

## **Christopher Durang Script Book**

Durang/DurangThe Vietnamization of New JerseyMiss WitherspoonIt's Only a PlayBaby with the BathwaterLaughing WildAdrift in MacaoPlays for ActressesWhen Dinah Shore Ruled the EarthVanya and Sonia and Masha and SpikeThe Complete Book of 1970s Broadway MusicalsNew York MagazineMoon Over BuffaloThe Complete Book of 2000s Broadway MusicalsBeyond TherapyTelling TalesDetroitTime Flies and Other Short PlaysWhy Torture Is Wrong, and the People Who Love ThemThe Idiots KaramazovMiss Witherspoon and Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas BingeAll in the TimingSister Mary Ignatius Explains it All for You ; And, The Actor's NightmareBetty's Summer Vacation27 Short PlaysDeath Comes to Us All, Mary AgnesCollaboratorsTurning Off the Morning NewsOsloAll the WayHangmenA Man of the ChurchThe Marriage of Bette and BooNaomi in the Living Room & Other Short PlaysThe Best American Short Plays 1996-1997Year Book Covering the Year Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas BingeTitanicMr. Huston/ Mr. North: Life, Death, and Making John Huston's Last FilmBaby with the Bathwater, And, Laughing Wild

### **Durang/Durang**

In this book, Dan Dietz examines in detail every musical that opened on Broadway during the 2000s, including Avenue Q, Billy Elliott, The Full Monty, In the Heights, Jersey Boys, Mary Poppins, Next to Normal, The Producers, Rock of Ages, Spamalot, Spring Awakening, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Urinetown, and Xanadu.

### **The Vietnamization of New Jersey**

### **Miss Witherspoon**

THE STORY: The scene is a middle-class home in Piscataway, New Jersey, where Ozzie Ann (the mother) and Harry (the father) await the return of their Vietnam veteran son, David, and his native bride, Liat. Also on hand are younger brother Et, a sex-

### **It's Only a Play**

THE STORY: Veronica, already scarred by too many failed relationships, finds the world a frightening place. Skylab, an American space station that came crashing down to earth, in particular, haunts and enrages her. So she has committed suicide, and

### **Baby with the Bathwater**

### **Laughing Wild**

**THE STORY:** In this departure from Dickens, young Scrooge's exclamations of Bah, humbug! are an undiagnosed kind of seasonal Tourette's Syndrome, and The Ghost of Christmas Past is played by a sassy African-American woman with enough attitude to portra

## **Adrift in Macao**

**THE STORIES:** SISTER MARY IGNATIUS EXPLAINS IT ALL FOR YOU. Sister Mary Ignatius, a teaching nun who is much concerned with sin in all of its various forms, delivers a cautionary lecture to her charges. One of them, a precocious little boy named Tho

## **Plays for Actresses**

From one of theater's most outrageous comic talents, two plays—one a Pulitzer Prize in Drama finalist, the other a twisted take on Christmas classics. In this book, Christopher Durang, the criminally funny author of *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You*, presents two plays about death, religion, and a creamy Christmas pudding. In *Miss Witherspoon*—named one of the Ten Best Plays of 2005 by both *Time* and *Newsday*—Veronica, a recent suicide whose cantankerous attitude has not improved in the afterlife, discovers that the one thing worse than the world she left behind is having to go back for seconds. Ordered to cleanse her “brown tweedy aura,” Veronica resists being reincarnated (as a trailer-trash teen or an overexcited Golden Retriever), only to find that she may be mankind's last, best hope for survival. In *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge*, a sassy ghost once again attempts to shake Scrooge from his holiday humbug, but the whole family-friendly affair is deliciously derailed by Mrs. Cratchit's drunken insistence on stepping out of her miserable, treachly role. Morals are subverted, starving yet plucky children sing carols, and somebody's goose is cooked as Durang lovingly skewers *A Christmas Carol*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and many more to create a brand-new, cracked Christmas classic.

## **When Dinah Shore Ruled the Earth**

Cliff and Salena are happily living a nice, normal life in the suburbs. But their neighbors, Jimmy and Polly, threaten to disrupt their domestic bliss. They're sometimes a little strange—and sometimes completely unhinged. Equally unnerving and delightful, *TURNING OFF THE MORNING NEWS* takes hilarious aim at the absurdity of our modern world.

## **Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike**

Playwright David Ives's follow-up collection to the award-winning collection *All in the Timing* pushes his gift for wacky one-act comedy to new heights: two mayflies on a date realize they have only twenty-four hours to live; a washing-machine repairman falls in love with a perfect washer (should he tell his girlfriend?); an out-of-work shmo decides to spend his day being painter Edgar Degas; two Babylonian blue-collar workers have to build the Tower of Babel -- or else. Zany, thought-provoking, and always original, this anthology brings together all the one-acts from

the Off-Broadway hit *Mere Mortals* and from the all-new *Lives of the Saints*, as well as several new and uncollected plays, including *Bolero*, *Arabian Nights* (which premiered at the celebrated Humana Festival in Louisville), *The Green Hill*, and *Captive Audience*.

## **The Complete Book of 1970s Broadway Musicals**

Winner of the 2017 Tony Award for Best Play. Everyone remembers the stunning and iconic moment in 1993 when Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat shook hands on the South Lawn of the White House. But among the many questions that laced the hope of the moment was that of Norway's role. How did such high-profile negotiations come to be held secretly in a castle in the middle of a forest outside Oslo? A darkly funny and sweeping play, *OSLO* tells the surprising true story of the back-channel talks, unlikely friendships, and quiet heroics that led to the Oslo Peace Accords between the Israelis and Palestinians. J.T. Rogers presents a deeply personal story set against a complex historical canvas: a story about the individuals behind world history and their all too human ambitions. [www.jtrogerswriter.com](http://www.jtrogerswriter.com)

## **New York Magazine**

A painfully funny, Obie Award-winning play about the tragedy and comedy of family life. Never have marriage and the family been more scathingly or hilariously savaged than in this brilliant black comedy. *The Marriage of Bette and Boo* brings together two of the maddest families in creation in a portrait album of life's uncertainties and confusion. Bereaved by miscarriages, undermined by their families, separated by alcoholism, assaulted by disease, and mystified by their priest, Bette and Boo, in their bewildered attempts to provide a semblance of hearth and home, are portrayed with a poignant compassion that enriches and enlarges the play, and makes clear why Christopher Durang has become one of the great names in American theater. "One of the most explosively funny American dramatists."—*Newsweek*

## **Moon Over Buffalo**

In *'Laughing Wild,* ' two comic monologues evolve into a man's and an woman's shared nightmare of modern life and the isolation it creates.

## **The Complete Book of 2000s Broadway Musicals**

I'm just as good as bloody Pierrepoint. In his small pub in Oldham, Harry is something of a local celebrity. But what's the second-best hangman in England to do on the day they've abolished hanging? Amongst the cub reporters and sycophantic pub regulars, dying to hear Harry's reaction to the news, a peculiar stranger lurks, with a very different motive for his visit. Don't worry. I may have my quirks but I'm not an animal. Or am I? One for the courts to discuss. Martin McDonagh's *Hangmen* premiered at the Royal Court Theatre, London, in September 2015.

## **Beyond Therapy**

## **Telling Tales**

THE STORY: It's the opening night of The Golden Egg on Broadway, and the wealthy producer (Julia Budder) is throwing a lavish party in her lavish Manhattan townhouse. Downstairs the celebrities are pouring in, but the real action is upstairs

## **Detroit**

## **Time Flies and Other Short Plays**

Comedy Christopher Durang Characters: 4 male, 2 female Interior Set (Set may be simply suggested.) Bruce and Prudence are deeply into therapy. Prudence's macho therapist is urging her to be more assertive while Bruce's wacky female therapist wants him to meet women by placing a personal ad. She does not fully comprehend that Bruce has a male lover who is not pleased by Bruce's desire to date a woman: Prudence. Bruce doesn't know how to handle poor nervous Prudence.

## **Why Torture Is Wrong, and the People Who Love Them**

An exciting and varied collection of contemporary one-act plays from some of today's best playwrights.

## **The Idiots Karamazov**

Ralph del Colle was born in New York City on October 3, 1954 and was raised in Mineola, Long Island. He attended Xavier High School in Chelsea and received a BA in History and Literature of Religions from New York University, and MDiv, MPhil, and PhD degrees from Union Theological Seminary. Ralph taught for 17 years in the Marquette University Theology Department; prior to that he taught at Barry University, Miami Shores, Florida and at St. Anselm College, Manchester, New Hampshire. Ralph's lively Christian faith and interest in church unity led to his participation in ecumenical dialogues. He served as a representative to the International Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue for the Pontifical Council on Christian Unity for 12 years and also served on the Catholic-Reformed Dialogue and Catholic-Evangelical Dialogue, both for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He was invited by the Pontifical Council to serve as a representative to the World Council of Churches Assembly in Harare, Zimbabwe in 1998. In 2002-2003, he served as the President of the Society for Pentecostal Studies and in 2003 Ralph received the Archbishop's Vatican II Award. Ralph's scholarly work, especially his work on the Holy Spirit, made significant contributions to the field of Systematic Theology. Ralph died in July of 2012, slightly more than four weeks after he was diagnosed with a rare form of liver cancer. He was fifty-seven.

## **Miss Witherspoon and Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge**

Christopher Durang has been called Jonathan Swift's nicer, younger brother (The New York Observer). His plays are known for containing hilarity at every turn and revealing social commentary in every corner. Now collected in *Why Torture Is Wrong*, and the *People Who Love Them* and *Other Political Plays* are Durang's most revealing political and social satires. *Why Torture Is Wrong*, and the *People Who Love Them* tells the story of a young woman in crisis: Is her new husband, whom she married when drunk, a terrorist? Or just crazy? Or both? Is her father's hobby of butterfly collecting really a cover for his involvement in a shadow government? Does her mother go to the theater frequently to seek mental escape, or is she just insane? Add in a minister who directs porno, and a ladylike operative whose underwear just won't stay up, and this black comedy will make us laugh all the way to the waterboarding room. [Durang's] funniest play in years. A play that equals his early hits." John Simon, *Bloomberg Comedic napalm*, something like a cross between *The Marriage of Bette and Boo* and *Dr. Strangelove*. Durang has now joined ranks with Dario Fo. Durang is getting a lot off his chest, and off ours. . . unnervingly true and cathartic. Bob Verini, *Variety*

## **All in the Timing**

New York magazine was born in 1968 after a run as an insert of the New York Herald Tribune and quickly made a place for itself as the trusted resource for readers across the country. With award-winning writing and photography covering everything from politics and food to theater and fashion, the magazine's consistent mission has been to reflect back to its audience the energy and excitement of the city itself, while celebrating New York as both a place and an idea.

## **Sister Mary Ignatius Explains it All for You ; And, The Actor's Nightmare**

This "gripping, disturbing, and often blackly comic drama" explores the historic connection between Stalin and Russian author Mikhail Bulgakov (*The Daily Telegraph*, UK). A "rare and special" play by the screenwriter of *Trainspotting* and *Shallow Grave*, *Collaborators* is inspired by the true story of another play: one that Mikhail Bulgakov was forced to write in commemoration Joseph Stalin's sixtieth birthday (*The Times*, UK). Moscow, 1938. Stalin has been in power for sixteen years and his purges are underway. Bulgakov's *The Master and Margarita* is lying unpublished in a desk drawer, and his latest play *Molière* has been banned following terrible reviews in *Pravda*. As a secret policeman dryly puts it, this has opened up a convenient "gap in his schedule." This "gap" is to be filled by writing a play about Stalin's life. As Bulgakov loses himself in a world of secrets, threats, and paradoxes, he begins to fall ill from kidney disease. His feverish dreams of conversations with Stalin become reality in his mind, just as the state's lies become truths in his play. *Collaborators* is a darkly comic portrait of the impossible choices facing an artist living under dictatorship, and a surreal journey into the imagination of a writer as he loses himself in the subject of his drama. Winner of the 2012 Laurence Olivier Awards Best New Play

## **Betty's Summer Vacation**

"Bogie always said that, if there's an impossible location, you can be sure John will find it. John's authentic. He was about something." - Lauren Bacall "He was a landmark in film history, a great friend, and I'll miss him very much." - Michael Caine "There is nothing more fascinating—and more fun—than making movies. Besides, I think I'm finally getting the hang of it." - John Huston In the summer of 1987, a group of the screen's most notable stars gathered in glamorous Newport, Rhode Island to make *Mr. North*, a charming but unpretentious film about a magical man who turns the town upside-down. They included Anthony Edwards, Anjelica Huston, Lauren Bacall, Harry Dean Stanton, Virginia Madsen, Tammy Grimes, and a host of other talents, including legendary director John Huston (*The Maltese Falcon*, *The African Queen*). The filmmaker was Danny Huston, John's son. But just as the cameras turned, John fell ill and was replaced by Robert Mitchum. There were daily reports on Huston's failing health, and the world wondered whether the lion of Hollywood, after surviving so many close calls with death over the years, would finally succumb. Nat Segaloff was the only journalist—in fact, the only outsider—allowed onto the set and behind the scenes of *Mr. North*, and he reported on it for *The Boston Herald*. But only some of it. Now, after more than a quarter century, the full story can be told of the daily interactions of these famous egos struggling to finish their movie while being overshadowed by the one person who wasn't even in it.

## 27 Short Plays

Gather any group of actresses, from students to stars, and someone will inevitably ask, "Where are all the great roles for women?" The roles are right here, in this unprecedented and magnificently diverse collection of plays with all-female casts, each of which represents the answer to any actress's prayer. The seven full-length and ten one-act selections in *Plays for Actresses* range in tone from the unabashed theatricality of Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Three Tall Women* to the blistering black comedy of Laura Cunningham's *Beautiful Bodies*. Their characters include uprooted Japanese war brides, outrageously liberated Shakespearean heroines, an avenging African American housewife, and nuns who double as Catholic schoolgirls. Whether you're looking for a script to produce, a scene for acting class, or a new audition speech, this book will provide you with a wealth of juicy, challenging female roles - even as it introduces you to some of the finest playwrights at work today.

## Death Comes to Us All, Mary Agnes

THE STORIES: NAOMI IN THE LIVING ROOM. Naomi, when visited by John and Johnna, her son and daughter-in-law, is alternately friendly and insulting. Johnna copes her best, but when John changes his clothes to look like Johnna, things start to unravel

## Collaborators

THE STORY: Using the characters and events of *The Brothers Karamazov* as a springboard, the play becomes a lampoon not only of Dostoyevsky but of western culture and literature in general. Dotted with literary allusions and intellectual

jibes, it po

## Turning Off the Morning News

THE STORY: Amid a tangle of changing identities-and sometimes sexes-the action of the play centers on an American family, the Tammurais, who are traveling aboard the Titanic. Comprised of father, mother, brother and sister (or is she actually the Captain's daughter?) the Tammurais undergo a series of sexual permutations as they reveal all manner of shocking secrets and bizarre fetishes while awaiting the iceberg which, somehow, the ship seems unable to find. The mother tells the father that their son is not really his; the father confesses to the mother that their daughter is not really hers; the daughter mysteriously becomes an aunt who is having an affair with her sister (when she isn't seducing her nephew); while the father and son compete vigorously for the affections of a handsome young sailor, who is hard put to choose between them. Eventually the ship does go down, taking its odd assemblage of passengers with it, but leaving behind a remarkable array of original thoughts on the nature of the modern American family and the undeniably disturbed society which nurtures it.

## Oslo

Full Length, Musical / 4m, 3f /Unit Sets Nominated for a Drama Desk Award for Best Music Set in 1952 in Macao, China, ADRIFT IN MACAO is a loving parody of film noir movies. Everyone that comes to Macao is waiting for something, and though none of them know exactly what that is, they hang around to find out. The characters include your film noir standards, like Laureena, the curvacious blonde, who luckily bumps into Rick Shaw, the cynical surf and turf casino owner her first night in town. She ends up getting a job singing in his night club - perhaps for no reason other than the fact that she looks great in a slinky dress. And don't forget about Mitch, the American who has just been framed for murder by the mysterious villain McGuffin. With songs and quips, puns and farcical shenanigans, this musical parody is bound to please audiences of all ages. "And there are of course those songs Melnick demonstrates an affinity for melody and old-fashioned showmanship that link him to his grandfather, Richard Rodgers"- Matthew Murray, Talkin' Broadway.com ..". with a drop-dead funny book and shamefully silly lyrics by Christopher Durang and lethally catchy music by Peter Melnick. A Drift In Macao lovingly parodies the Hollywood film noir classics of the 1940's and 50's" - Michael Dale, Broadwayworld.com

## All the Way

THE STORY: As the play begins Helen and John gaze proudly at their new offspring, a bit disappointed that it doesn't speak English and too polite to check its sex. So they decide that the child is a girl and name it Daisy--which leads to all manner

## Hangmen

This Tony Award-winning, "jaw-dropping political drama" chronicles LBJ's fight for the Civil Rights Act and includes an introduction by Bryan Cranston (Variety).

Winner of the 2014 Tony Award for Best Play, as well as Best Play awards from the New York Drama Critics' Circle, the Outer Critics Circle, the Drama League, and numerous other awards, *All the Way* is a masterful exploration of politics and power from the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Robert Schenkkan. *All the Way* tells the story of the tumultuous first year of Lyndon Baines Johnson's presidency. Thrust into power following the Kennedy assassination and facing an upcoming election, Johnson is nevertheless determined to end the legacy of racial injustice in America and rebuild it into the Great Society—by any means necessary. In order to pass the landmark 1964 Civil Rights bill, LBJ struggles to overpower an intransigent Congress while also attempting to forge a compromise with Martin Luther King, Jr., and navigate the increasingly fractious Civil Rights Movement. *Breaking Bad* star Bryan Cranston played President Johnson in the play's celebrated Broadway production, for which he was awarded the Tony Award for Best Actor. In this edition, Cranston provides an illuminating and personal introduction.

## **A Man of the Church**

A collection of one-act plays from American playwrights, which cover such themes as love, fantasy, politics, grief, marriage, crime, and deceit.

## **The Marriage of Bette and Boo**

THE STORY: In the first section of the play, a Woman enters and embarks on an increasingly frenetic (and funny) recital of the perils and frustrations of daily life in urban America--waiting in line, rude taxi drivers, inane talk shows and the selfi

## **Naomi in the Living Room & Other Short Plays**

Looking for a little rest and time by herself, Betty rents a summer share at the beach. But Betty's luck turns to delicious lunacy when this sensible Everywoman gets drawn into the chaotic world of some very unsavory housemates - her friend Trudy, who talks too much; the lewd, seminaked Buck, who tries to have sex with everyone; and Keith, a serial killer who hides in his room with a mysterious hatbox. With sand between her toes, walking a thin line between sanity and survival, poor Betty will leave her summer vacation more terrorized than tan.

## **The Best American Short Plays 1996-1997**

Typescript, dated Jan. 16, 1996. Heavily marked with colored ink and highlighter by the videographer. Used by The New York Public Library's Theatre on Film and Tape Archive on Feb. 21, 1996, when videotaping the stage production at the Martin Beck Theatre, New York, N.Y. The production opened on Oct. 1, 1995, and was directed by Tom Moore. It starred Carol Burnett, Philip Bosco, and Jane Connell.

## **Year Book Covering the Year**

The 1970s was an exciting decade for musical theatre. Besides shows from legends Stephen Sondheim (*Company*, *Follies*, *A Little Night Music*, and *Sweeney Todd*) and Andrew Lloyd Webber (*Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Evita*), old-fashioned

musicals (Annie) and major revivals (No, No, Nanette) became hits. In addition to underappreciated shows like Over Here! and cult musicals such as The Grass Harp and Mack and Mabel, Broadway audiences were entertained by black musicals on the order of The Wiz and Raisin. In *The Complete Book of 1970s Broadway Musicals*, Dan Dietz examines in detail every musical that opened on Broadway during the 1970s. In addition to including every hit and flop that debuted during the decade, this book highlights revivals and personal-appearance revues with such performers as Tony Bennett, Lena Horne, Bette Midler, and Gilda Radner. Each entry includes the following information: Opening and closing dates Plot summaries Cast members Number of performances Names of all important personnel including writers, composers, directors, choreographers, producers, and musical directors Musical numbers and the names of performers who introduced the songs Production data, including information about tryouts Source material Critical commentary Tony awards and nominations Details about London and other foreign productions Besides separate entries for each production, the book offers numerous appendixes, including a discography, filmography, and published scripts, as well as lists of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, black-themed shows, and Jewish-themed productions. A treasure trove of information, *The Complete Book of 1970s Broadway Musicals* provides readers with a comprehensive view of each show. This significant resource will be of use to scholars, historians, and casual fans of one of the greatest decades in musical theatre history.

## **Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge**

Middle-aged siblings Vanya and Sonia share a home in Bucks County, PA, where they bicker and complain about the circumstances of their lives. Suddenly, their movie-star sister, Masha, swoops in with her new boy toy, Spike. Old resentments flare up, eventually leading to threats to sell the house. Also on the scene are sassy maid Cassandra, who can predict the future, and a lovely young aspiring actress named Nina, whose prettiness somewhat worries the imperious Masha.

## **Titanic**

The world according to David Ives is a very odd place, and his plays constitute a virtual stress test of the English language -- and of the audience's capacity for disorientation and delight. Ives's characters plunge into black holes called "Philadelphias," where the simplest desires are hilariously thwarted. Chimps named Milton, Swift, and Kafka are locked in a room and made to re-create Hamlet. And a con man peddles courses in a dubious language in which "hello" translates as "velcro" and "fraud" comes out as "freud." At once enchanting and perplexing, incisively intelligent and side-splittingly funny, this original paperback edition of Ives's plays includes "Sure Thing," "Words, Words, Words," "The Universal Language," "Variations on the Death of Trotsky," "The Philadelphia," "Long Ago and Far Away," "Foreplay, or The Art of the Fugue," "Seven Menus," "Mere Mortals," "English Made Simple," "A Singular Kinda Guy," "Speed-the-Play," "Ancient History," and "Philip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread." From the Trade Paperback edition.

## **Mr. Huston/ Mr. North: Life, Death, and Making John Huston's**

## **Last Film**

eloquently dramatizes questions of responsibility, guilt and pathologythe complex moral issues are translated into challenging story theater, like a cubist portrait of griefHomage must be paid, this grieving mother cries to the stars, and Medoff answe The mysteries of life, death and survival in the city, of friendships among women and relationships between the sexes are exploredin Jacquelyn Reingold's GIRL GONethe playwright display[s] admirable talent and generate[s] plenty of interest, tension an

## **Baby with the Bathwater, And, Laughing Wild**

In a "first ring" suburb outside a midsize American city, Ben and Mary fire up the grill to welcome the new neighbors who've moved into the long-empty house next door. The fledgling friendship soon veers out of control, shattering the fragile hold that newly unemployed Ben and burgeoning alcoholic Mary have on their way of life—with unexpected comic consequences. Detroit is a fresh, offbeat look at what happens when we dare to open ourselves up to something new. After premiering at Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre last year to rave reviews, Lisa D'Amour's brilliant and timely play moves to Broadway this fall.

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