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The House Of Blue Leaves



Synopsis

This poignant Obie Award-winning comedy unfolds in New York City on the day the Pope is expected to visit. Hearts are palpitating in the sleepy borough of Queens, but not entirely on account of His Holiness. Bunny Flingus, a femme-fatale from Flushing (or thereabouts) is stirring things up in the quiet, unfulfilled life of aspiring songwriter Artie Shaughnessy. Artie longs to leave his unhappy marriage, elope with Bunny, and write a hit song that will top the charts.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 1 hour and 31 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: L.A. Theatre Works

Audible.com Release Date: October 16, 2008

Language: English

ASIN: B001IMTLB8

Best Sellers Rank: #218 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Poetry #305 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Drama #2282 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Dramas & Plays > Regional & Cultural > United States

Customer Reviews

The House of Blue Leaves is an excellent critique of the desire to achieve celebrity in our society. The characters in this story, namely Artie and Ronnie, are searching out fame in their own way (writing music for motion pictures and blowing the pope sky high, respectively) mainly to achieve some sort of validity in their lives. They believe that their existence is meaningless without the acknowledgement of others. Through sharp, and sometimes dry and cynical writing, Guare makes you feel for the characters and leaves you stunned at the end. With its assortment of colorful supporting characters it is both a very funny and a very sad work of art.

Guare's "House of Blue Leaves" is by far the most memorable, well-written, and exceptionally challenging play that I've yet to come across. Granted, the only production I've seen was an amateur presentation at a local performing arts center but, that aside, the content of Guare's play completely overshadowed any lackluster performances. As for the philosophy employed in so many recent films (Magnolia, Being John Malkovich) regarding self-affirmation through the powers of

universal forces, "House of Blue Leaves" exemplifies this modernist philosophy through and through. Although "Six Degrees of Separation" is the more regarded of Guare's plays, HOBL is the most exceptionally subtle and quietly subversive. Very, very impressive work.

Arrived in time. I looked for this play on kindle and pretty much every area that offer ebooks but I didn't find any. Thought this would arrive late since it didn't give me a specific arriving time, it arrived in a week. Catches up my school work.

The story and the characters are zany but fragile. I saw the 1986 production with Swoosie Kurtz and John Mahoney who would later become nationally known as Frasier's Dad. It was a very good production with great actors and many jokes but it is NOT a happy story. It's sad and working class. I saw it many times because tickets were very cheap to Catholic school kids (because it's about the Pope???)

Sounds just as excellent as Guare's other play SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION. I'd like to see them make BLUE LEAVES into a movie like they did the other.

is a commentary on the oblivious pursuits of people in our society and causalities they take, hurting both others and themselves. A play for people who never quite fit in. A play for people who know there's something more.

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