

The States Collection – Vermont  
One With Nature  
By Claudia I. Haas  
[Claudiahaas12@gmail.com](mailto:Claudiahaas12@gmail.com)  
[www.claudiahaas.com](http://www.claudiahaas.com)

CAST:

Aurora (female) 20; dreamy-eyed college student  
Blair (male or female) 20; pragmatic college student  
Tour Guide (male or female) 18 or older; ill-suited to the job

Synopsis: The Tour Guide is welcoming people. Maybe. Tour Guide should be off to the side making pronouncements.

TOUR GUIDE

The damage from the industrial revolution has long been repaired. Rivers flow freely. The forests have returned. Because of slow growth, it is one of the few states where you can live peacefully, have a beautiful view and become one with nature.

AURORA

We really should move here. We need to get out of the rat race.

BLAIR

We're not in the rat race. We're still in college. Life will never be easier.

AURORA

We could stop adding debt to our adult life. We can – you know – buy up some maple trees and make maple syrup. How hard is that?

TOUR GUIDE

It takes forty gallon of sap to make one gallon of maple syrup.

BLAIR

You're going to need a lot of trees.

AURORA

We can do it! This state is lousy with maple trees.

TOUR GUIDE

There are almost 2,000 sugar houses in Vermont already. It's an ideal occupation of you love competition. Nail-biting, cut-throat competition. Deadly competition. All for a dollop of syrups on your pancakes.

AURORA

There's always goat farming. I love goat cheese.

BLAIR

How are you going to run a goat farm? You can't get up for an 8 a.m. class?

TOUR GUIDE

A dairy goat farmer can make around \$22 per goat per day.. If we take a lactating average of 284 days, a goat farmer can earn \$6248 a year. The average price of a small farm is \$460,000.

BLAIR

I have to hand it to you. You have a knack for picking out poverty-based occupations.

AURORA

But I love it here!

TOUR GUIDE

By late May, Vermont's weather is perfect. One can enjoy an idyllic al fresco dinner by Memorial Day. You will be one with nature.

AURORA

*I want to be one with nature!*

TOUR GUIDE

The biting flies return in June. They stick around until the mosquitoes come out. The mosquitoes will show you vampire-love until the first frost.

BLAIR

You hate mosquitoes.

AURORA

*I know!*

TOUR GUIDE

After the first frost, you may again dine outside without bugs. Unless there is an ice-storm. Or a snow-storm. Or a blizzard.

BLAIR

Those goats will still need to be milked!

TOUR GUIDE

Mountain roads are impassable. Of course if you can afford a ski lift pass, you will enjoy winter which lasts about eight months. Out of the year, there are fourteen days in which you will enjoy our pristine rivers and lakes. Which may account for our slow population growth.

AURORA

The rat-race is looking more inviting.

BLAIR

Vermont will always be here. For vacations. You can tour dairy farms and sugar houses.

AURORA

And be one with nature!

TOUR GUIDE

Fourteen days of the year!

END OF PLAY