

### Tracy Letts Killer Joe Play

**THE STORY:** Silver Johnny is the new singing sensation, straight out of a low-life Soho clubland bar in 1958. His success could be the big break for two dead-end workers in the bar, if they play their cards right and trust the owner of the place to

In a motel room outside Oklahoma City, a lonely waitress hiding from her abusive ex-husband is joined by a soft-spoken young drifter who might be an AWOL Gulf War veteran. And then they see the first bugs...

Discussing more than 80 full-length plays, this volume provides an overview of the most important and memorable theatrical works of crime and detection produced between 1975 and 2000. Each entry includes a plot synopsis, production data, and the opinions of well-known and respected critics and scholars.

*Love Me or Kill Me* is the first study of Sarah Kane, the most significant British dramatist in post-war theater. It covers all of Kane's major plays and productions, contains hitherto unpublished material and reviews, and looks at her continuing influence after her tragic early death. Locating the main dramatic sources and features of her work as well as centralizing her place within the 'new wave' of emergent British dramatists in the 1990's, Graham Saunders provides an introduction for those familiar and unfamiliar with her work.

Linda Vista (Tcg Edition)

The Realistic Joneses

Killer Joe

Ten Years Later

A Memoir

Winner of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Drama “A tremendous achievement in American playwriting: a tragicomic populist portrait of a tough land and a tougher people.”—Time Out New York “Tracy Letts’ August: Osage County is what O’Neill would be writing in 2007. Letts has recaptured the nobility of American drama’s mid-century heyday while still creating something entirely original.”—New York magazine One of the most bracing and critically acclaimed plays in recent Broadway history, August: Osage County is a portrait of the dysfunctional American family at its finest—and absolute worst. When the patriarch of the Weston clan disappears one hot summer night, the family reunites at the Oklahoma homestead, where long-held secrets are unflinchingly and uproariously revealed. The three-act, three-and-a-half-hour mammoth of a play combines epic tragedy with black comedy, dramatizing three generations of unfulfilled dreams and leaving not one of its thirteen characters unscathed. After its sold-out Chicago premiere, the play has electrified audiences in New York since its opening in November 2007. Tracy Letts is the author of Killer Joe, Bug, and Man from Nebraska, which was a finalist for the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. His plays have been performed throughout the country and internationally. A performer as well as a playwright, Letts is a member of the Steppenwolf Theatre Company, where August: Osage County premiered.

Includes The Modern Ladies of Guanabacoa, Fabiola, In the Eye of the Hurricane and Broken Eggs.

On the surface, the life of Ken Carpenter, a solidly married fifty-seven-year-old insurance salesman, is uneventful: silent rides in his luxury sedan, cafeteria encounters with Salisbury steak and lime Jell-O, visits to his mother in the nursing home, and the minister's sermons at the Baptist church. Then one night he is jolted awake, tortured by the discovery that he no longer believes in God. Encouraged by his minister, Ken decides to find himself and his faith by impulsively flying to London, where he navigates the new and somewhat dangerous realm of British counterculture. Tracy Letts's play dares to ask the big questions, revealing the hidden yearning and emotion that can spur eccentric behaviour in outwardly conventional people.

A tense, gut-twisting thriller that asks where the moral line is drawn in the fight for survival. The Smith family hatch a plan to murder their estranged matriarch for her insurance money. They hire Joe Cooper, a police detective and part-time contract killer, to do the job. But once he enters their trailer home and comes face-to-face with their innocent daughter, the plan spirals out of control... Tracy Letts' play Killer Joe was originally staged in 1993 in Evanston, Illinois. It ran for eight months before later runs in Edinburgh, New York and London, including four months in the West End. The play has been performed in fifteen countries in twelve languages, and became an acclaimed feature film directed by William Friedkin and starring Matthew McConaughey in 2011. This new edition is published alongside the new production at the Trafalgar Studios in the West End starring Orlando Bloom, opening in May 2018.

The Friedkin Connection

The Librarian’s Guide to Book Programs and Author Events

The Floating Island Plays

'Love Me Or Kill Me'

Understanding Tracy Letts

This definitive history brings Chicago’s celebrated theater and comedy scenes to life with stories from some of its biggest stars spanning sixty-five years. Chicago is a bona fide theater town, bursting with vitality that thrills local fans and produces generation after generation of world-renowned actors, directors, playwrights, and designers. Now Mark Larson shares the rich theatrical history of Chicago through first-person accounts from the people who made it. Drawing from more than three hundred interviews, Larson weaves a narrative that expresses the spirit of Chicago’s ensemble ethos: the voices of celebrities such as Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Ed Asner, George Wendt, Michael Shannon, and Tracy Letts comingle with stories from designers, composers, and others who have played a crucial role in making Chicago theater so powerful, influential, and unique. Among many other topics, this book explores the early days of the fabled Compass Players and the legendary Second City in the ‘50s and ‘60s; the rise of acclaimed ensembles like Steppenwolf in the ‘70s; the explosion of storefront and neighborhood companies in the ‘80s; and the enduring global influence of the city as the center of improv training and performance.

Many of the American playwrights who dominated the 20th century are no longer with us: Edward Albee, Arthur Miller, Sam Shepard, Neil Simon, August Wilson and Wendy Wasserstein. A new generation, whose careers began in this century, has emerged, and done so when the theatre itself, along with the society with which it engages, was changing. Capturing the cultural shifts of 21st-century America, Staging America explores the lives and works of 8 award-winning playwrights – including Ayad Akhtar, Stephen Adly Guirgis, Young Jean Lee and Quiara Allegría Hudes – whose backgrounds reflect the social, religious, sexual and national diversity of American society. Each chapter is devoted to a single playwright and provides an overview of their career, a description and critical evaluation of their work, as well as a sense of their reception. Drawing on primary sources, including the playwrights’ own commentaries and notes, and contemporary reviews, Christopher Bigsby enters into a dialogue with plays which are as various as the individuals who generated them. An essential read for theatre scholars and students, Staging America is a sharp and landmark study of the contemporary American playwright.

THE STORIES: The Globe and Mail describes THE MEMORY OF WATER as both gloriously funny and deeply felt...Indeed, THE MEMORY OF WATER is so funny that it appears at first to be pure black comedy, with the newly bereaved sisters indulging wildly in wi

A Study Guide for Tracy Letts's "August: Osage County", excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Drama for Students.This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Drama for Students for all of your research needs.

Superior Donuts (TCG Edition)

Blood on the Stage, 1975-2000

Ensemble

The Nice House on the Lake (2021-) #7

August Wilson's Jitney

Using this guide, libraries can connect book lovers eager to learn about recent and noteworthy books to authors and fellow book lovers.

“Letts is a master of pitch-dark comedies that measure the grisliest depths of human behavior...Linda Vista is very funny, equally unsettling...An inspired, ruthless take on the classic midlife-crisis comedy.” —Ben Brantley, New York Times Fifty-year-old Wheeler is moving into his own apartment after a nasty divorce. With a blend of humor and humanity, Pulitzer Prize–winning playwright Tracy Letts demonstrates the ultimate midlife crisis: the bewildering search for self-discovery once you’ve already grown up.

“Zestier and more colloquial than most translations . . . Letts’ main achievement here is to make Chekhov more emotional, accessible and active.”—Chicago Tribune "I've seen over a dozen Three Sisters, but never has the final scene . . . registered so hard. It's the cumulative effect of . . . searing truth-telling—from Letts, who knows family dysfunction as only the author of August: Osage County can, and Chekhov, the good doctor who diagnoses all our weaknesses that are so strong.”—Chicago Theater Beat When the champion of modern family drama takes on the genre's patriarch, the result is an energetic and vitalizing adaptation of one of Anton Chekhov's most beloved plays. A cruder, gruffer outline of the plight of the wistful Prozorov sisters serves to emphasize the anguish of their Chekhovian stagnation. This latest work from Letts envisions the revered classic through a fresh lens that revives the passionate characters and redoubles the tragic effect of their stunted dreams. Tracy Letts was awarded the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and Tony Award for Best Play for August: Osage County. His other plays include Superior Donars; Pulitzer Prize-finalist Man from Nebraska; Killer Joe, which was adapted into a critically acclaimed film; and Bug, which has played in New York, Chicago and London and was adapted into a film. Letts garnered a Tony Award for his performance in the Broadway revival of Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

All actors and acting teachers need The Ultimate Scene and Monologue Sourcebook, the invaluable guide to finding just the right piece for every audition. The unique format of the book is ideal for acting teachers who want their students to understand each monologue in context. This remarkable book describes the characters, action, and mood for more than 1,000 scenes in over 300 plays. Using these guidelines, the actor can quickly pinpoint the perfect monologue, then find the text in the Samuel French or Dramatist Play Service edition of the play. Newly revised and expanded, the book includes the author's own assessment of each monologue.

An Actor's Guide to Over 1,000 Monologues and Scenes from More Than 300 Contemporary Plays

Sarah Kane and the Theatre of Extremes

The Memory of Water

Mary Page Marlowe (TCG Edition)

An Oral History of Chicago Theater

**A hugely-acclaimed black comedy exposing the dark side of the Midwestern American family. When the large Weston family is reunited in Oklahoma after the disappearance of their father, they let loose a maelstrom of repressed truths and unsettling secrets. First staged in the UK at the National Theatre in 2008 following its premiere in Chicago, August: Osage County won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, Tony Award for Best Play and Critics' Circle Award for Best Play.**

**A charming and funny memoir about experiences Gina Gershon has had with cats throughout her life that are analogous to her relationships with men and her ongoing search for true love. Film and television icon Gina Gershon may be best known for her movie roles in Bound and Showgirls and television appearances on Curb Your Enthusiasm and How to Make It in America, but deep down she is a self-described cat lady. In Search of Cleo follows Gina's desperation and despair when her assistant loses her beloved cat, Cleo. Gina spends two months roaming the back streets of Los Angeles at all hours of the night, searching for Cleo and meeting several quirky and outrageous characters who help or hinder her in different ways, including Ellen DeGeneres, who searches with Gina and recommends her pet psychic, Sonia; Arthur, the newspaper delivery man who gives her advice; and the mysterious fortune-teller, who appears from the shadows to give her a statue of Saint Gertrude, the protector of cats everywhere. Gina soon finds herself enmeshed in L.A.'s strangest subcultures, doing everything she can to bring Cleo home, including chanting with a bunch of crystal-wielding hippies and being slapped with a chicken by a Santeria priest. Along the way, she reflects on the various cats that have been a part of her life and shares her travails as a single girl in search of both her cat and some sanity. In Search of Cleo will delight pet lovers and singletons alike as it introduces Cleo to the celebrated pantheon of literary cats that includes Dewey, Homer, and Oscar.**

**Now a major motion picture by the Academy Award-winning director of "The Exorcist."**

**A dissection of the impact on society of the war in Iraq When one man goes to war he leaves the city, his wife and brother. A year later only the wife and brother remain. Christopher Shinn's new play asks what happens when people and events apparently thousands of miles away affect the heart and soul of a city.'Christopher Shinn's clever, intricately calculated and quietly moving new play" Daily Telegraph'Subtle, insinuating, beautifully written new play'**

**Whatsonstage'an impressive analysis of the collective American psyche rooted in details of real family life' Guardian**

**A Play**

**August: Osage County (TCG Edition)**

**He Brought Her Heart Back in a Box and Other Plays**

**Two Short Plays**

**August, Osage County**

God's Ear marks the debut of Jenny Schwartz, "an indelibly clever playwright, possessed of linguistic playfulness and a lively sense of rhythm" (Alexis Soloski, The Village Voice). Through the skillfully disarming use of clichéd language and homilies, the play explores with subtle grace and depth the way the death of a child tears one family apart, while showcasing the talents of a promising young playwright who "in [a] very modern way [is] making a rather old-fashioned case for the power of the written word" (Jason Zinoman, The New York Times). Fresh from its critically acclaimed off-off-Broadway run this past spring, God's Ear moves off-Broadway to the Vineyard Theatre in April 2008.

A new Chicago-set comedy by the author of August: Osage County.

Introduces nine exciting and talented playwrights who have emerged in twenty-first century America, exploring issues of race, gender and society.

Killer Cop Tony Law meets trailer-park trash Phil Nichol and Lizzie Roper in Tracy Letts' jaw-dropping smash-hit dark comedy. Breath-taking events. Truly shocking behaviour. Thrilling high-energy climax.

British Drama Today

Twenty-First Century American Playwrights

Three Sisters

Twenty-First-Century Dramatists

In Search of Cleo

**Best known for his portrayals of large-scale family drama, Tracy Letts' new play narrows in focus, zooming in on the life of just one woman, though her story is no less complex. This intimate snapshot of a simple life provides an enlightening examination of a complicated human mind.**

**A wonderfully moving new play by the Pulitzer Prize-finalist author of "Thom Pain (based on nothing)."**

**A searing new comedy from the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of August: Osage County.**

**THE STORIES: FUN deals with the determination of two bored teenagers, Casper and Denny, to seek out a good time in their small city environment of tacky shopping malls and fast-food outlets. Told in a series of short, fast-moving scenes, with bitin**

**The Minutes**

**Milestone Plays of Crime, Mystery, and Detection**

**Man from Nebraska**

**Mojo**

**Bug**

In her first new work in a decade, Adrienne Kennedy journeys into Georgia and New York City in the 1940s to lay bare the devastating effects of segregation and its aftermath. The story of a doomed interracial love affair unfolds through fragmented pieces—letters, recollections from family members, songs from the time—to present a multifaceted view of our cultural history that resists simple interpretation. This volume also includes Etta and Ella on the Upper West Side and Mom, How Did You Meet The Beatles?

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The most controversial and newsworthy plays of British theatre are a rash of rude, vicious and provocative pieces by a brat pack of twentysomethings whose debuts startled critics and audiences with their heady mix of sex, violence and street-poetry. In-Yer-Face Theatre is the first book to study this exciting outburst of creative self-expression by what in other contexts has been called Generation X, or Thatcher's Children, the 'yoof' who grew up during the last Conservative Government. The book argues that, for example, Trainspotting, Blasted, Mojo and Shopping and F\*\*king are much more than a collection of shock tactics - taken together, they represent a consistent critique of modern life, one which focuses on the problem of violence, the crisis of masculinity and the futility of consumerism. The book contains extensive interviews with playwrights, including Sarah Kane (Blasted), Mark Ravenhill (Shopping and F\*\*king), Philip Ridley (The Pitchfork Disney), Patrick Marber (Closer) and Martin McDonagh (The Beauty Queen of Leenane).

**THE STORY:** On November 6, 1998, gay University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard left the Fireside Bar with Aaron McKinney and Russell Henderson. The following day he was discovered on a prairie at the edge of town, tied to a fence, brutally beaten, and close to death. Six days later Matthew Shepard died at Poudre Valley Hospital in Ft. Collins, Colorado. On November 14th, 1998, ten members of Tectonic Theatre Project traveled to Laramie, Wyoming and conducted interviews with the people of the town. Over the next year, the company returned to Laramie six times and conducted over 200 interviews. These texts became the basis for the play The Laramie Project. Ten years later on September 12th, 2008, five members of Tectonic returned to Laramie to try to understand the long-term effect of the murder. They found a town wrestling with its legacy and its place in history. In addition to revisiting the folks whose words riveted us in the original play, this time around, the company also spoke with the two murderers, McKinney and Henderson, as well as Matthew's mother, Judy Shepard. **THE LARAMIE PROJECT: TEN YEARS LATER** is a bold new work, which asks the question, "How does society write its own history?"

Fun ; And, Nobody

Linda Vista (TCG Edition)

How I Found My Kitty and Lost My Mind

The Grotesque in Contemporary Anglophone Drama

Staging America

The long-awaited memoir from the Academy Award–winning director of such legendary films as *The French Connection*, *The Exorcist*, and *To Live and Die in LA*, *The Friedkin Connection* takes readers from the streets of Chicago to the suites of Hollywood and from the sixties to today, with autobiographical storytelling as fast-paced and intense as any of the auteur's films. William Friedkin, maverick of American cinema, offers a candid look at Hollywood, when traditional storytelling gave way to the rebellious and alternative; when filmmakers like him captured the paranoia and fear of a nation undergoing a cultural nervous breakdown. *The Friedkin Connection* includes 16 pages of black-and-white photographs.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama *Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes* includes *Part One, Millennium Approaches* and *Part Two, Perestroika* “Glorious. A monumental, subversive, altogether remarkable masterwork...Details of specific catastrophes may have changed since this Reagan-era AIDS epic won the Pulitzer and the Tony, but the real cosmic and human obsessions—power, religion, sex, responsibility, the future of the world—are as perilous, yet as falling-down funny, as ever.” —Linda Winer, *Newsday* "A vast, miraculous play... provocative, witty and deeply upsetting... a searching and radical rethinking of American political drama." - Frank Rich, *New York Times* "A victory for theater, for the transforming power of the imagination to turn devastation into beauty." - John Lahr, *New Yorker* "An enormously impressive work of the imagination and intellect, a towering example of what theater stretched to its full potential can achieve." -Philadelphia Inquirer "Angels in America is the

*finest drama of our time, speaking to us of an entire era of life and death as no other play within memory. It ranks as nothing less than one of the greatest plays of the twentieth century."* - John Heilpern, *New York Observer* "Some playwrights want to change the world. Some want to revolutionize theater. Tony Kushner is that rarity of rarities: a writer who has the promise to do both." -*New York Times* This new edition of Tony Kushner's masterpiece is published with the author's recent changes and a new introduction in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of its original production. One of the most honored American plays in history, *Angels in America* was awarded two Tony Awards for Best Play and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. It was made into an Emmy Award-winning HBO film directed by Mike Nichols. This two-part epic, subtitled "A Gay Fantasia on National Themes," has received hundreds of performances worldwide in more than twenty-six languages. Tony Kushner's plays include *Angels in America*; *Hydriotaphia, or the Death of Dr. Brown*; *The Illusion*, adapted from the play by Pierre Corneille; *Slavs!*; *A Bright Room Called Day*; *Homebody/Kabul*; *Caroline, or Change*, a musical with composer Jeanine Tesori; and *The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide to Capitalism and Socialism with a Key to the Scriptures*. He wrote the screenplays for Mike Nichols's film of *Angels in America* and for Steven Spielberg's *Munich* and *Lincoln*. His books include *The Art of Maurice Sendak: 1980 to the Present*; *Brundibar*, with illustrations by Maurice Sendak; and *Wrestling with Zion: Progressive Jewish-American Responses to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, co-edited with Alisa Solomon. Among many honors, Kushner is the recipient of a Pulitzer Prize, two Tony Awards, three Obie Awards, two Evening Standard Awards, an Olivier Award, an Emmy Award, two Oscar nominations, and the Steinberg Distinguished Playwright Award. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 2012, he was awarded a National Medal of Arts by President Barack Obama. He lives in Manhattan with his husband, Mark Harris.

One of the most critically acclaimed and bestselling horror titles of 2021 returns for its shocking second act-and now is the perfect time to enter the house! The 10 hardy survivors gathered in the house by their mutual friend Walter thought they'd finally cracked the code on his plans...and now everything they thought they knew has literally changed. Can they free themselves from their patterns? Or are they all just determined to build a prison of their very own? Grab the first collected volume and get caught up on the most surprising series in comics!

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize in drama as well as Tony Awards for best play and best actor, Tracy Letts has emerged as one of the greatest playwrights of the twenty-first century. *Understanding Tracy Letts*, the first book dedicated to his writing, is an introduction to his plays and an invitation to engage more deeply with his work—both for its emotional power and cultural commentary. Experiencing a Tracy Letts play often feels akin to reading a Cormac McCarthy novel, watching a Cohen Brothers film, and seeing an episode of *Breaking Bad* at the same time. His characters can be ruthlessly cruel and funny, selfish and generous, delusional and incisive, and deceptive and painfully honest. They keep secrets. They harbor biases and misconceptions. And in their quest to find love and understanding, they often end up being the greatest impediments to their own happiness. As a writer, Letts can move seamlessly from the milieu of a Texas trailer park to the pulsating nightlife of London's countercultural scene, the stifling quiet of small-town Ohio to the racial tensions of urban Chicago. He thrives in the one-act format, in plays like *Mary Page Marlow* and *The Minutes*, as well as the epic scope of *August: Osage County* and *Linda Vista*. With a musician's sense of timing, Letts shifts between humor and heartache, silence and sound, and the mundane and the poetic. And he fearlessly tackles issues such as gender bias, racism, homophobia, and disability rights. Contemporary American life thus becomes a way to comment on the country's troubled history from Native American genocide to the civil rights movement. The personal narratives of his characters become gateways to the political. *Understanding Tracy Letts* celebrates the range of Letts's writing, in part, by applying different critical approaches to his works. Whether through the lens of disability studies, the conspiracy genre, food studies, the feminist politics of quilting, or masculinity studies, these readings help bring out the thematic richness and sociopolitical dimensions of Letts's work.

*Revised and Complete Edition*

*Dying City*

*In-Yer-Face Theatre*

*God's Ear*

*The Ultimate Scene & Monologue Sourcebook*

"Regular cabs will not travel to the Pittsburgh Hill District of the 1970s, and so the residents turn to each other. Jitney dramatizes the lives of men hustling to make a living as

jitneys--unofficial, unlicensed taxi cab drivers. When the boss Becker's son returns from prison, violence threatens to erupt. What makes this play remarkable is not the plot: Jitney is

Wilson at his most real--the words these men use and the stories they tell form a true slice of life."--The Wikipedia entry, accessed 5/22/2014.

Grotesque features have been among the chief characteristics of drama in English since the 1990s. This new book examines the varieties of the grotesque in the work of some of the most

original playwrights of the last three decades (including Enda Walsh, Philip Ridley, Tim Crouch and Suzan-Lori Parks), focusing in particular on ethical and political issues that arise from

the use of the grotesque.

Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes

A Study Guide for Tracy Letts's "August: Osage County"

The Laramie Project