

[PDF] Backwards & Forwards: A Technical Manual For Reading Plays

David Ball, Michael Langham - pdf download free book



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Description:

Review

“In fewer than 100 pages, this marvelously instructive book shows how to unlock the secrets of plot, character, theme, exposition, imagery, motivation, conflict, theatricality and pacing” Our editor says he learned more about dramatic structure in the few hours he spent with this 96-page book than he has in his 20-years of theater experience.” —*Stage Directions*

□Ball wrote [*Backwards and Forwards*] to help people who put on plays understand how a play works□ He argues that scripts represent a special kind of writing□because it is writing meant to be staged, not read□ and thus requires special reading techniques; these techniques are what he offers.”□*Dramatics*

About the Author David Ball wrote *Backwards and Forwards* when he was Professor of playwriting, acting, theater history, and literature at Carnegie-Mellon University. He had earlier been on the senior directing and literary staffs at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, and more recently was Head of Drama at Duke University during that department's "Golden Years." His students have gone on to win Emmies, Oscars, Obies, and Tony awards in every area of theater, TV, and film. *Backwards and Forwards* has been the field's standard text for a quarter century, making Dr. Ball one of the most influential and respected of theater and film theorists, educators, and trainers of his generation. His own professional directing, producing, and writing credits encompass Broadway, off-Broadway, regional theater, and film; and his landmark adaptation of Moliere's *The Miser* was staged in major regional theaters from coast to coast as one of Theatre de la Jeune Lune's Tony-award-winning productions.

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