

# The Methuen Book Of Modern Drama Plays Of The 80s

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*The Methuen Book Of Modern Drama  
Plays Of The 80s*

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## EUGENE CARDENAS

*The Methuen Drama Book of Suffrage Plays* A&C Black Monologues are an essential part of every actor's toolkit. Actors are required to perform monologues regularly throughout their career: preparing for drama school entry, showcasing skills for agents or auditioning for a role. Following on from the bestselling first volume (2008), this book showcases selected monologues from some of the finest modern plays by some of today's leading contemporary playwrights. These monologues contain a diverse range of quirky and memorable characters that cross cultural and historical boundaries. The pieces are helpfully organised into age-specific groups: 'Teens', 'Twenties', 'Thirties' and 'Forties plus'.

*The Methuen Drama Book of Plays by Black British Writers*

Bloomsbury Publishing

Finalist in the 2022 Lambda Literary Awards for the LGBTQ

Anthology category *The Methuen Drama Book of Trans Plays for the Stage* is the first play anthology to offer eight new plays by trans playwrights featuring trans characters. This edited collection establishes a canon of contemporary American trans theatre which represents a variety of performance modes and genres. From groundbreaking new work from across America's stages to unpublished work by new voices, these plays address themes such as gender identity and expression to racial and religious attitudes toward love and sex. Edited by Lindsey Mantoan, Angela Farr Schiller and Leanna Keyes, the plays selected explicitly call for trans characters as central protagonists in order to promote opportunities for trans performers, making this an original and necessary publication for both practical use and academic study. *Sagittarius Ponderosa* by MJ Kaufman *The Betterment Society* by Mashuq Mushtaq Deen *how to clean your room* by j. chavez *She He Me* by Raphaël Amahl Khouri *The Devils Between Us* by Sharifa Yasmin *Doctor Voynich* and *Her Children* by Leanna Keyes *Firebird Tattoo* by Ty Defoe *Crooked Parts* by Azure Osborne-Lee

*Make Acting Work* Bloomsbury Publishing

Unrivalled in its coverage of recent work and writers, *The Methuen Drama Guide to Contemporary American Playwrights* surveys and analyses the breadth, vitality and development of theatrical work to emerge from America over the last fifty years. This authoritative guide leads you through the work of 25 major contemporary American playwrights, discussing more than 140 plays in detail. Written by a team of 25 eminent international scholars, each chapter provides: · a biographical introduction to the playwright's work; · a survey and concise analysis of the writer's most important plays; · a discussion of their style, dramaturgical concerns and critical reception; · a bibliography of published plays and a select list of critical works. Among the many Tony, Obie and Pulitzer prize-winning playwrights included are Sam Shepard, Tony Kushner, Suzan-Lori Parks, August Wilson, Paula Vogel and Neil LaBute. The abundance of work analysed enables fresh, illuminating conclusions to be drawn about the

development of contemporary American playwriting.

*Look Look Doubleday*

'Post-black' refers to an emerging trend within black arts to find new and multiple expressions of blackness, unburdened by the social and cultural expectations of blackness of the past and moving beyond the conventional binary of black and white. Reflecting this multiplicity of perspectives, the plays in this collection explode the traditional ways of representing black families on the American stage, and create new means to consider the interplay of race, with questions of class, gender, and sexuality. They engage and critique current definitions of black and African-American identity, as well as previous limitations placed on what constitutes blackness and black theatre. Written by the emerging stars of American theatre such as Eisa Davis and Marcus Gardley, the plays explore themes as varied as family and individuality, alienation and gentrification, and reconciliation and belonging. They demonstrate a wide-range of formal and structural innovations for the American theatre, and reflect the important ways in which contemporary playwrights are expanding the American dramatic canon with new and diverse means of representation. Edited by two leading US scholars in black drama, Harry J. Elam Jr (Stanford) and Douglas A. Jones Jr (Princeton), this cutting edge anthology gathers together some of the most exciting new American plays, selected by a rigorous academic backbone and explored in depth by supporting critical material.

*Good Fun & Talent* Bloomsbury Publishing

I can tell the difference between who I am and a side effect. *The Effect* is a clinical romance. Two young volunteers, Tristan and Connie, agree to take part in a clinical drug trial. Succumbing to the gravitational pull of attraction and love, however, Tristan and Connie manage to throw the trial off-course, much to the frustration of the clinicians involved. This funny, moving and perhaps surprisingly human play explores questions of sanity, neurology and the limits of medicine, alongside ideas of fate, loyalty and the inevitability of physical attraction. Following on from the critical and commercial success of *Enron*, *The Effect* offers a vibrant theatrical exploration into the human brain via the heart. It received its world premiere at the National Theatre's Cottesloe Theatre in November 2012, starring Billie Piper and Jonjo O'Neill. It is published here in the Modern Classics series alongside an introduction by Miriam Gillinson.

*Climate, History and the Modern World* A&C Black

To what extent is theatre a contagious practice, capable of undoing and enlivening people and cultures? *Theatres of Contagion* responds to some of the anxieties of our current political and cultural climate by exploring theatre's status as a contagious cultural force, questioning its role in the spread or control of medical, psychological and emotional conditions and phenomena. Observing a diverse range of practices from the early modern to contemporary period, the volume considers how this contagion is understood to happen and operate, its real and imagined effects, and how these have been a source of pleasure and fear for theatre makers, audiences and authorities. Drawing

on perspectives from medicine, neuroscience, psychology, anthropology, philosophy, law and affect theory, essays investigate some of the ways in which theatre can be viewed as a powerful agent of containment and transmission. Among the works analysed include a musical adaptation and an intercultural variation of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*; a contemporary queer take on *Hamlet*; *Grand Guignol* and theatres of horror; the writings and influence of Artaud; immersive theatre and the work of *Punchdrunk*, and computer gaming and smartphone apps

*The Methuen Drama Book of Trans Plays* Methuen Drama  
Selected by Anne Harvey, an experienced actress, director, writer and adjudicator, these dramatic monologues are suitable for performance at auditions, solo acting classes, festivals and examinations. Ranging from early Elizabethan to contemporary literature, the pieces are varied in content, tone and style and are equipped with an introduction setting the context. Writers include: Alan Ayckbourn, Enid Bagnold, David Campton, William Congreve, Sarah Daniels, Charles Dickens, Athol Fugard, Lucy Gannon, Graham Greene, John Godber, David Hare, Stanley Houghton, Henrik Ibsen, Shaman Macdonald, David Mercer, Iris Murdoch, Dennis Potter, Tom Stoppard, CP Taylor, Hugh Whitmore and many more.

**The Methuen Drama Guide to Contemporary Irish Playwrights** Methuen Drama

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The Methuen Drama Guide to Contemporary British Playwrights  
A&C Black

Selected by Anne Harvey, an experienced actress, director, writer and adjudicator, these scenes are suitable for performance at auditions, solo acting classes, festivals and examinations. Ranging from Renaissance to contemporary literature, the pieces are varied in content, tone and style and are equipped with an introduction setting the context. Writers include: Edward Bond, Ken Campbell, David Crampton, Caryl Churchill, Noël Coward, Monica Dickens, Lisa Evans, Dario Fo, John Ford, David Hare, Jonathan Harvey, Lillian Hellman, Adrian Henri, Robert Holman, Moliere, Willy Russell, Diane Samuels, G B Shaw, David Storey, Frank Wedekind and many more...

*The Methuen Drama Book of Duologues for Young Actors*  
Methuen Drama

Bertolt Brecht's silent Kattrin in *Mother Courage*, or the disability performance lessons of his Peachum in *The Threepenny Opera*; Tennessee Williams' limping Laura Wingfield in *The Glass Menagerie* and hard-of-hearing Bodey in *A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur*; Samuel Beckett's blind Hamm and his physically disabled parents Nagg and Nell in *Endgame* – these and many further examples attest to disability's critical place in modern drama. This Companion explores how disability performance studies and theatre practice provoke new debate about the place of disability in these works. The book traces the local and international processes and tensions at play in disability theatre, and offers a critical investigation of the challenges its aesthetics

pose to mainstream and traditional practice. The book's first part surveys disability theatre's primary principles, critical terms, internal debates and key challenges to theatre practice.

Examining specific disability theatre productions of modern drama, it also suggests how disability has been re-envisioned and embodied on stage. In the book's second part, leading disability studies scholars and disability theatre practitioners analyse and creatively re-imagine modern drama, demonstrating how disability aesthetics press practitioners and scholars to rethink these works in generative, valuable and timely ways.

*The Methuen Drama Book of Naturalist Plays* Bloomsbury Publishing

Monologues are an essential part of every actor's toolkit. Actors need them for drama school entry, training, showcases and when auditioning for roles in the industry. Edited by Dee Cannon, author of the bestselling *In-Depth Acting*, this book showcases selected monologues from some of the finest modern plays by some of today's leading contemporary playwrights. The monologues contain a diverse range of quirky and memorable characters that cross cultural and historical boundaries, and comes in a brand new format, with a notes page next to each speech, acting as an actor's workbook as well as a monologue resource.

**The Methuen Drama Book of Queer Monologues** Heinemann Educational Books

Shakespeare, *Our Contemporary* is a provocative, original study of the major plays of Shakespeare. More than that, it is one of the few critical works to have strongly influenced theatrical productions. Peter Brook and Charles Marowitz are among the many directors who have acknowledged their debt to Jan Kott, finding in his analogies between Shakespearean situations and those in modern life and drama the seeds of vital new stage conceptions. *Shakespeare, Our Contemporary* has been translated into nineteen languages since it appeared in 1961, and readers all over the world have similarly found their responses to Shakespeare broadened and enriched.

A Modern Dictionary of Sociology Methuen Drama

The study of Naturalist theatre remains a staple and often foundational part of the curriculum at all levels of drama education. This anthology of six of the most commonly studied and revived Naturalist plays from the European repertoire offers a unique compendium that will serve as required reading for drama courses and is ideal for theatre practitioners and fans. The selected plays perfectly reflect the formal and geographical diversity of Naturalist theatre as well as its major philosophical, political and theatrical preoccupations. A critical introduction by Dr Chris Megson contextualises the emergence of Naturalist theatre in the late nineteenth century, identifying its principal aims and methods; provides an analysis of the selected plays, mapping their key preoccupations, and ends by considering Naturalism's enduring legacy and resonance today.

**Theatres of Contagion** Harper Collins

*The Methuen Drama Book of Plays by Black British Writers* provides an essential anthology of six of the key plays that have shaped the trajectory of British black theatre from the late-1970s to the present day. In doing so it charts the journey from specialist black theatre companies to the mainstream, including West End success, while providing a cultural and racial barometer for Britain during the last forty years. It opens with Mustapha Matura's 1979 play *Welcome Home Jacko* which in its depiction of a group of young unemployed West Indians was one of the first to explore issues of youth culture, identity and racial and cultural identification. Jackie Kay's *Chiaroscuro* examines debates about the politics of black, mixed race and lesbian identities in 1980s Britain, and from the 1990s Winsome Pinnock's *Talking in*

Tongues engages with the politics of feminism to explore issues of black women's identity in Britain and Jamaica. From the first decade of the twenty-first century the three plays include Roy Williams' seminal pub-drama *Sing Yer Hearts Out for the Lads*, exploring racism and identity against the backdrop of the World Cup; Kwame Kwei-Armah's National Theatre play of 2004, *Fix Up*, about black cultural history and progress in modern Britain, and finally Bola Agbage's terrific 2007 debut, *Gone Too Far!*, which examines questions of identity and tensions between Africans and Caribbeans living in Britain. Edited by Lynnette Goddard, this important anthology provides an essential introduction to the last forty years of British black theatre.

*The Methuen Drama Anthology of Modern Asian Plays*

Bloomsbury Publishing

This is a selection of speeches for women drawn from the great landmark plays of the 20th century. An appreciation of each speech is enhanced by the editor's introductions and commentaries, which set the plays and individual speeches in their dramatic and performance context

*Disability Theatre and Modern Drama* Macmillan

The Methuen Drama Book of New American Plays is an anthology of six outstanding plays from some of the most exciting playwrights currently receiving critical acclaim in the States. It showcases work produced at a number of the leading theatres during the last decade and charts something of the extraordinary range of current playwriting in America. It will be invaluable not only to readers and theatergoers in the U.S., but to those around the world seeking out new American plays and an insight into how U.S. playwrights are engaging with their current social and political environment. There is a rich collection of distinctive, diverse voices at work in the contemporary American theatre and this brings together six of the best, with work by David Adjmi, Marcus Gardley, Young Jean Lee, Katori Hall, Christopher Shinn and Dan LeFranc. The featured plays range from the intimate to the epic, the personal to the national and taken together explore a variety of cultural perspectives on life in America. The first play, David Adjmi's *Stunning*, is an excavation of ruptured identity set in modern day Midwood, Brooklyn, in the heart of the insular Syrian-Jewish community; Marcus Gardley's lyrical epic *The Road Weeps*, *The Well Runs Dry* deals with the migration of Black Seminoles, is set in mid-1800s Oklahoma and speaks directly to modern spirituality, relocation and cultural history; Young Jean Lee's *Pullman, WA* deals with self-hatred and the self-help culture in her formally inventive three-character play; Katori Hall's *Hurt Village* uses the real housing project of "Hurt Village" as a potent allegory for urban neglect set against the backdrop of the Iraq war; Christopher Shinn's *Dying City* melds the personal and political in a theatrical crucible that cracks open our response to 9/11 and Abu Graib, and finally Dan LeFranc's *The Big Meal*, an inter-generational play spanning eighty years, is set in the mid-west in a generic restaurant and considers family legacy and how some of the smallest events in life turn out to be the most significant.

*The Methuen Drama Guide to Contemporary American Playwrights* Bloomsbury Publishing

This book of contemporary monologues for women includes pieces from the best of the last three decades of contemporary playwriting, from Howard Brenton and Bryony Lavery to Charlotte Jones and Mark Ravenhill. Including extracts from plays by award-winning British playwrights, there are pieces both serious and comic providing the actor with all the challenges of performing contemporary plays. The book is an invaluable resource for

auditions, acting class, competitions and rehearsals. A fuller appreciation of each monologue is provided by Chrys Salt's invaluable commentaries, giving clues as to possible direction and setting each piece in the context of the play as a whole. Praise for Chrys Salt's *Make Acting Work*: "A really useful book for every actor to own" Prunella Scales; "This book should be part of every resourceful actor's armoury" Annette Badland *The Methuen Book of Contemporary Monologues for Women* Methuen Drama

An anthology bringing together some of the most important and controversial plays from the last twenty years.

*The Oberon Book of Modern Monologues for Men* Methuen Drama

In professional and student theater alike, a good monologue can often mean the difference between a "Thank you . . . Next!" and a call-back. But sometimes it's hard for an aspiring actor to find the absolutely right audition piece that suits his or her personal style, type or age group. *Monologues For Young Actors* is a unique and invaluable collection of dramatic speeches from some of the world's greatest plays -- chosen specifically for actors in their teens and early twenties. Whether you're looking for something comedic or tragic, contemporary or classic, unorthodox or naturalistic, this superb compilation has the monologue you need -- an indispensable tool to help you hone your craft . . . and land that role.

*Skungpoomery* Bloomsbury Publishing

This diverse anthology features eight contemporary plays founded in testimonies from across the world. Showcasing challenging and provocative works of theatre, the collection also provides a clear insight into the workings of the genre through author interviews, introductions from the companies and performance images which illustrate the process of creating each piece. *Bystander 9/11* by Meron Langsner is an impressionistic but wholly authentic response to the catastrophe as it unfolded and in the days following. *Big Head* by Denise Uyehara is an interrogation of current perceptions of "the enemy now" as seen through the lens of Japanese American internment during World War II. *Urban Theatre Projects' The Fence* is a tale of love, belonging and healing. It is a tender work that looks at the adult lives of five family and friends who spent their childhoods in orphanages, institutions and foster homes in Australia. *Come Out Eli: Christmas 2002* in Hackney, London, saw the longest siege in British history. Using interviews collected at the time and further material gathered in the aftermath, Alecky Blythe's play explores the impact of the siege on the lives of individuals and the community. *The Travels: members of Forced Entertainment* undertook a series of journeys during one summer, each travelling alone to locations in the UK to complete tasks determined only partially in advance. This began a mapping process and the creation of a landscape of ideas, narratives and bad dreams. *On the Record* by Christine Bacon and Noah Birksted-Breen circumnavigates the globe to bring true stories from six independent journalists, all linked by their determination to shed light on the truth. Created by Paula Cizmar, Catherine Filloux, Gail Kriegel, Carol K. Mack, Ruth Margraff, Anna Deavere Smith and Susan Yankowitz, *Seven* is based on personal interviews with seven women who have triumphed over huge obstacles to catalyse major changes in human rights in their home countries of Russia, Pakistan, Nigeria, Northern Ireland, Afghanistan, Guatemala and Cambodia. *Pajarito Nuevo la Lleva: The Sounds of the Coup* by María José Contreras Lorenzini focuses upon sense memories of witnesses who were children at the time of the 1974 military coup in Chile.