



The Play That Goes Wrong

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Good evening. I'm Inspector Carter. Take my case. This must be Charles Haversham! I'm sorry, this must've given you all a damn shock.

After benefitting from a large and sudden inheritance, the inept and accident-prone Cornley Polytechnic Drama Society embark on producing an ambitious 1920s murder mystery. They are delighted that neither casting issues nor technical hitches currently stand in their way. However, hilarious disaster ensues and the cast start to crack under the pressure, but can they get the production back on track before the final curtain falls?

The Play That Goes Wrong is a farcical murder mystery, a play within a play, conceived and performed by award-winning company Theatre Mischief. It was first published as a one-act play and is published in this new edition as a two-act play.

The Play That Goes Wrong Details

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From Reader Review The Play That Goes Wrong for online ebook

mary says

The best thing I've read in ages! This play is my favourite, and it's one of the funniest things I've ever read. I highly recommend

Scott says

Just reading this over-the-top farce will make one laugh out loud - especially if one is an actor!

Luinalda says

I saw this play live in July. Luckily still with the original cast. <3

The Play That Goes Wrong is definitely one of the funniest shows I've ever seen. My sides still ache from all the laughing when I think about it. :D I absolutely loved it and would give it 5+ stars.

For this script/textbook version I had to take a star off though, because it is a very visual play, so reading it doesn't really do it full justice. I still had to laugh out loud a couple of times. *g* And re-reading it brought back all those fantastic memories and hilarious moments. :)

Kath Witts says

I went and seen the play in September and I fell in love with it! I'm so glad I managed to find a copy of the screenplay - everything about it is amazing. Watching it was obviously better as it's only the script and it can get more confusing but it's nice to read this to kinda re-watch it in your head (if you have a good memory like I do.) It's a light and funny read + watch! Definitely recommend!!

Sam Stevens says

Hilarious play. Meh book

Kelsey says

5/5

Super funny - if you get the chance to see this on stage then SEE IT.

Misha says

I would love to see this in operation - a lot of the set changes (can I can them changes? Deliberately engineered disasters, perhaps) seem near-impossible to actually stage, but I can picture it and it looks great...

Jenny says

I really enjoyed this, I think in person it would be a 5 out of 5 stars but so much of this show is visually comedy. I really want to see this crew perform in person

Yourfiendmrjones says

Quite funny. When reading, I can see how it should be staged as it has some of the most explicit stage directions I've ever seen in a play. Since I read most plays with the idea that I may eventually stage them, the only thing holding me back from five stars is realizing how difficult it would be to produce it.

It would take a two-story set designed to be completely safe, yet fall apart on cue. Actors who are in great physical shape and can do British accents and are great physical comedians. Intense rehearsals to perfect all of the stunts.

Break a leg, future productions!

Jason says

Utterly hilarious play about a mystery play that does, as the title says, goes wrong...horribly wrong. A delightful take on a small theatre company's play and all that can happen when you don't have the budget or talent to pull it off, but you have the determination to see it through to the end. A sort of Noises Off, lite.

Jessica says

Quite a funny play; everything that a farce should be. I would dearly love to see it live on stage.

Jim says

This is a hilarious play. On the level of Noises Off funny. It is in the farce style, although not a sex farce. The characters and situations are broad as they need to be. The show also requires a very strong technical staff that can deliver on all of the technical aspects of the show. Not only does the set need to be very

technically and well designed, but the props will also need to be of a top notch.

Shelagh (The Word Fiend) says

This is a play that relies to some extent on its visual comedy. As a result the book is not as amusing, but definitely still worth a read.

Amarante says

After having seen two Mischief productions this summer in the West End, I must admit that The Play that Goes Wrong is superior to the other in many ways. And after hearing a remake would be made in my very own hometown, I simply had to get hold of the original script. And I'll start off with some friendly advice: it won't be a pleasant read without you having seen the play, as it is a very technical script (which is naturally needed for describing the numerous mishaps).

But not even after finishing the first act, I noticed significant differences between the script and the actual theatre play I had seen. And I do not mean that in a negative sense - on the contrary - it elevates the actual play because it is so dependent on its actors: their exaggerations, their ad libs on top of the ad libs from the script, they even broke the 4th wall several times on their own accord. And yet, they followed the script marvelously as to ensure nothing was lost. This is the true strength and beauty of The Play That Goes Wrong: although it's very straightforward, it brings forth quite different performances. And I can hardly wait to see what our local theatre production has done with it!

James Turrall says

This book is dead funny! It's got some great moments and laughs and made me watch the play in action which was amazing! This book is superb and I love it! Recommended to all with a sense of humour!
