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Noël Coward

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#637521 in Books 2014-04-08 2014-04-08 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.80 x .31 x 5.08l, .33 #File Name: 1472589475128 pages | File size: 78.Mb

Noël Coward : Blithe Spirit (Modern Plays) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blithe Spirit (Modern Plays):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. the writer had a good knack for detailing the environment through written expression By Darius Suddreth Was necessary for my costume design class. We rendered watercolor costumes for an upcoming school production. Although not exactly my style, the writer had a good knack for detailing the environment through written expression. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Two Stars By Lady

Dickersonvery raggedy. falling apart when I received it. pages were written on in big letters0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. my favorite playBy Julescalii love this play and when I need a play for my directing class I knew what play to do. Fun great play

We've stood up - we've lain down - we've concentrated. We've sat interminably while that tiresome old woman recited extremely unflattering verses at us. We're endured five sances - we've watched her fling herself in and out of trances until we're dizzy, and at the end of it all we find ourselves exactly where we were at the beginning.Researching for his new novel, Charles Condomine invites the implausible medium Madame Arcati to his house for a sance. Whilst consumed in a trance, Madame Arcati unwittingly summons the ghost of Charles's dead wife, Elvira. Appearing only to Charles, Elvira soon makes a play to reclaim her husband, much to the chagrin of Charles's new wife, Ruth. One husband, two feuding wives and a whisper of mischief in the air - who will win in Coward's unworldly comedy?Written in 1941, Blithe Spirit remained the longest-running comedy in the history of the British theatre for three decades thereafter. Dealing with relationships on both sides of the grave, it is an enduring classic.A new edition of Coward's classic play published to coincide with the 2014 new West End revival at the Gielgud Theatre, starring Angela Lansberry as Madame Arcati.

The wide-set eyes flash, the fingers fly like knitting needles, the teeth bulge and the cheeks quiver to comic effect. It is like being in a pre-war Lagonda and watching the old dashboard dials dance into life. This play . . . holds up well when played in a properly blithe spirit. * Daily Mail * . . . one of Noel Coward's most inventive comedies . . . It is a comedy that still startles and delights. Coward wrote it in the darkest days of the Second World War and in the circumstances its determinedly frivolous attitude to morality seems downright heroic. * Daily Telegraph * As Coward liked to say, what's so wrong with mere entertainment? * Sunday Times * . . . Noel Coward's eternal comedy classic. * Jewish Chronicle *From the Inside FlapThis classic comedy is set in the charming country home of Charles Condomine, a re-married widower. A witty and convivial evening party among friends is transformed when a s ance conjures the ghost of Elvira, Charles' first wife, who delights in wreaking havoc among the living. An enchanting Coward comedy!About the AuthorNoel Coward was born in 1899 in Teddington, Middlesex. He made his name as a playwright with *The Vortex* (1924), in which he also appeared. His numerous other successful plays included *Fallen Angels* (1925), *Hay Fever* (1925), *Private Lives* (1933), *Design for Living* (1933) and *Blithe Spirit* (1941). During the war he wrote screenplays such as *Brief Encounter* (1944) and *In Which We Serve* (1942). In the fifties he began a new career as a cabaret entertainer. He published volumes of verse and a novel (*Pomp and Circumstance*, 1960), two volumes of autobiography and four volumes of short stories: *To Step Aside* (1939), *Star Quality* (1951), *Pretty Polly Barlow* (1964) and *Bon Voyage* (1967). He was knighted in 1970 and died three years later in Jamaica.