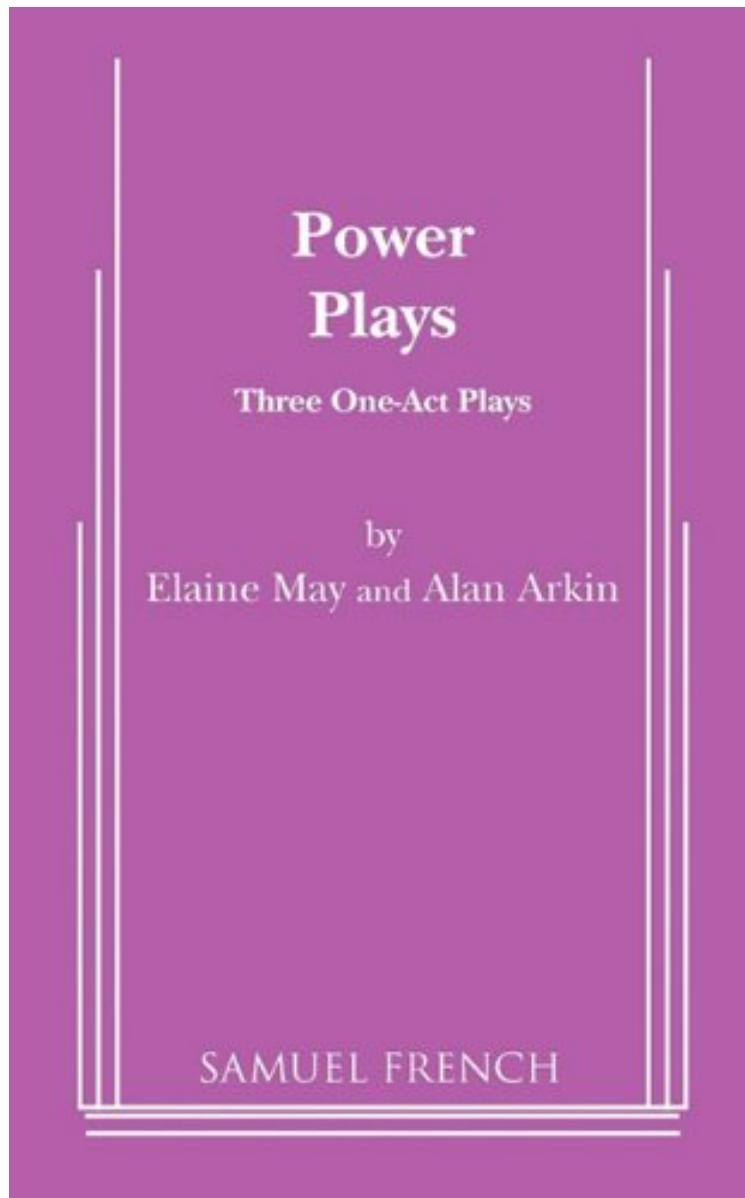


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Power Plays

Elaine May, Alan Arkin

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Elaine May, Alan Arkin : Power Plays before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Power Plays:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy aboswellburnsGreat set of plays and some really great monologue material for women.6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Shallowly riotousBy Michael A.

Benedetto Of the three one-acts collected here, the first two have only minimal depth and the third doesn't have any. Doesn't matter. Alan Arkin and Elaine May have brilliant comic minds, and put them to excellent use on this project. My personal favorite of the three is May's opener, "The Way of All Fish", in which a meek secretary attempts to shift the balance of power away from her difficult boss, with bizarre and side-splitting results. But there are amusing lines and intriguing situations in all three. Reading this book isn't quite a substitute for watching May and Arkin perform in their own pieces (or for watching Richard Benjamin and Paula Prentiss, their replacements in the original production), but it has the added benefit of allowing you to go back and excerpt the most quotable lines at your leisure. Don't hesitate -- just grab it.

Short Plays, Comedy Characters: 2 male, 2 female 3 interior sets Consists of The Way of All Fish, Virtual Reality and In and Out of the Light, three short plays about the collision of wills that were an Off Broadway comedy sensation starring the authors. "Classic comedies ... with subversive details that keep catching you off guard.... The evening ... percolates with actorly inventiveness and a willingness to pursue a warped logic step by step into the land of absurdity. Has a heady sense of discovery, of seeing prototypical situations being twisted and spun to the point of dizziness, of disparate comic minds bouncing off each other."-N.Y. Times "A giddy delight."-N.Y. Post "Hilarious as well as thoughtful."-N.Y. Daily News