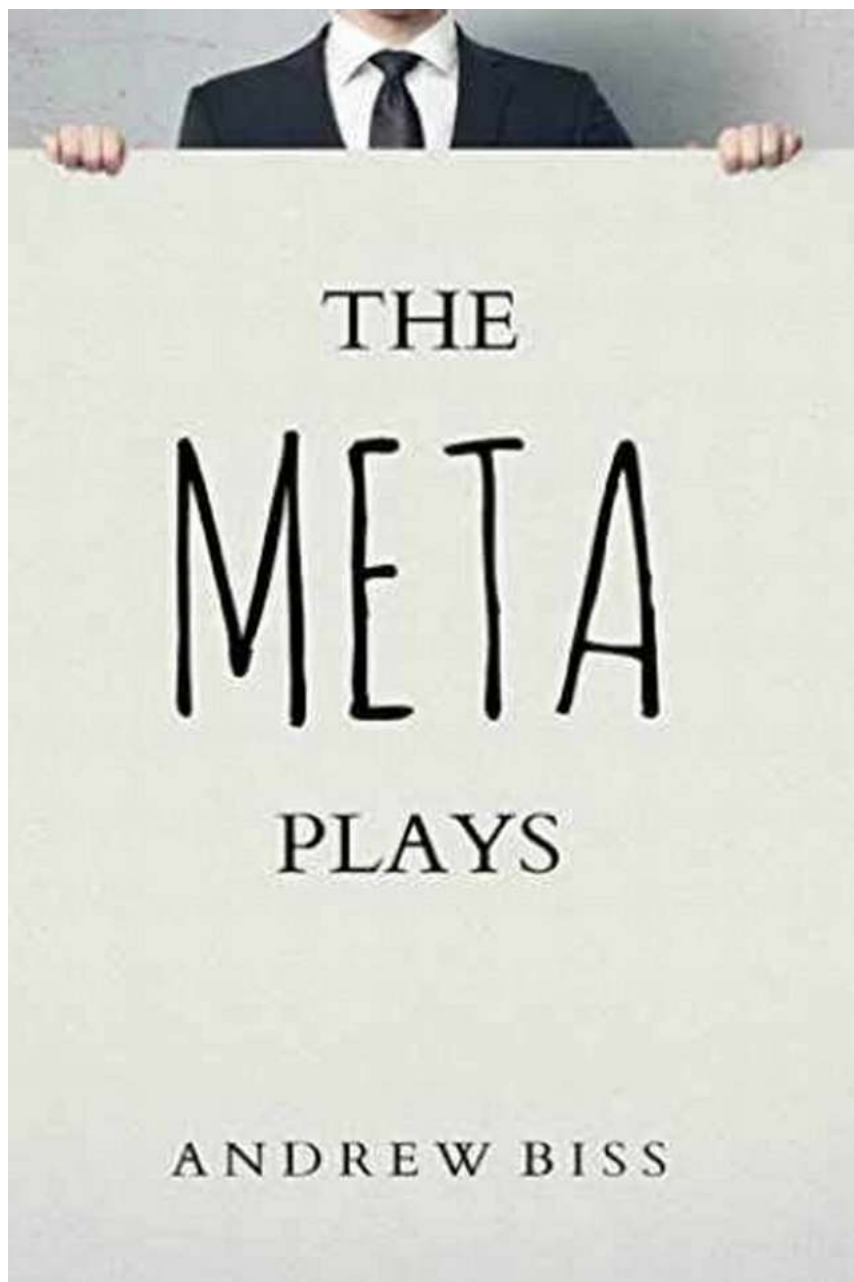


The Meta Plays by Andrew Biss - Exploring the Depth of Theater

Are you ready to delve into a world where reality blurs with imagination, where deep philosophical questions collide with humor, and where the boundaries of theater are pushed to their limits? Then you need to experience The Meta Plays, a collection of thought-provoking works by the talented playwright Andrew Biss.



What are The Meta Plays?

The Meta Plays is a series of interconnected plays that challenge conventional storytelling techniques and invite audiences to reflect on the nature of reality, identity, and the art of theater itself. Andrew Biss, an acclaimed playwright known for his experimental approach, has created a collection that pushes the boundaries of traditional plays and embraces the concept of meta-theater.



The Meta Plays by Andrew Biss (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 774 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 90 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Meta-theater, also known as "theater about theater," is an innovative form of performance that draws attention to the theatrical elements within the play itself. It often breaks the fourth wall, blurring the line between the audience and the performers, and invites viewers to question what is real and what is staged.

The Depth of Theater

The Meta Plays offer a unique and immersive experience that goes beyond the surface-level entertainment of traditional theater. These plays challenge our preconceived notions about reality and provoke us to question our own existence.

Through metatheatrical techniques, Andrew Biss invites us to explore human nature, consciousness, and the power of storytelling.

One of the most captivating aspects of *The Meta Plays* is Biss's ability to seamlessly blend comedy and philosophy. While many of the plays contain elements of satire and humor, they also tackle profound themes that leave a lasting impact on the audience. It's a delicate balancing act that requires both talent and a deep understanding of human nature, something that Biss excels at.

Exploring the Meta Plays

In *The Meta Plays*, Andrew Biss takes us on a journey through various worlds, each with its own distinct characters and narratives. From a theater company trapped in a never-ending opening night to a conversation between a playwright and their protagonist, each play offers a unique perspective on the interplay between reality and fiction.

One of the standout plays in the collection is "The Intruder," which explores the concept of an author losing control over their own characters. As the protagonist rebels against their creator, lines between reality and fiction blur, and the audience is left questioning the nature of agency and free will.

Another remarkable play is "The Answer," where a group of characters are trapped in a never-ending cycle of answering questions. This play challenges our ideas of truth and the search for meaning, all while maintaining a witty and engaging dialogue.

The Legacy of Andrew Biss

Andrew Biss's contribution to theater cannot be overstated. With *The Meta Plays*, he has cemented his place as a master of meta-theater and a visionary

playwright. His ability to seamlessly blend satire and philosophy has captivated audiences worldwide and opened up new possibilities for the art of theater.

Whether you're a theater enthusiast or simply someone seeking a thought-provoking experience, *The Meta Plays* by Andrew Biss should be on your must-watch list. Prepare to be transported into a world where reality and fiction intertwine, and where the depths of human existence are explored in unforgettable ways.

Keywords: *The Meta Plays*, Andrew Biss, meta-theater, theater, reality, identity, storytelling



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A collection of short comedic plays that take theatrical conventions on a metaphysical joyride

This unique compilation of wittily inventive short comedies can be performed by as few as 4 actors or as many as 18, all with minimal set and prop requirements. Many of these plays have gone on to receive highly successful productions around the world, garnering glowing reviews along the way.

The plays included in the collection are:

The Craft

1M/1F Approx. 10 minutes

It's Act 2, Scene 3 in another night's performance of a less-than-riveting romantic drama. As the two young leads navigate their turgid love scene, employing all their dramatic skills in an attempt to breathe life into their two-dimensional characters, another, far more gripping story is unfolding just beneath the surface. Despite a mutual loathing of each other, a devotion to the craft ensures that the show will go on; but the inner dialogues that play out inside each of them reveal a far different narrative than the one being played out on the stage.

A Flawed Character

2 Any Age/Race/Gender Combination Approx. 10 minutes

The playwright creates the first character of his new play, but soon after the entire process grinds to a halt. As time marches on and the play continues to stagnate, the character's patience begins to wear thin. As frustration turns into animosity and antagonism, the playwright begins to realize that perhaps this is one relationship that was never meant to be. But what's a writer to do?

The Skewed Picture

1M/1F Approx. 10 minutes

Bob and Betty have settled in for a quiet night at home. That is, until Bob makes a startling discovery that has the potential to reshape their entire existence...or at least their living room.

Filler

1M/1F Approx. 10 minutes

Two characters come to realize that the extended scene written for them in the middle of the play has no intrinsic value, does nothing to propel the story forward, and to all intents and purposes is completely extraneous. Their *raison d'être* pulled from under them, can they still maintain their credibility and sanity through several pages of what's little more than filler?

The Curious Art of Critique

2M/1F Approx. 15 minutes

When reaction to his work on a new drama appears tepid at best, the director decides he must tackle the problem head-on and root out whatever it is that's leaving the audience unmoved. One way or another, the evening seems destined to end in tears.

What's the Meta?

2 Any Age/Race/Gender Combination Approx. 10 minutes

Two written parts wait to be brought to life on a stage. One of them, however, is found to be mired in a crisis of self-worth due to the size and quality of their role. The larger, more developed part must then attempt to convince its smaller counterpart of just how necessary they both are to the production that is soon to begin, and of the true and indisputable collaborative nature of theatre.

A Rebel Among the Wretched

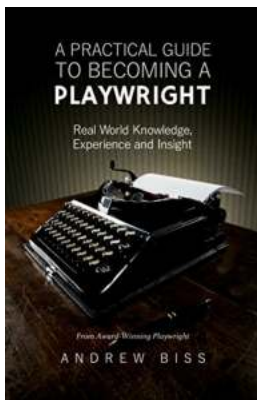
1M/2F Approx. 10 minutes

A celebrated, multi-award winning dysfunctional family drama continues to enthrall audiences night after night. But what happens when one of the characters finally decides they've had enough doom and despair and resolves to leave the play to join...a musical?

Tacked-on Ending

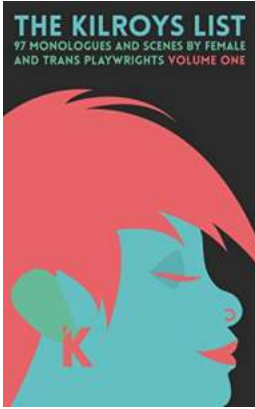
2M Approx. 10 minutes

It's the end of the evening and two actors pack up their belongings and prepare to leave the theatre. While one of them felt the show went great, the other is left with the uneasy feeling that the final scene didn't quite deliver. Was his performance to blame, or was it the play's deus ex machina, which is not only highly implausible but also oddly familiar?



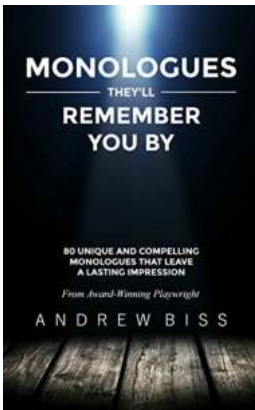
A Practical Guide to Becoming a Playwright: Unveiling the Art of Storytelling

Are you passionate about the art of storytelling? Do you find yourself captivated by the magic that happens on stage, transporting audiences to different worlds and evoking...



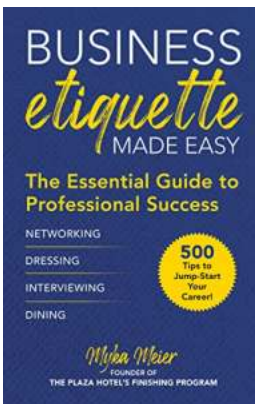
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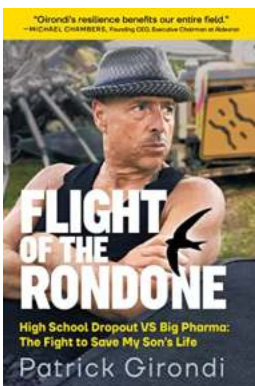
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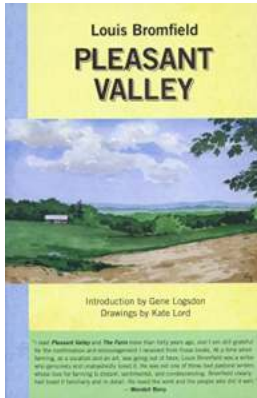
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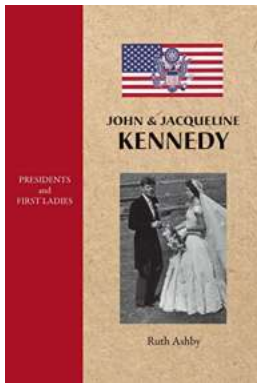
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The dilemma between choosing education and the pursuit of big dreams has haunted many high school dropouts. However, when pitted against the powerful Big Pharma industry,...



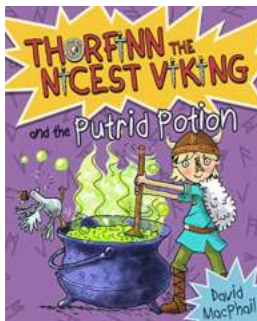
The Enchanting Retreat of Pleasant Valley Louis Bromfield: Discover Its Fascinating Legacy

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