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Rapture, Blister, Burn (Modern Plays)



Synopsis

Women are running for president. Men are exfoliating. It's all jumbled: you can't read the signs. Can any woman have it all? After university Catherine and Gwen chose opposite paths: Catherine built a career as a rock-star academic, while Gwen built a home with a husband and children. Decades later, unfulfilled in opposite ways, each woman covets the other's life, and a dangerous game begins as each tries to claim the other's territory. Sparks fly and the age-old question arises: what do women really want? Gina Gionfriddo dissects modern gender politics in this breathtakingly witty and virtuosic comedy, set in a small New England college town. Traversing the experiences of women across the generations, this play is a hugely entertaining exploration of a new style of feminism, ripe for the twenty-first century. *Rapture, Blister, Burn* was commissioned by Playwrights Horizons, where it premiered, with funds from the Harold and Mim Steinberg Charitable Trust. It received its UK premiere at the Hampstead Theatre, London, in January 2014.

Book Information

File Size: 316 KB

Print Length: 106 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury Methuen Drama; 1 edition (March 19, 2014)

Publication Date: March 19, 2014

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00IG4NVTE

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #486,874 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #58 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Theater > Stagecraft #65 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Theater > Playwriting #190 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Play & Scriptwriting

Customer Reviews

It's an enjoyable script full of juicy fun moments for the actors, but it can be a bit graphic and blunt... which is what makes it edgy. It's certainly not family friendly, but it's full of laughs. The ending is a bit

odd and slightly flat. The cast calls for 4 women and 1 man. Overall, it's a worthwhile show to see.

This is a good play written in 2012. Its three major characters are all in their early 40s and have lately been thinking about the life road that they didn't take. Catherine is an academic superstar who is perpetually single, Gwen is a stay-at-home mother without a career, and Don is Catherine's ex-boyfriend and Gwen's husband - he's a third rate Dean at a fourth rate college and he still lives and acts like a 22 year old. Alice, Catherine's 70 year old mother, and Avery, a bright 21 year old student at Don's college, are strong supporting characters. Throughout the play, themes of feminism and relationships are discussed and debated. There are some interesting moments, but not too many funny ones. It's a cutting play that might cause some fights in struggling couples that see it (that could be a play too).

This was better seen than read. I was bored reading it but did have the opportunity to attend a performance. It was funny and I enjoyed seeing it but can't recommend it for reading.

Interesting take on feminist issues, but mixed resolution.

Funny play! Cute, with a semi-feminist twist. A bit didactic at times.

Saw the play. Had to have the script.

Great play

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