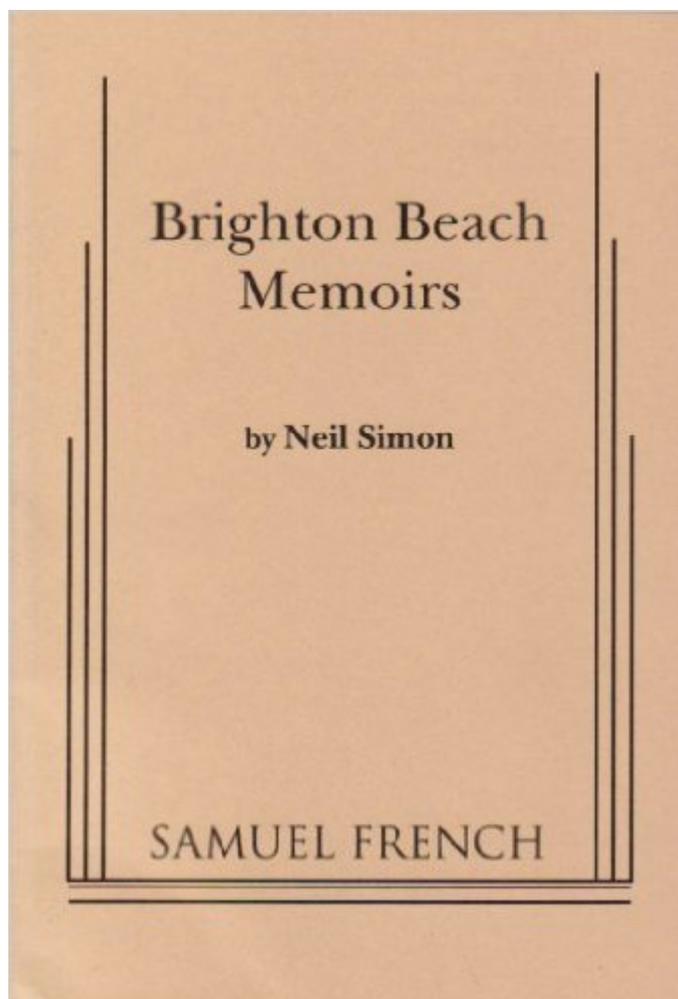


The book was found

Brighton Beach Memoirs



Synopsis

Full Length, Comic Drama / 3m, 4f / Comb. Ints/Ext. Here is part one of Neil Simon's autobiographical trilogy: a portrait of the writer as a young teen in 1937 living with his family in a crowded, lower middle-class Brooklyn walk-up. Eugene Jerome, standing in for the author, is the narrator and central character. Dreaming of baseball and girls, Eugene must cope with the mundane existence of his family life in Brooklyn: formidable mother, overworked father, and his worldly older brother Stanley. Throw into the mix his widowed Aunt Blanche, her two young (but rapidly aging) daughters and Grandpa the Socialist and you have a recipe for hilarity, served up Simon-style. This bittersweet memoir evocatively captures the life of a struggling Jewish household where, as his father states "if you didn't have a problem, you wouldn't be living here." "Brings a fresh glow to Broadway...In many respects his funniest, richest and consequently the most affecting of his plays."-New York Daily News "Simultaneously poignant and funny. The characters are fully dimensional, believable... An outstanding show...the best seen on Broadway in too long a time."-Variety "Hilarious comedy...His finest play...A delightful and enriching experience."-CBS-TV

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (32 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I am a lazy high school kid who reads as little as possible, and I read this play three times- taking away something new everytime. I must admit that I first saw it as the movie with Jonathon Silverman, but I had to read the script to get the full effect. I try to watch it with my friends, but none of them seem to have the attention span to watch something that didn't cost billions of dollars for a

sinking ship (not to belittle "Titanic's" success, but it appeals to the people who are seeking easy entertainment that jumps up and bites you in the a\$\$). The way I started researching Neil Simon was through a school assignment- I won't lie. My research paper had to be on an American author that no one else was doing. I couldn't think of anyone to do after all my first choices were taken, so I started asking my teacher if I could do a songwriter. That would be too easy. I was planning on listening to John Mellencamp or Bruce Springsteen, who wrote my favorite song, "Blinded By the Light". Needless to say, my teacher vetoed these requests, so I asked her for some suggestions. She rattled off about a million names that I had never heard of. Then she said "Neil Simon" and it sounded familiar. I inquired more about him and she told me he was a playwright. Later that night, I asked my dad if he had heard of this guy. He told me that he had, and that I had, too. He reminded me that we had "Brighton Beach Memoirs" on tape, and I immediately decided that I would do my paper on him. Many people wonder why a "gentile, athletic, boy from the midwest" would want to research him. Some of these same people dismiss the scene in which Eugene and Stanley discuss masturbation as a cheap laugh guaranteed by uncomfortability.

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