

august osage county script

august osage county script is a powerful and intricately crafted screenplay that forms the backbone of the acclaimed play and film of the same name. Written by Tracy Letts, the august osage county script delves into the complex dynamics of a dysfunctional family reuniting under strained circumstances. This article explores the script's origin, structure, themes, characters, and its impact on contemporary drama and cinema. By examining the nuances of the august osage county script, readers can gain a deeper understanding of the storytelling techniques and character development that contribute to its critical success. Additionally, the article will discuss notable adaptations and provide insights into the script's lasting legacy in both theater and film. This comprehensive overview offers valuable information for enthusiasts, scholars, and professionals interested in modern American drama and screenplay writing.

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Origin and Background of the August Osage County Script

The august osage county script was penned by playwright Tracy Letts and first premiered as a stage play in 2007. The work quickly garnered critical acclaim for its sharp dialogue and intricate portrayal of family conflicts. Letts, an established playwright and actor, drew inspiration from his experiences in the Midwest and his fascination with complex family dynamics. The script was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2008, solidifying its importance in American theater. Its success on stage eventually led to a film adaptation released in 2013, further popularizing the screenplay. The august osage county script is often studied for its rich characterizations and the way it balances dark humor with intense emotional drama.

Tracy Letts: The Playwright Behind the Script

Tracy Letts is renowned for his ability to craft emotionally charged narratives that explore the darker

aspects of human nature and relationships. His background as an actor and playwright allowed him to write dialogue that feels authentic and engaging. The August Osage County script showcases Letts's skill in blending tragedy and comedy to create a compelling story. His experience in theater influenced the script's pacing and structure, contributing to its critical success.

Historical and Cultural Context

The script is set in the rural Midwest, specifically in Osage County, Oklahoma, during the early 2000s. This setting plays a crucial role in shaping the narrative, reflecting the social and economic challenges of the region. The cultural backdrop enhances the authenticity of the characters' struggles and provides insight into the family's values and conflicts. Understanding this context is essential to appreciating the depth of the August Osage County script.

Structure and Style of the Script

The August Osage County script employs a traditional three-act structure, meticulously crafted to build tension and reveal character motivations gradually. The screenplay is known for its sharp, fast-paced dialogue that captures the essence of each character's personality and emotional state. The narrative unfolds through a series of confrontations and revelations, maintaining a balance between dramatic intensity and moments of dark humor. Letts's writing style is characterized by its raw honesty and complexity, making the script a standout example of modern dramatic literature.

Dialogue and Language

One of the defining features of the August Osage County script is its naturalistic yet poetic dialogue. Characters speak in ways that are true to their backgrounds and emotional experiences, often using humor and sarcasm to mask deeper pain. The language is rich with subtext, allowing actors and directors room for interpretation. This nuanced dialogue contributes significantly to the script's impact and memorability.

Scene Composition and Pacing

The script's pacing is deliberately measured, allowing tension to build gradually between characters. Scenes are constructed to maximize emotional impact, often combining moments of silence with explosive exchanges. This careful pacing ensures that audiences remain engaged throughout the story's unfolding drama. The setting is confined primarily to the family home, which intensifies the claustrophobic atmosphere and heightens the emotional stakes.

Main Characters and Character Development

The August Osage County script features a cast of complex, deeply flawed characters whose interactions drive the narrative. Each character is richly developed, with distinct motivations, fears, and secrets that are gradually revealed. The script's focus on character development allows for an exploration of themes such as addiction, family loyalty, and betrayal. Understanding these characters is key to appreciating the depth and power of the script.

Violet Weston

Violet Weston, the matriarch of the family, is a central figure in the script. Her sharp wit and caustic demeanor conceal a profound vulnerability fueled by addiction and grief. Violet's interactions with her family members are fraught with tension and emotional complexity, making her one of the most compelling characters in the script.

Barbara Fordham

Barbara, Violet's eldest daughter, returns home to care for her mother and confront her own unresolved issues. Her character embodies the struggle between familial obligation and personal freedom, and her journey reflects the broader themes of reconciliation and self-discovery.

Other Key Family Members

The script also features other significant characters such as Ivy Weston, Karen Weston, and the patriarch Beverly Weston. Each contributes uniquely to the family dynamic, adding layers of conflict and emotional depth to the story.

- Ivy Weston: The middle daughter, often caught between loyalty and resentment.
- Karen Weston: The youngest daughter, whose outsider status creates additional tension.
- Beverly Weston: The absent patriarch whose mysterious disappearance sets the plot in motion.

Themes Explored in the August Osage County Script

The August Osage County script explores a variety of themes that resonate deeply with audiences. The

script's examination of family dysfunction, addiction, grief, and the search for identity offers a profound commentary on human relationships. These themes are woven seamlessly into the narrative, providing layers of meaning that invite reflection and analysis.

Family Dysfunction and Conflict

At its core, the script is a study of a family grappling with long-standing resentments and unresolved conflicts. The tensions between parents and children, siblings, and spouses are portrayed with unflinching honesty, revealing the complexities of familial bonds.

Addiction and Mental Health

Violet's struggle with prescription drug addiction is a central element that affects the entire family. The script addresses the impact of addiction on relationships and individual well-being, highlighting issues of denial, enabling, and the search for help.

Grief and Loss

The disappearance and subsequent death of Beverly Weston serve as catalysts for the family's confrontation with past traumas. The theme of grief permeates the script, influencing character behavior and driving the emotional narrative.

Adaptations and Performances

The August Osage County script has seen successful adaptations in both theater and film, each bringing unique interpretations to the original material. The play's initial Broadway production received widespread acclaim, followed by a major Hollywood film adaptation that introduced the story to a broader audience. These adaptations highlight the script's versatility and enduring appeal.

Broadway and Stage Productions

The original stage production of August Osage County premiered at the Steppenwolf Theatre Company before transferring to Broadway. The cast included notable actors who brought depth and nuance to the complex characters. The production won several awards, including the Tony Award for Best Play, underscoring the script's theatrical excellence.

Film Adaptation

The 2013 film adaptation featured an ensemble cast of acclaimed actors, translating the script's intense family drama to the screen. The screenplay, adapted from the original script, maintained the core themes and character dynamics while utilizing cinematic techniques to enhance the storytelling. The film received critical praise and multiple award nominations.

Notable Performances

Performances by actors portraying Violet Weston and Barbara Fordham have been particularly praised for their emotional intensity and authenticity. These portrayals have contributed to the script's reputation as a rich source of challenging and rewarding roles for performers.

Impact and Legacy of the Script

The August Osage County script has left a significant mark on contemporary American drama and screenplay writing. Its success has influenced playwrights and screenwriters by demonstrating the power of character-driven narratives and complex family stories. The script's blend of dark humor and emotional depth has become a benchmark for quality in both theater and film.

Critical Reception and Awards

The script's critical reception has been overwhelmingly positive, earning prestigious awards such as the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and multiple Tony Awards. These accolades reflect the industry's recognition of the script's literary and dramatic merit.

Influence on Modern Drama

August Osage County script has inspired numerous works that explore similar themes of family dysfunction and personal struggle. Its success has encouraged a trend toward more nuanced and realistic portrayals of complex relationships in contemporary drama.

Educational and Professional Use

The script is frequently studied in academic settings for its exemplary writing and thematic richness. It also serves as a valuable resource for actors, directors, and playwrights seeking to understand effective character development and dialogue construction.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'August: Osage County' about?

'August: Osage County' is a dark comedy-drama play by Tracy Letts that revolves around the dysfunctional Weston family who reunite after the disappearance of the family patriarch, uncovering secrets and tensions.

Who wrote the script for 'August: Osage County'?

The script for 'August: Osage County' was written by Tracy Letts.

Where can I find the official script for 'August: Osage County'?

The official script for 'August: Osage County' can be purchased from major book retailers like Amazon, or found in libraries; it is also available through theatrical publishing companies such as Dramatists Play Service.

Has 'August: Osage County' been adapted into a film?

Yes, 'August: Osage County' was adapted into a feature film in 2013, starring Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts, based on Tracy Letts' original script.

What themes are explored in the 'August: Osage County' script?

The script explores themes such as family dysfunction, addiction, secrets, grief, and the complexity of human relationships.

Is the 'August: Osage County' script suitable for high school productions?

Due to mature themes, strong language, and intense emotional content, 'August: Osage County' may not be suitable for all high school productions without careful consideration and possibly edits.

What makes Tracy Letts' writing style unique in the 'August: Osage County' script?

Tracy Letts is known for his sharp dialogue, dark humor, and deep character development, all of which are evident in the 'August: Osage County' script, creating a compelling and emotionally charged narrative.

How long is the typical performance time of 'August: Osage County'?

A typical performance of 'August: Osage County' lasts approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes, including an

intermission.

Are there any notable monologues in the 'August: Osage County' script?

Yes, the script contains several powerful monologues, particularly by the character Violet Weston, which are often highlighted for their emotional depth and complexity.

Additional Resources

1. *August: Osage County* by Tracy Letts - *The Script*

This is the original script of the Pulitzer Prize-winning play "August: Osage County" by Tracy Letts. It offers readers a glimpse into the sharp, darkly comedic dialogue and complex family dynamics that drive the story. The play unfolds in a dysfunctional Oklahoma family grappling with secrets and tragedy, providing a rich text for actors and enthusiasts alike.

2. *August: Osage County* - *The Play in Performance*

This book explores various stage productions of "August: Osage County," analyzing different directorial approaches and performances. It includes interviews with actors, directors, and critics, offering insight into how the script translates from page to stage. A valuable resource for theater students and fans of the play.

3. *The Making of August: Osage County*

Detailing the journey from script to Broadway sensation, this book covers the development, rehearsals, and production design of "August: Osage County." It includes behind-the-scenes photographs, commentary from the playwright, and reflections on the play's themes. Readers gain a deeper appreciation for the creative process behind the script.

4. *Tracy Letts: A Playwright's Journey*

This biography delves into the life and works of Tracy Letts, focusing heavily on his creation of "August: Osage County." It contextualizes the script within his broader career and explores his writing style, influences, and impact on contemporary theater. The book is essential for understanding the mind behind the script.

5. *Family Dysfunction in American Drama*

Using "August: Osage County" as a primary case study, this scholarly text examines themes of family conflict and dysfunction in modern American plays. It discusses how Letts' script reflects societal issues and psychological complexities. Academics and students will find this analysis insightful for literary and theatrical studies.

6. *Script to Screen: August: Osage County Film Adaptation*

This book compares the original stage script of "August: Osage County" with its film adaptation, highlighting changes and their effects on narrative and character development. It includes interviews with the director and cast, offering perspectives on translating the script to a cinematic format. A must-read for

fans interested in adaptations.

7. *Dialogue and Dark Humor in August: Osage County*

Focusing on the play's distinctive dialogue style, this book analyzes the use of dark humor and sharp wit throughout the script. It explores how Letts crafts conversations that reveal character and advance the plot while maintaining a biting comedic tone. Theater practitioners and writers will find practical insights here.

8. *Theatre Scripts: A Collection of Contemporary American Plays*

This anthology features the script of "August: Osage County" alongside other influential American plays. It provides context about each work's significance and themes, making it a valuable collection for readers interested in modern drama. The inclusion of Letts' script underscores its importance in contemporary theater.

9. *Exploring Themes of Grief and Resilience in August: Osage County*

This critical study delves into the emotional core of the play's script, focusing on how grief and resilience shape the characters and story arc. It offers psychological and thematic interpretations that enhance understanding of the play's depth. Readers gain a nuanced perspective on the human experiences portrayed in the script.

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August Osage County Script: A Deep Dive into Pulitzer Prize-Winning Drama

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Ebook Outline:

Introduction: The Power and Popularity of August Osage County

Chapter 1: Analyzing the Play's Structure and Narrative Arc

Chapter 2: Character Development and Relationships: A Family in Crisis

Chapter 3: Thematic Explorations: Dysfunctional Families, Addiction, and Betrayal

Chapter 4: Language and Dialogue: Tracy Letts' Distinctive Style

Chapter 5: Staging and Production Considerations: Challenges and Interpretations

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Chapter 7: August Osage County's Legacy and Cultural Impact

Conclusion: The Enduring Relevance of August Osage County

August Osage County Script: A Deep Dive into Pulitzer Prize-Winning Drama

The August Osage County script, penned by Tracy Letts, is more than just a collection of words on a page; it's a potent theatrical experience that has captivated audiences and critics alike. This Pulitzer Prize-winning play delves into the complexities of a deeply dysfunctional family grappling with addiction, betrayal, and the corrosive effects of secrets. Understanding its structure, character development, themes, and stylistic choices is crucial to appreciating its lasting impact on contemporary theatre. This comprehensive analysis explores the multifaceted layers of Letts' masterpiece, providing a detailed understanding of what makes it such a compelling and enduring work.

Chapter 1: Analyzing the Play's Structure and Narrative Arc

August Osage County is not your typical three-act play. Its structure is deliberately complex, mirroring the tangled relationships and interwoven storylines of the Weston family. The play unfolds non-linearly, with flashbacks and revelations interspersed throughout, gradually unveiling the family's history and the underlying causes of their current turmoil. The play employs a circular structure, beginning and ending with a sense of unresolved chaos. This cyclical narrative mirrors the seemingly endless cycle of dysfunction and conflict that defines the Weston family. Key structural elements, such as the use of parallel plots and the strategic placement of pivotal scenes, all contribute to building suspense and enhancing the emotional impact. Understanding this unconventional structure is crucial to grasping the play's overall message.

Chapter 2: Character Development and Relationships: A Family in Crisis

The Weston family is a constellation of flawed and compelling characters. Violet Weston, the matriarch, is a pill-popping, verbally abusive woman battling cancer. Her husband, Beverly, is an alcoholic and emotionally distant. Their daughters, Barbara, Ivy, and Karen, each represent a unique coping mechanism for dealing with their dysfunctional upbringing. The play meticulously develops each character, showcasing their vulnerabilities, strengths, and motivations. Analyzing their relationships - the volatile dynamics between mother and daughters, the strained sibling bonds, and the complex interplay of secrets and resentments - reveals the core of the play's conflict. The exploration of these relationships is not just dramatic, but also offers a poignant commentary on the lasting impact of familial trauma.

Chapter 3: Thematic Explorations: Dysfunctional Families,

Addiction, and Betrayal

August Osage County is a profound exploration of several key themes. Dysfunctional families are central to the play, highlighting the devastating consequences of addiction, emotional neglect, and a pervasive lack of communication. Beverly's alcoholism and Violet's opioid addiction are not merely plot devices; they are catalysts for the unraveling of the family's fragile structure. Betrayal, both overt and subtle, permeates the play, creating a climate of distrust and paranoia. Secrets, long-held and recently revealed, contribute to the family's disintegration. The play doesn't shy away from depicting the raw and painful realities of these themes, offering a unflinching look at the human condition.

Chapter 4: Language and Dialogue: Tracy Letts' Distinctive Style

Letts' writing is characterized by its raw honesty and darkly comedic tone. The dialogue is sharp, witty, and often brutally honest. The characters' speech reflects their personalities and the tense atmosphere of the play. The use of profanity and vulgar language is not gratuitous; it serves to emphasize the characters' emotional states and the harsh realities of their lives. The play's language contributes significantly to its realism and its capacity to shock and unsettle audiences. Understanding Letts' distinctive style of writing is essential to fully appreciate the play's impact.

Chapter 5: Staging and Production Considerations: Challenges and Interpretations

Staging August Osage County presents unique challenges. The play requires a large cast, intricate set design, and nuanced directorial choices. The expansive family dynamic needs to be visually represented, with careful attention to the interplay between characters and the use of space. The play's emotionally charged scenes demand skillful direction and acting. Different interpretations of the play can highlight various thematic elements, focusing on specific character relationships or exploring certain aspects of family dysfunction. Analyzing different productions and their approaches to staging can offer valuable insights into the play's versatility and its capacity for diverse interpretations.

Chapter 6: The Play's Reception and Critical Acclaim (including Pulitzer Prize win)

August Osage County's success was phenomenal. Its Broadway run was critically acclaimed, garnering numerous awards, including the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2008. The play's unflinching portrayal of family dysfunction resonated with audiences, sparking conversations about addiction,

betrayal, and the complexities of human relationships. The play's widespread success translated into numerous regional and international productions, further solidifying its place as a significant work of contemporary theatre. Examining the play's critical reception and its impact on the theatrical landscape provides a broader context for understanding its significance.

Chapter 7: August Osage County's Legacy and Cultural Impact

August Osage County's impact extends beyond its theatrical success. The play has sparked discussions about family dynamics, addiction, and the challenges of navigating difficult relationships. It has influenced other playwrights and filmmakers, inspiring works that explore similar themes. The play's exploration of dysfunctional families and its honest portrayal of addiction have contributed to a greater awareness and understanding of these issues. Its lasting legacy lies in its ability to provoke thought, initiate conversations, and offer a powerful reflection on the complexities of the human experience.

Conclusion: The Enduring Relevance of August Osage County

August Osage County continues to resonate with audiences because it tackles universal themes with unflinching honesty. The play's exploration of family dysfunction, addiction, and betrayal remains profoundly relevant in contemporary society. The play's enduring power lies in its ability to connect with audiences on an emotional level, provoking reflection and sparking conversations about the complexities of human relationships. Its enduring popularity and its critical acclaim solidify its place as a major contribution to American theatre.

FAQs

1. What is the central conflict in August Osage County? The central conflict revolves around the disintegration of the Weston family, exacerbated by addiction, secrets, and long-simmering resentments.
2. Who are the main characters in August Osage County? Violet Weston, Beverly Weston, Barbara Weston Fordham, Ivy Weston, and Karen Weston are central characters.
3. What is the setting of August Osage County? The play is set in Osage County, Oklahoma, on a sprawling family homestead.
4. What are the major themes explored in the play? Family dysfunction, addiction (alcoholism and opioid addiction), betrayal, communication breakdown, and the legacy of secrets are key themes.
5. What makes Tracy Letts' writing style unique? His dialogue is realistic, often brutally honest, darkly comedic, and employs profanity to reflect the characters' emotional states.

6. Did August Osage County win any awards? Yes, it won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2008 and numerous other awards.
7. Is August Osage County suitable for all audiences? The play contains mature themes and language; viewer discretion is advised.
8. What are some of the challenges involved in staging August Osage County? Staging requires a large cast, a complex set, and sensitive direction to handle the intense emotional content.
9. What is the play's lasting legacy? The play continues to provoke thought and discussion about family dynamics, addiction, and the complexities of human relationships.

Related Articles:

1. Tracy Letts' Playwriting Style: An examination of Letts' signature use of language, character development, and plot structure.
2. The Role of Women in August Osage County: An analysis of the female characters and their complex relationships.
3. Addiction and Family Dysfunction in August Osage County: A deeper look at the play's exploration of addiction and its impact on familial bonds.
4. Staging Challenges and Interpretations of August Osage County: Different production approaches and their impact on the play's meaning.
5. The Critical Reception of August Osage County: An overview of the play's critical success and its place in contemporary theatre.
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7. The Use of Humor in August Osage County: How dark humor functions as a coping mechanism for the characters and enhances the play's impact.
8. Themes of Betrayal and Secrets in August Osage County: An in-depth analysis of the role of secrets in driving the play's conflict.
9. August Osage County and the American Family: The play's exploration of the American family's complexities and evolving dynamics.

august osage county script: *August* Tracy Letts, 2010-07-09 One of the most bracing and critically acclaimed plays in recent Broadway history, *August; Osage County* 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.

august osage county script: Man from Nebraska Tracy Letts, 2006 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.--BOOK JACKET.

august osage county script: Superior Donuts Tracy Letts, 2010 THE STORY: Arthur Przybyszewski owns a decrepit donut shop in the Uptown neighborhood of Chicago. Franco Wicks, a black teenager who is his only employee, wants to change the shop for the better. This comedy-drama by Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-w

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august osage county script: Bug Tracy Letts, 2006-12-04 This dark comedy takes place in a seedy motel room outside Oklahoma City, where Agnes, a drug-addled cocktail waitress, is hiding from her ex-con ex-husband. Her lesbian biker friend R.C. introduces her to Peter, a handsome drifter who might be an AWOL Gulf War veteran. They soon begin a relationship that takes place almost entirely within the increasingly claustrophobic confines of her motel room. Peter begins to rant about the war in Iraq, UFOs, the Oklahoma City bombings, cult suicides, and then secret government experiment on soldiers, of which he believes he is a victim. His delusions infect Agnes and the tension mounts as mysterious strangers appear at their door, past events haunt them at every turn and they are attacked by real bugs. Tracy Letts's tale of love, paranoia, and government conspiracy is a thought-provoking psycho-thriller that mixes terror and laughter at a fever pitch.

august osage county script: The Minutes Tracy Letts, 2022-11-29 A searing new comedy from the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of August: Osage County.

august osage county script: If I Forget Steven Levenson, 2018-02-07 In the final months before 9/11, liberal Jewish studies professor Michael Fischer has reunited with his two sisters to celebrate their father's seventy-fifth birthday. Each deeply invested in their own version of family history, the siblings clash over everything from Michael's controversial scholarly work to the mounting pressures of caring for an ailing parent. As destructive secrets and long-held resentments bubble to the surface, the three negotiate—with biting humor and razor-sharp insight—how much of the past they're willing to sacrifice for a chance at a new beginning. IF I FORGET tells a powerful tale of a family and a culture at odds with itself.

august osage county script: Rabbit Hole David Lindsay-Abaire, 2006 The hothouse atmosphere of all-male boarding schools has inspired a whole body of literature and drama exploring themes of friendship, romance, honor and betrayal...Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa's GOOD BOYS AND TRUE is a solid addition to the canon. It's a suspen No one in New York writes dialogue quite like Grimm...[He] effervesces so violently that he achieves liftoff, fizzing out of the Land of the Pleasantly Dirty Farce and landing on Planet Experimental Theater...A magical mystery tour of Grimm's brain...a comedia

august osage county script: The Nutshell Technique Jill Chamberlain, 2016-03-01 Veteran script consultant Jill Chamberlain discovered in her work that an astounding 99 percent of first-time screenwriters don't know how to tell a story. These writers may know how to format a script, write snappy dialogue, and set a scene. They may have interesting characters and perhaps some clever plot devices. But, invariably, while they may have the kernel of a good idea for a screenplay, they fail to tell a story. What the 99 percent do instead is present a situation. In order to explain the difference, Chamberlain created the Nutshell Technique, a method whereby writers identify eight dynamic, interconnected elements that are required to successfully tell a story. Now, for the first time, Chamberlain presents her unique method in book form with *The Nutshell Technique: Crack the Secret of Successful Screenwriting*. Using easy-to-follow diagrams ("nutshells"), she thoroughly explains how the Nutshell Technique can make or break a film script. Chamberlain takes readers step-by-step through thirty classic and contemporary movies, showing how such dissimilar screenplays as *Casablanca*, *Chinatown*, *Pulp Fiction*, *The Usual Suspects*, *Little Miss Sunshine*, *Juno*, *Silver Linings Playbook*, and *Argo* all have the same system working behind the scenes, and she teaches readers exactly how to apply these principles to their own screenwriting. Learn the Nutshell Technique, and you'll discover how to turn a mere situation into a truly compelling screenplay story.

august osage county script: Linda Vista (TCG Edition) Tracy Letts, 2020-09-22 "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.

august osage county script: *Mary Page Marlowe* Tracy Letts, 2017 Mary Page Marlowe leads an unremarkable life. As an accountant in Ohio with two children, few would expect her life to be inordinately intricate or moving. However, it is choices, both mundane and gripping, and where those choices have taken Mary Page Marlowe that make her life so intimate and surprisingly complicated. From Pulitzer- and Tony-winning playwright Tracy Letts comes a piece about the fragility of a moment and its effects on one's identity.--Back cover.

august osage county script: *Ruined* Lynn Nottage, 2010-09 Mama Nadi, the owner of a brothel set in Congo, is a mother figure who keeps watch over her business, serving men from both sides of the conflict, and employing women, ruined by rape or torture, who are forced to work as prostitutes.

august osage county script: *Gnit* Will Eno, 2014-06-23 "The marvel of Mr. Eno's new version is how closely it tracks the original while also being, at every moment and unmistakably, a Will Eno play. After climbing the craggy peaks of Ibsen's daunting play, Mr. Eno has brought down from its dizzying heights a surprising crowd-pleasing (if still strange) work." — Charles Isherwood, New York Times "Gnit is classic Will Eno. By that I mean I was thrilled by it." — Kris Vire, TimeOut Chicago "If ever a play made me want to be a better person, this is it." — Bob Fischbach, Omaha World-Herald Peter Gnit, a funny enough, but so-so specimen of humanity, makes a lifetime of bad decisions on the search for his True Self. This is a rollicking yet cautionary tale about (among other things) how the opposite of love is laziness. Gnit is a faithful, unfaithful and willfully American misreading of Henrik Ibsen's *Peer Gynt* (a nineteenth-century Norwegian play), written by Will Eno, who has never been to Norway. Will Eno's most recent plays include *The Open House* (Signature Theatre, New York, 2014; Obie Award, Lucille Lortel Award for Best Play) and *The Realistic Joneses* (Yale Repertory Theatre, New Haven, 2012; Broadway, 2014). His play *Middletown* received the Horton Foote Prize and *Thom Pain* (based on nothing) was a finalist for the 2005 Pulitzer Prize. Mr. Eno lives Brooklyn.

august osage county script: *The Pavilion* Craig Wright, 2003 THE STORY: Hailed by critics as an Our Town for our time, this play is by turns poetic and comic, romantic and philosophical. Peter returns to his twenty-year high-school reunion with dreams of winning back Kari, the girl he left behind

august osage county script: *Next to Normal* Brian Yorkey, Tom Kitt, 2010-07-20 Winner of the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama "Rock is alive and rolling like thunder in *Next to Normal*. It's the best musical of the season by a mile...an emotional powerhouse with a fire in its soul and a wicked wit that burns just as fiercely."—Rolling Stone "No show on Broadway right now makes as a direct grab for the heart—or wrings it as thoroughly—as *Next to Normal* does. . . . [It] focuses squarely on the pain that cripples the members of a suburban family, and never for a minute does it let you escape the anguish at the core of their lives. *Next to Normal* does not, in other words, qualify as your standard feel-good musical. Instead this portrait of a manic-depressive mother and the people she loves and damages is something much more: a feel-everything musical, which asks you, with operatic force, to discover the liberation in knowing where it hurts."—Ben Brantley, The New York Times Winner of three 2009 Tony Awards, including Best Original Score (Music and/or Lyrics) Written for the Theatre, *Next to Normal* is also available in an original cast recording. It was named Best Musical of the Season by Rolling Stone, The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, and The New York Times. Brian Yorkey received the 2009 Tony Award for Best Original Score for his work on *Next to Normal* and was also nominated for Best Book of a Musical. His other credits include *Making Tracks* and *Time After Time*. Tom Kitt received two 2009 Tony Awards for Best Original Score and Best Orchestrations for *Next to Normal*. He also composed the music for *High Fidelity* and *From Up Here*. His string arrangements appear on the new Green Day album *21st Century Breakdown*, and he is the leader of the Tom Kitt Band.

august osage county script: *The Facts on File Companion to American Drama* Jackson R. Bryer, Mary C. Hartig, 2010 Features a comprehensive guide to American dramatic literature, from

its origins in the early days of the nation to the groundbreaking works of today's best writers.

august osage county script: Topdog/underdog Suzan-Lori Parks, 2002 THE STORY: A darkly comic fable of brotherly love and family identity is Suzan-Lori Parks' latest riff on the way we are defined by history. The play tells the story of Lincoln and Booth, two brothers whose names were given to them as a joke, foret

august osage county script: The Secret of Raven Point Jennifer Vanderbes, 2014-02-04 From the award-winning author of *Easter Island* comes a powerful, "unputdownable" (Vogue) novel of love, loss, and redemption amid the ruins of war-torn Italy. 1943: When seventeen-year-old Juliet Dufresne receives a cryptic letter from her enlisted brother and then discovers that he's been reported missing in action, she lies about her age and travels to the front lines as an army nurse, determined to find him. Shy and awkward, Juliet is thrust into the bloody chaos of a field hospital, a sprawling encampment north of Rome where she forges new friendships and is increasingly consumed by the plight of her patients. One in particular, Christopher Barnaby, a deserter awaiting court martial, may hold the answer to her brother's whereabouts—but the trauma of war has left him catatonic. Racing against the clock, Juliet works with an enigmatic young psychiatrist, Dr. Henry Willard, to break Barnaby's silence before the authorities take him away. Plunged into the horrifying depths of one man's memories of combat, Juliet and Willard together plumb the moral nuances of a so-called "just war" and face the dangers of their own deepening emotional connection. In vibrant, arresting prose, Vanderbes tells the story of one girl's fierce determination to find her brother as she comes of age in a time of unrelenting violence. An unforgettable war saga that captures the experiences of soldiers long after the battles have ended, *The Secret of Raven Point* is heartbreaking, and ultimately uplifting: "The only disappointing thing about this book is that it has to end" (Library Journal, starred review).

august osage county script: Mlima's Tale Lynn Nottage, 2021-09-14 "A beautiful, endlessly echoing portrait of a murder and its afterlife. Ms. Nottage shaped this story with such theatrical inventiveness and discipline that it never feels sensational... A finely wrought fusion of elements." —Ben Brantley, *New York Times* Continuing in her tradition of crafting thought-provoking, socially conscious dramas, Lynn Nottage's play tells the story of Mlima, an elephant struck down by poachers for his magnificent tusks. Beginning in a game park in Kenya, the play tracks the trajectory of Mlima's tusks through the ivory trade market while Mlima's ghost follows close behind—marking all those complicit in his barbaric death.

august osage county script: Three Uses Of The Knife David Mamet, 2020-10-01 Now published in the Bloomsbury Revelations series, this is a classic work on the power and importance of drama by renowned American playwright, screenwriter and essayist David Mamet. In this short but arresting series of essays, David Mamet explains the necessity, purpose and demands of drama. A celebration of the ties that bind art to life, *Three Uses of the Knife* is an enthralling read for anyone who has sat anxiously waiting for the lights to go up on Act 1. In three tightly woven essays of characteristic force and resonance, Mamet speaks about the connection of art to life, language to power, imagination to survival, public spectacle to private script. Self-assured and filled with autobiographical touches *Three Uses of the Knife* is a call to art and arms, a manifesto that reminds us of the singular power of the theatre to keep us sane, whole and human.

august osage county script: Next Fall Geoffrey Nauffts, 2010 THE STORY: Geoffrey Nauffts' *NEXT FALL* takes a witty and provocative look at faith, commitment and unconditional love. While the play's central story focuses on the five-year relationship between Adam and Luke, *NEXT FALL* goes beyond a typical love

august osage county script: Appropriate/An Octoroon: Plays (Revised Edition) Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, 2024-07-16 Includes Revised Broadway version of *Appropriate*. Winner of three 2024 Tony Awards including Best Revival of a Play. A double-volume containing two astonishing breakout plays from one of the theatre's most exciting and provocative young writers. In *Appropriate*, strained familial dynamics collide with a tense undercurrent of socio-political realities when the Lafayettes gather at a former plantation home to sift through the belongings of their deceased patriarch. An

Octoroon is an audacious investigation of theatre and identity, wherein an old play gives way to a startlingly original piece. Also includes the short play I Promise Never Again to Write Plays About Asians...

august osage county script: *Beyond Therapy* Christopher Durang, 1983 Prudence is a conservative and slightly mixed-up young woman who thinks Bruce is crazy. Bruce is a bi-sexual who lives with his male lover and is crazy about Prudence.

august osage county script: *Gethsemane* David Hare, 2013-04-18 Nothing is more important to a modern political party than fund-raising. But the values of the donors can't always coincide with the professed beliefs of the party. And family scandal within the cabinet has the potential to throw both the money-raisers and the money-spenders into chaos. This richly imagined ensemble play about British public life looks at the way business, media and politics are now intertwined to nobody's advantage, as, in an unforgiving world, one character after another passes through Gethsemane. *Gethsemane*, David Hare's fourteenth original play for the National Theatre, London, premiered in November 2008.

august osage county script: *The Cocktail Hour* Albert Ramsdell Gurney, 1989 THE STORY: The time is the mid '70s, the place a city in upstate New York. John, a playwright, returns to his family's house, bringing with him a new play which he has written about them. His purpose is to obtain their permission to proceed with pr

august osage county script: *The Beauty of the Real* Mick LaSalle, 2012-05-09 Even as actresses become increasingly marginalized by Hollywood, French cinema is witnessing an explosion of female talent—a Golden Age unlike anything the world has seen since the days of Stanwyck, Hepburn, Davis, and Garbo. In France, the joy of acting is alive and well. Scores of French actresses are doing the best work of their lives in movies tailored to their star images and unique personalities. Yet virtually no one this side of the Atlantic even knows about them. Viewers who feel shortchanged by Hollywood will be thrilled to discover *The Beauty of the Real*. This book showcases a range of contemporary French actresses to an audience that will know how to appreciate them—an American public hungry for the exact qualities that these women represent. To spend time with them, to admire their flashing intelligence and fearless willingness to depict life as it is lived, gives us what we're looking for in movies but so rarely find: insights into womanhood, meditations on the dark and light aspect's of life's journey, revelations and explorations that move viewers to reflect on their own lives. The stories they bring to the screen leave us feeling renewed and excited about movies again. Based on one-on-one interviews and the viewing of numerous films, Mick LaSalle has put together a fascinating profile of recent generations of French film stars and an overview of their best work. These women's insights and words illuminate his book, which will answer once and for all the two questions Americans most often have about women and the movies: Where did all the great actresses go? And how can I see their movies? Please visit blog.sfgate.com/mlasalle/2012/09/23/rendezvous-damerique/ to see a video discussing *The Beauty of the Real* at the Roxie Film Festival.

august osage county script: *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* Stephen Adly Guirgis, 2006 Set in a time-bending, seriocomically imagined world between Heaven and Hell, *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* is a philosophical meditation on the conflict between divine mercy and human free will that takes a close look at the eternal damnation of the Bible's most notorious sinner.--[book cover].

august osage county script: *The Humans* Stephen Karam, 2017-03-16 Breaking with tradition, Erik Blake has brought his Pennsylvania family to celebrate Thanksgiving at his daughter's apartment in lower Manhattan. As darkness falls outside the ramshackle pre-war duplex, eerie things start to go bump in the night and the heart and horrors of the Blake clan are exposed.

august osage county script: *The Wolves* Sarah DeLappe, 2018-07-17 One of the most-talked about new plays of the 2016 Off-Broadway season, Sarah DeLappe's *The Wolves* opened to enthusiastic acclaim, including two sold-out, extended runs at The Playwrights Realm/The Duke on 42nd Street. *The Wolves* follows the 9 teenage girls—members of an indoor soccer team—as they warm up, engage in banter and one-upmanship, and fight battles big and small with each other and

themselves. As the teammates warm up in sync, a symphony of overlapping dialogue spills out their concerns, including menstruation (pads or tampons?), is Coach hung over?, eating disorders, sexual pressure, the new girl, and the Khmer Rouge (what it is, how to pronounce it, and do they need to know about it—"We don't do genocides 'til senior year.†?) By season's and play's end, amidst the wins and losses, rivalries and tragedies, they are warriors tested and ready—they are The Wolves.

august osage county script: Eurydice Sarah Ruhl, 2021-12-21 "Eurydice is a luminous retelling of the Orpheus myth from his beloved wife's point of view. Watching it, we enter a singular, surreal world, as lush and limpid as a dream—an anxiety dream of love and loss—where both author and audience swim in the magical, sometimes menacing, and always thrilling flow of the unconscious... Ruhl's theatrical voice is reticent and daring, accurate and outlandish." —John Lahr, New Yorker A reimagining of the classic myth of Orpheus through the eyes of its heroine. Dying too young on her wedding day, Eurydice journeys to the underworld, where she reunites with her beloved father and struggles to recover lost memories of her husband and the world she left behind.

august osage county script: Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue Quiara Alegría Hudes, 2012-11-20 Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue is that rare and rewarding thing: a theatre work that succeeds on every level while creating something new. The playwright combines a lyrical ear with a sophisticated sense of structure to trace the legacy of war through three generations of a Puerto Rican family. Without ever invoking politics, Elliot, a Soldier's Fugue manages to be a deeply poetic, touching and often funny indictment of the war in Iraq.—The New York Times From Quiara Alegría Hudes, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of Water by the Spoonful, comes this companion play, itself a Pulitzer finalist. In a crumbling urban lot that has been converted into a verdant sanctuary, a young Marine comes to terms with his father's service in Vietnam as he decides whether to leave for a second tour of duty in Iraq. Melding a poetic dreamscape with a stream-of-consciousness narrative, Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue takes us on an unforgettable journey across time and generations, lyrically tracing the legacy of war on a single Puerto Rican family. Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue, a finalist for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize, is the first installment in a trilogy of plays that follow Elliot's return from Iraq. The second play, Water by the Spoonful, received the 2012 Pulitzer Prize and will be published by Theatre Communications Group concurrently with Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue. The trilogy's final play, The Happiest Song Plays Last, premiered in April 2012 at Chicago's renowned The Goodman Theatre.

august osage county script: The Catastrophist Lauren Gunderson, 2021-12-16 Honestly the best science I've ever done and - frankly the best science in the history of humankind - has started with the same thought experiment: find the ways in which humanity thinks it is special... and assume that we're not. How do you plan for a catastrophe? Virologist Nathan Wolfe, named one of TIME's 100 Most Influential People in the World for his work tracking viral pandemic outbreaks, proposed pandemic insurance years before the novel coronavirus outbreak. No one bought it. Now, in a post-COVID world, we hear his story. A time-jumping tale based on the life and work of Nathan Wolfe (who also happens to be the playwright's husband). Though not a play about COVID19, it is a true story of a pandemic expert. A deep dive into the profundities of scientific exploration and modern Judaism, the lengths one goes for love and family, the bracing truths of fatherhood and discovery, and the harrowing realities of facing your own mortality, The Catastrophist is also a story of a main character battling the story he's in... and who is writing it.

august osage county script: Never the Sinner John Logan, 1999 Cast size: medium.

august osage county script: Little House on the Prairie Laura Ingalls Wilder, 2016-03-08 The third book in Laura Ingalls Wilder's treasured Little House series—now available as an ebook! This digital version features Garth Williams's classic illustrations, which appear in vibrant full color on a full-color device and in rich black-and-white on all other devices. The adventures continue for Laura Ingalls and her family as they leave their little house in the Big Woods of Wisconsin and set out for the big skies of the Kansas Territory. They travel for many days in their covered wagon until they find the best spot to build their house. Soon they are planting and plowing, hunting wild ducks and turkeys, and gathering grass for their cows. Just when they begin to feel settled, they are caught in the middle of a dangerous conflict. The nine Little House books are inspired by Laura's own

childhood and have been cherished by generations of readers as both a unique glimpse into America's frontier history and as heartwarming, unforgettable stories.

august osage county script: Into the Woods Theatre Aquarius Archives (University of Guelph), 2004

august osage county script: Ghosts Henrik Ibsen, 2024-04-28

august osage county script: For Peter Pan on her 70th birthday (TCG Edition) Sarah Ruhl, 2018-06-05 After their father dies, five siblings find themselves around the kitchen table of their childhood, pouring whiskey and sharing memories. The eldest, Ann, reminisces about her days playing Peter Pan at the local children's theater, and soon the five are transported back to Neverland. For Peter Pan on her 70th birthday is a fantastical exploration of the enduring bonds of family, the resistance to "growing up," and the inevitability of growing old.

august osage county script: Playwriting Stephen Jeffreys, 2020-03-10 This essential guide to the craft of playwriting, from the author of *The Libertine*, reveals the various invisible frameworks and mechanisms that are at the heart of each and every successful play.

august osage county script: Mary Jane (TCG Edition) Amy Herzog, 2018-10-16 "The most profound and harrowing of Ms. Herzog's many fine plays." —Jesse Green, *New York Times* Armed with medicines, feeding tubes, and various medical equipment, Mary Jane is a single mother and indefatigable force when it comes to caring for her young, sick child. A moving play about the stalwart endurance of a devoted mother, Mary Jane demonstrates the prevailing strength of the human will when fueled by unconditional love.

august osage county script: Killers of the Flower Moon David Grann, 2018-04-03 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A twisting, haunting true-life murder mystery about one of the most monstrous crimes in American history, from the author of *The Wager* and *The Lost City of Z*, "one of the preeminent adventure and true-crime writers working today."—*New York Magazine* • NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • NOW A MARTIN SCORSESE PICTURE "A shocking whodunit...What more could fans of true-crime thrillers ask?"—*USA Today* "A masterful work of literary journalism crafted with the urgency of a mystery." —*The Boston Globe* In the 1920s, the richest people per capita in the world were members of the Osage Nation in Oklahoma. After oil was discovered beneath their land, the Osage rode in chauffeured automobiles, built mansions, and sent their children to study in Europe. Then, one by one, the Osage began to be killed off. The family of an Osage woman, Mollie Burkhart, became a prime target. One of her relatives was shot. Another was poisoned. And it was just the beginning, as more and more Osage were dying under mysterious circumstances, and many of those who dared to investigate the killings were themselves murdered. As the death toll rose, the newly created FBI took up the case, and the young director, J. Edgar Hoover, turned to a former Texas Ranger named Tom White to try to unravel the mystery. White put together an undercover team, including a Native American agent who infiltrated the region, and together with the Osage began to expose one of the most chilling conspiracies in American history. Look for David Grann's latest bestselling book, *The Wager*!

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