Susan Glaspell was born in 1882, in Davenport, Iowa. She worked for a newspaper there until she earned enough to support herself by writing fiction. She wrote a lot - ten novels and more than forty stories. But she is also well known for her plays. She and her husband founded a famous theater, the Provincetown Playhouse, in Provincetown, Massachusetts (on Cape Cod), in 1915. Her husband directed plays by young, unknown writers. Many of these writers later became famous. Glaspell first wrote “A Jury of Her Peers” as a play called Trifles - the word means “small things of little value.” Later, she rewrote the play as a story. Glaspell often wrote about people trapped by the choices they make in life. She died in 1948.