angelestage.substack.com /p/misbehaving-men-six-a-little-night Don Shirley : : 5/12/2023

Domineering tactics by men need not have a sexual element. Look at the West Coast premiere of Michael Hollinger's "Under the Skin," directed by caryn desai at International City Theatre in Long Beach, with a setting in contemporary Pennsylvania.

The older man here is an exasperating father (Tony Abatemarco) who wants his adult daughter (Allison Blaize) to give him one of her kidneys, even though they seldom meet and he can barely remember his grandchild's name. His appeal isn't a Trumpian demand, but his daughter compiles a list of reasons to resist the request.

I won't discuss any of the other details, because some of the turns the story takes would be potential spoilers. Suffice to say that the play is much less predictable than it might seem from the summary outlined above, and most of the audience at the performance I saw audibly enjoyed the narrative twists as much as I did.