odyssey Theater Ensemble, 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd.; Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.; thru Dec. 16. (310) 477-2055. (Diedre Johnson)