

dearly departed play

dearly departed play explores the hilarious yet heartfelt dynamics of a Southern family coming together for a funeral in the acclaimed comedy “Dearly Departed.” Whether you’re a theater enthusiast, a director considering this play for your next production, or simply curious about its themes and legacy, this article provides a comprehensive look at everything you need to know. From its origins and plot summary to key characters, cultural impact, and production tips, every aspect is covered in detail. Readers will also discover why “Dearly Departed” remains a favorite among theater groups, learn about notable performances, and gain practical insights for staging this beloved play. Dive in to uncover the enduring appeal and unique charm of “Dearly Departed,” making this guide your ultimate resource for understanding and appreciating this iconic work.

- Overview and Origins of Dearly Departed Play
- Plot Summary and Main Themes
- Key Characters and Their Roles
- Cultural Impact and Legacy
- Notable Productions and Performances
- Tips for Staging Dearly Departed Play
- Frequently Asked Questions about Dearly Departed Play

Overview and Origins of Dearly Departed Play

Dearly Departed play is a celebrated American comedy written by David Bottrell and Jessie Jones. Premiering in 1991, the play quickly garnered attention for its witty, heartfelt portrayal of a dysfunctional Southern family navigating the chaos of a funeral. Set in the rural South, the story blends sharp humor with poignant moments, earning its place as a staple in regional and community theaters across the country. The playwrights drew inspiration from their own Southern backgrounds, infusing the script with authentic dialogue and relatable family dynamics. Over the years, Dearly Departed has been praised for its universal themes and ability to elicit both laughter and empathy from audiences.

Since its debut, the play has enjoyed numerous revivals and adaptations, including the 2001 film “Kingdom Come.” Its popularity stems from the timeless appeal of its characters and situations, making it a favorite for directors seeking a crowd-pleasing comedy with depth. Whether staged in small-town theaters or larger venues, Dearly Departed continues to resonate with diverse audiences, thanks to its clever writing and memorable cast of characters.

Plot Summary and Main Themes

Plot Summary

The story of *Dearly Departed* play centers on the Turpin family, whose patriarch passes away unexpectedly. As relatives gather to plan the funeral, old tensions resurface and secrets emerge, resulting in a series of comedic mishaps and heartfelt revelations. The play unfolds over several days, chronicling the family's attempts to honor their departed father while dealing with their own personal dramas. Through a series of interconnected scenes, the audience witnesses the blend of chaos and affection that defines Southern family life.

Main Themes

Dearly Departed explores several universal themes, including family relationships, grief, and resilience. Despite the somber premise—a family funeral—the play masterfully balances humor and pathos, highlighting the absurdities that often accompany loss and mourning. Its characters grapple with issues such as sibling rivalry, marital struggles, financial woes, and generational differences, all while striving to come together in the face of adversity. The play's sharp dialogue and situational comedy underscore the idea that laughter is often the best medicine, even in the darkest times.

- **Family Dysfunction:** The Turpin family's quirks and conflicts drive the comedic narrative.
- **Coping with Loss:** Characters display unique, often humorous ways of handling grief.
- **Southern Traditions:** The setting and cultural references add authenticity and charm.
- **Redemption and Reconciliation:** Ultimately, the play offers hope for forgiveness and unity.

Key Characters and Their Roles

Main Characters

Dearly Departed play features a colorful cast, each contributing to the story's humor and heart. The Turpin family members and their associates present a mosaic of personalities, each with distinct motivations and flaws. Their interactions form the core of the play's comedic and dramatic tension.

1. **Ray-Bud Turpin:** The practical yet frustrated eldest son, burdened by funeral costs and family drama.
2. **Lucille Turpin:** Ray-Bud's supportive wife, often the voice of reason amidst chaos.
3. **Junior Turpin:** The younger, less responsible son whose questionable decisions complicate matters.

4. **Suzanne Turpin:** Junior's long-suffering wife, struggling with marital and financial woes.
5. **Marguerite:** The judgmental aunt, known for her sharp tongue and religious fervor.
6. **Delightful:** Marguerite's peculiar daughter, adding eccentricity to the mix.
7. **Bud Turpin:** The deceased patriarch, whose passing sets the events in motion.

Supporting Characters

In addition to the main family members, *Dearly Departed* play includes several supporting roles that enrich the story. These characters, from funeral staff to extended relatives, provide comic relief and highlight the broader community's reactions to the Turpins' predicament. Their interactions add layers to the narrative, making each scene memorable and engaging.

Cultural Impact and Legacy

Popularity in American Theater

Since its premiere, *Dearly Departed* play has become a beloved fixture in American theater, particularly popular among community and regional groups. Its accessible humor, relatable characters, and flexible cast size make it an ideal choice for both seasoned and novice performers. Directors appreciate the play's ability to connect with audiences of all backgrounds, thanks to its universal themes and authentic Southern setting.

Adaptations and Notable Mentions

The play's success led to the 2001 film "*Kingdom Come*," featuring a star-studded ensemble cast. Though the film adapts the basic plot, it introduces new elements and characters, expanding on the original's comedic and dramatic potential. *Dearly Departed* continues to inspire new productions and remains a favorite among drama festivals and amateur theater groups, cementing its legacy as a modern comedic classic.

Influence on Contemporary Playwriting

Dearly Departed play has influenced many writers and performers with its blend of farce and sincerity. It paved the way for similar works that tackle serious subjects with humor, encouraging a more nuanced approach to family-centered drama. Its continued relevance speaks to the enduring power of well-crafted comedy to address life's most challenging moments.

Notable Productions and Performances

Professional and Community Theater Success

Dearly Departed play has been performed in theaters nationwide, with both professional and amateur casts bringing the Turpin family's story to life. Notable productions have taken place in New York, Los Angeles, and countless regional venues, each interpreting the play's Southern charm in unique ways. Directors often cite the script's strong ensemble structure as a key reason for its popularity, allowing actors of all experience levels to shine.

Award Recognition

While Dearly Departed has not received major national awards, it is consistently featured in theater competitions and local festivals. The play's enduring popularity is reflected in its frequent revivals and enthusiastic audience reception. Many theater companies credit it with boosting attendance and engaging new patrons, thanks to its accessible humor and relatable themes.

Memorable Performances

Throughout its history, Dearly Departed play has seen standout performances from actors who bring depth and authenticity to the Turpin family. The roles offer ample opportunity for comedic timing and emotional nuance, making them favorites among performers and audiences alike. Memorable productions are often noted for their creative staging and strong ensemble work.

Tips for Staging Dearly Departed Play

Production Considerations

Staging Dearly Departed play requires attention to its unique blend of comedy and drama. Directors should emphasize authentic Southern accents and mannerisms, ensuring the characters feel genuine. The set design typically includes a modest family home and a funeral parlor, allowing for flexible staging in various theater spaces. Costume choices should reflect the rural setting and character backgrounds, adding to the play's visual appeal.

Cast and Crew Recommendations

Casting is crucial for Dearly Departed, as the ensemble nature of the play demands balanced performances. Directors should seek actors with strong comedic timing and the ability to convey sincere emotion. The crew should focus on seamless scene transitions and effective use of props to support the story's pacing.

- Prioritize ensemble chemistry to highlight family dynamics.

- Utilize flexible set pieces for quick scene changes.
- Incorporate authentic Southern details in costumes and accents.
- Encourage actors to explore both the comedic and heartfelt aspects of their roles.
- Engage audiences with creative staging and dynamic blocking.

Audience Engagement

Dearly Departed play thrives on audience interaction, with its relatable characters and situations fostering laughter and empathy. Directors should encourage actors to play to the crowd, using physical comedy and timing to maximize impact. Community outreach and promotional efforts can further boost attendance and engagement, making each production a memorable event.

Frequently Asked Questions about Dearly Departed Play

Q: What is the central plot of Dearly Departed play?

A: Dearly Departed play centers on the Turpin family as they gather for the funeral of their patriarch, navigating family conflicts, secrets, and comedic mishaps while attempting to honor his memory.

Q: Who wrote Dearly Departed play?

A: The play was written by David Bottrell and Jessie Jones, drawing upon their Southern heritage to create authentic characters and dialogue.

Q: What are the main themes of Dearly Departed?

A: Key themes include family dysfunction, coping with loss, reconciliation, and the unique traditions of Southern culture, all presented with a comedic touch.

Q: Is Dearly Departed suitable for community theater?

A: Yes, Dearly Departed is highly popular in community and regional theaters due to its flexible cast size, relatable humor, and minimal staging requirements.

Q: Has Dearly Departed been adapted into a film?

A: Yes, the play was adapted into the 2001 film "Kingdom Come," which expanded upon the original

story with new characters and comedic situations.

Q: What makes Dearly Departed play unique among comedic dramas?

A: Its blend of farcical humor and sincere emotion, set against the backdrop of a Southern funeral, distinguishes it from other family-centered comedies.

Q: How can directors best stage Dearly Departed?

A: Directors should focus on ensemble chemistry, authentic Southern details in accents and costumes, and dynamic staging to bring out the play's humor and heart.

Q: Are there any notable performances of Dearly Departed?

A: The play has seen successful runs in major cities and countless regional theaters, with standout performances often noted for strong ensemble work and creative staging.

Q: What age group is Dearly Departed appropriate for?

A: The play is generally suitable for teens and adults, featuring mature themes presented in a comedic context.

Q: Why is Dearly Departed still popular today?

A: Its universal themes, memorable characters, and balance of comedy and drama make Dearly Departed a timeless favorite among both audiences and theater groups.

[Dearly Departed Play](#)

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Dearly Departed Play: A Hilarious Dive into Family Secrets and Irish Wit

Are you looking for a play that's both laugh-out-loud funny and surprisingly poignant? Then look no

further than "Dearly Departed," a wildly popular comedy that's been captivating audiences for years. This blog post will delve into the hilarious antics, touching moments, and enduring appeal of this witty Irish play. We'll explore its plot, characters, themes, and why it continues to resonate with audiences worldwide. Get ready for a comedic rollercoaster ride!

A Quick Synopsis of the "Dearly Departed" Play

"Dearly Departed" is a comedic masterpiece by David Foley that centers around the dysfunctional Tuohy family. The play unfolds following the sudden death of their patriarch, Jimmy Tuohy. Instead of grieving, the family descends into a chaotic mess of petty squabbles, long-held resentments, and outrageous revelations. The play masterfully blends slapstick humor with genuine emotional depth, making it a captivating experience for audiences of all ages.

The Hilarious Cast of Characters: A Family Portrait Gone Wrong

The true strength of "Dearly Departed" lies in its unforgettable characters. Each family member is meticulously crafted with exaggerated flaws and quirks, creating a hilarious tapestry of human foibles.

The Tuohy Family Dynamism:

Mary: The matriarch, a woman who finds humor in the most inappropriate situations. Her coping mechanism for grief involves a rather unhealthy obsession with food and a complete lack of tact.
Raymond: Mary's son, a perpetually awkward and slightly dim-witted individual with an unfortunate habit of saying the wrong thing at the wrong time.
Joan: Raymond's sister, a self-proclaimed "victim" with a penchant for dramatic pronouncements and a talent for creating unnecessary conflict.
Shane: Joan's perpetually sarcastic husband, offering cynical observations throughout the chaos. His witty one-liners are a highlight of the play.
Agnes: The eccentric, meddling mother-in-law, adding a layer of chaos to the already explosive family dynamic.

Themes Explored in "Dearly Departed": More Than Just

Laughs

While undeniably hilarious, "Dearly Departed" cleverly explores deeper themes that resonate with audiences long after the curtain falls.

The Absurdity of Grief and Family Dynamics:

The play doesn't shy away from portraying the messy, often uncomfortable realities of family relationships and the process of mourning. It uses humor to highlight the absurd situations that can arise when personal grief clashes with family dysfunction.

The Importance of Family (Despite Everything):

Despite their constant bickering and obvious flaws, the Tuohy family ultimately demonstrate an underlying connection. Their shared history, however dysfunctional, binds them together. The play subtly explores the complexities of familial love and the enduring power of bonds forged through shared experiences.

The Power of Black Comedy:

"Dearly Departed" masterfully utilizes black comedy to explore taboo subjects and uncomfortable truths. The play's humor is often derived from the very absurdity of the family's reactions to the death of their patriarch.

Why "Dearly Departed" Remains a Popular Choice for Theatres Worldwide

The play's enduring popularity stems from its relatable characters, witty dialogue, and clever exploration of universal themes. Its comedic timing is impeccable, ensuring a steady stream of laughter from start to finish. The play's adaptability allows for diverse interpretations and casting choices, making it a timeless classic.

The Legacy of "Dearly Departed": A Play for the Ages

"Dearly Departed" is more than just a comedy; it's a poignant exploration of family, grief, and the complexities of human relationships. Its enduring popularity speaks to its timeless appeal, proving that even in the face of loss, laughter and connection can prevail. The play's clever writing, memorable characters, and exploration of universal themes ensure that audiences will continue to be captivated by the hilarious chaos of the Tuohy family for years to come.

Conclusion

"Dearly Departed" is a must-see play for anyone looking for a hilarious and heartwarming experience. Its witty dialogue, unforgettable characters, and exploration of universal themes make it a truly captivating and enduring theatrical masterpiece. So, grab your tickets and prepare for a comedic rollercoaster ride that will leave you laughing long after the curtain falls.

FAQs

Q1: Is "Dearly Departed" suitable for all ages?

A1: While the play is primarily comedic, some of the humor might not be appropriate for very young children. It's generally considered suitable for teenagers and adults.

Q2: Where can I find performances of "Dearly Departed"?

A2: Check your local theatre listings or online ticketing websites for upcoming performances. The play is frequently staged in community theatres and professional productions worldwide.

Q3: Is the play difficult to stage?

A3: The play's success hinges on the actors' comedic timing and ability to embody the quirky characters. While not overly complex in terms of set design, strong performances are essential.

Q4: Are there any movie adaptations of "Dearly Departed"?

A4: Currently, there is no major film adaptation of the play, however, various community and amateur film groups may have produced independent versions.

Q5: What makes "Dearly Departed" stand out from other comedies?

A5: "Dearly Departed" cleverly blends slapstick humor with genuinely touching moments. Its unique blend of dark comedy and relatable characters sets it apart, offering a more nuanced and thought-

provoking experience than many other comedies.

dearly departed play: Dearly Departed David Bottrell, Jessie Jones, 1992 THE STORY: In the Baptist backwoods of the Bible Belt, the beleaguered Turpin family proves that living and dying in the South are seldom tidy and always hilarious. Despite their earnest efforts to pull themselves together for their father's funera

dearly departed play: Dearly Beloved Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, Jamie Wooten, 2005 In Thurber's world, sex is less a quest for pleasure or an expression of love than it is the retardation of emotion. And this is where Thurber makes her mark as an artist: She shows us how some parents would rather keep their offspring in their muck than Quirky and original, Lucy Thurber's STAY confirms the talent that the playwright demonstrated a few years back in the equally brilliant Where We're Born. But while her previous play was grounded in a rugged naturalism, STAY sparkles with magic and surrea

dearly departed play: The Dear Departed Stanley Houghton, 1937

dearly departed play: Dearly Departed Lia Habel, 2012 YA. FANTASY & MAGICAL REALISM. This is a sharp, slick, blisteringly paced debut novel, with an unconventional but tender love story at its heart. I parted the curtains. A skeletal face peered back at me, blackened eyes rolling in sockets seemingly unsupported by flesh. It smiled ... It should be game over for Nora Dearly when she is ambushed and dragged off into the night by the living dead. But this crack unit of teen zombies are the good guys, sent to protect Nora from the real monsters roaming the country and zeroing in on cities to swell their ranks. Can Nora find a way to kill off the evil undead once and for all? Can she trust her protectors to resist their hunger for human flesh? And can she stop herself falling for the noble, sweet, surprisingly attractive, definitely-no-longer-breathing Bram ...? Ages 12+.

dearly departed play: Dearly Departed Georgina Walker, 2009-11 What happens to those we love when they die? Where do they go? And can they communicate beyond the grave? High profile psychic Georgina Walker answers the many questions we ask when a loved one dies.

dearly departed play: The Dearly Departed Elinor Lipman, 2002-08-13 With her trademark humor and warmth, the beloved author of *The Ladies' Man* and *The Inn at Lake Devine* explores going home again; about finding light in the dark corners of one's inhospitable past; about love, golf, and DNA. Everyone in King George, New Hampshire, loved Margaret Batten, part-time amateur actress, full-time wallflower, and single mother to a now-distant daughter, Sunny. But accidents happen. The death of Margaret, side by side with her putative fiancé, brings Sunny back to the scene of the unhappy adolescence she thought she'd left behind. Reentry is to be dreaded; there's no hiding in a town with one diner, one doctor, one stop sign, one motel. Yet allies surface; even high school tormentors have grown up in unforeseen and gratifying ways. Just possibly, Sunny begins to think, she wasn't as beleaguered as she felt she was. And maybe her mother's life was richer than anyone suspected. Add to the mix a chief of police whose interest in Sunny exceeds his civic duty, and you have the makings of an irresistibly beguiling tale from an author who writes with all the wit and wry authority of a latter-day Jane Austen.

dearly departed play: Dearly, Departed: A Zombie Novel Lia Habel, 2012-08-14 A classic romance, suspense thriller, rip-roaring adventure, and macabre comedy all at once, *Dearly, Departed* redefines the concept of undying love. CAN A PROPER YOUNG VICTORIAN LADY FIND TRUE LOVE IN THE ARMS OF A DASHING ZOMBIE? The year is 2195. The place is New Victoria—a high-tech nation modeled on the mores of an antique era. Sixteen-year-old Nora Dearly is far more interested in her country's political unrest than in silly debutante balls. But the death of her beloved parents leaves Nora at the mercy of a social-climbing aunt who plans to marry off her niece for money. To Nora, no fate could be more horrible—until she's nearly kidnapped by an army of walking corpses. Now she's suddenly gunning down ravenous zombies alongside mysterious black-clad commandos and confronting a fatal virus that raises the dead. Then Nora meets Bram Griswold, a young soldier who is brave, handsome, noble . . . and thoroughly deceased. But like the

rest of his special undead unit, Bram has been enabled by luck and modern science to hold on to his mind, his manners, and his body parts. And when his bond of trust with Nora turns to tenderness, there's no turning back. Eventually, they know, the disease will win, separating the star-crossed lovers forever. But until then, beating or not, their hearts will have what they desire.

"Heart-pounding . . . Nora and Bram's touching and tender relationship, with its emphasis on equality and living in the moment, feels particularly special."—Publishers Weekly "Absolutely spellbinding . . . full of ingenious inventions and dynamic characters."—RT Book Reviews "A zombie romance? You bet."—Library Journal

dearly departed play: *Mobituaries* Mo Rocca, 2021-11-02 From popular TV correspondent and writer Rocca comes a charmingly irreverent and rigorously researched book that celebrates the dead people who made life worth living.

dearly departed play: *Working Actor* David Dean Bottrell, 2019-02-19 Veteran character actor David Dean Bottrell draws on his 35+ tumultuous years of work in the entertainment industry to offer a guide to breaking in, making a living, and making a life in the fabulous trenches of show business. Covers every facet of the business, including: - Capturing the perfect headshot - Starting (and maintaining) your network - Picking an agent - Audition do's and don'ts - Joining the union(s): SAG-AFTRA and Actors Equity Association (AEA) - On stage vs on screen - Paying the bills - Self-promotion - Late bloomers - When to get out David Dean Bottrell has worn many different hats during his decades in showbiz: television actor with appearances on *Boston Legal*, *Modern Family*, *The Blacklist*, *Mad Men*, *True Blood*, *NCIS*, and *Days of Our Lives*; screenwriter for Paramount and Disney; respected acting teacher at UCLA and AADA; and regular expert columnist for esteemed acting site Backstage. In *Working Actor*, Bottrell offers a how-to manual jammed with practical information and insider advice, essential reading for any artist (aspiring or established) in need of insight or inspiration. Mixing prescriptive advice (Getting Started, Learning Your Craft, Finding an Agent) with wisdom drawn from Bottrell's own professional highs and lows and those of his acting compatriots, this book's humorous, tell-it-like-it-is tone is a must-have guide for anyone hoping to successfully navigate show business.

dearly departed play: *The Vanishing Trick* Jenni Spangler, 2020-04-30 'A thrilling, original, evocative and eerie tale - I adored it!' Michelle Harrison, author of *A Pinch of Magic* 'A thrilling page-turner. Madame Pinchbeck is a gloriously Dickensian villain' Abi Elphinstone, author of *Sky Song* 'Ghosts, gadgets, likeable villains and unlikely heroes: *The Vanishing Trick* is a dark and dazzling adventure' Emma Carroll, author of *Letters from the Lighthouse* 'A completely enthralling tale, oozing with atmosphere and originality' Catherine Doyle, author of *The Storm Keeper's Island* 'Jenni Spangler is the next big voice in children's magical history novels' Lucy Powrie, author of *The Paper & Hearts Society* 'Deliciously dark and atmospheric ... I couldn't get enough' Nizrana Farook, author of *The Girl Who Stole An Elephant* 'A spectacular heart-stopping adventure in a dark and dangerous Victorian world' Tamsin Winter, author of *Jemima Small Versus the Universe* 'An eventful gothic adventure full of secrets and surprises' Sunday Times Book of The Week? Step into a world of secrets, folklore and illusions, where nothing is as it seems and magic is at play... Madame Augustina Pinchbeck, travels the country conjuring the spirits of dearly departed loved ones... for a price. Whilst her ability to contact ghosts is a game of smoke and mirrors, there is real magic behind her tricks too - if you know where to look. Through a magical trade, she persuades children to part with precious objects, promising to use her powers to help them. But Pinchbeck is a deceiver, instead turning their items into enchanted Cabinets that bind the children to her and into which she can vanish and summon them at will. When Pinchbeck captures orphan Leander, events are set into motion that see him and his new friends Charlotte and Felix, in a race against time to break Pinchbeck's spell, before one of them vanishes forever... #TheVanishingTrick A historical adventure with a magical twist from an outstanding debut talent. Perfect for fans of Michelle Harrison, Sophie Anderson and Emma Carroll.

dearly departed play: *Doublewide, Texas* Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, Jamie Wooten, 2016-05-13 THE STORY: In this hilarious, fast-paced comedy, the inhabitants of one of the smallest

trailer parks in Texas—four doublewides and a shed—are thrown for a loop when they realize the nearby town of Tugaloo is determined to annex them. And it's not as if they don't already have enough to deal with. Joveeta Crumpler has had it up to here, having been passed over again for a promotion at work. On top of this, she has an ongoing battle to keep her feisty mother, Caprice, out of the local bar and worries that her good-ol'-boy brother, Baby Crumpler, is taking his participation in a womanless beauty pageant way too seriously. Joveeta's big-hearted best friend, Georgia Dean Rudd, is struggling to keep her diner and finances afloat, but she just can't curb her impulse to take in every stray cat, possum, and armadillo that wanders by. Then there's Big Ethel Satterwhite, who's nobody's fool. But tough as she is, she's continually frustrated by her clients at Stairway To Heaven Retirement Village as well as her mule-headed husband, O.C., who shows far more affection for his BarcaLounger than he does for Big Ethel. And all the residents are plagued by Haywood Sloggett, the curmudgeon from across the road, who loathes their "trailer-trash" ways, especially their keeping a life-size illuminated nativity scene up year 'round. But these friends, enemies, and neighbors realize they'll have to work together to defeat the encroaching annexation if they—and their way of life—have a snowball's chance to survive being swallowed up by "the big guys." The rollicking mayhem of this flat-out funny Jones Hope Wooten comedy escalates as the residents attempt to secede from Texas, discover a traitor in their midst, and turn the tables in a surprising and side-splitting finale. So grab your Stetson and come on over to Doublewide, Texas, where life is double the fun, double the joy, and where audiences double over with laughter!

dearly departed play: The Dearly Departed Elinor Lipman, 2002-08-13 With her trademark humor and warmth, the beloved author of *The Ladies' Man* and *The Inn at Lake Devine* explores going home again; about finding light in the dark corners of one's inhospitable past; about love, golf, and DNA. Everyone in King George, New Hampshire, loved Margaret Batten, part-time amateur actress, full-time wallflower, and single mother to a now-distant daughter, Sunny. But accidents happen. The death of Margaret, side by side with her putative fiancé, brings Sunny back to the scene of the unhappy adolescence she thought she'd left behind. Reentry is to be dreaded; there's no hiding in a town with one diner, one doctor, one stop sign, one motel. Yet allies surface; even high school tormentors have grown up in unforeseen and gratifying ways. Just possibly, Sunny begins to think, she wasn't as beleaguered as she felt she was. And maybe her mother's life was richer than anyone suspected. Add to the mix a chief of police whose interest in Sunny exceeds his civic duty, and you have the makings of an irresistibly beguiling tale from an author who writes with all the wit and wry authority of a latter-day Jane Austen.

dearly departed play: Our Dear Dead Drug Lord Alexis Scheer, 2021 A gang of teenage girls gathers in an abandoned treehouse to summon the ghost of Pablo Escobar. Are they messing with the actual spirit of the infamous cartel kingpin? Or are they really just messing with each other? A roller coaster ride through the danger and damage of girlhood - the teenage wasteland - has never been so much twisted fun. Critic's Pick! Highly entertaining - equally funny and scary. - The New York Times Four Stars! Just when you think you know where the play is heading there's a disorienting coup de théâtre that leaves you shaken. Our Dear Dead Drug Lord isn't for the faint of heart but neither is coming of age. - Raven Snook Time Out Critic's Pick! Highly entertaining - equally funny and scary - the play starts off as a hoot and winds up a primal scream. They're throwing quite a seance at the McGinn/Cazale Theater. - Ben Brantley The New York Times As funny as it is violent and dark... Our Dear Dead Drug Lord is not quiet small or apologetic. It is loud and messy and truthful. It is incredibly complicated and a thing of extreme beauty. It is everything in women that society tells them they need to repress and in this I found it incredibly enjoyable and inspiring. - Brittany Crowell New York Theatre Guide The challenges of female adolescence... explored with a remarkably fresh honest and sometimes hilarious perspective. - Brian Scott Lipton Theater Pizzazz Unsettling... Scheer's characters are brilliantly drawn... the work of a born playwright and a unique new voice... As a story of female empowerment it is both scary and revealing. - Victor Gluck Theater Scene An imaginative and ultimately savage new play... An offbeat Mean Girls sort of dramedy that unexpectedly concludes in a violent burst of magical realism. -

Michael Sommers New York Stage Review

dearly departed play: **Dearly, Beloved** Lia Habel, 2013-09-03 Lia Habel's spellbinding mash-up of sweeping period romance, futuristic thriller, and zombie drama rises to a whole new level of innovative storytelling with *Dearly, Beloved*. A high-tech, post-apocalyptic society dressed in the trappings of an antique era isn't New Victoria's only contradiction. Ever since the outbreak of the mysterious plague known as "The Laz" turned thousands into the living dead, those with a heartbeat and those without one have been forced to coexist. But can a nation so drastically divided survive? Though some of its zombies are mindless monsters, hungry for living flesh, others can still speak, reason, and control their ravenous appetites. And at least one unlikely couple—privileged Nora Dearly and dashing zombie ex-soldier Bram Griswold—have found true love, despite their "differences." Still, tensions continue to grow between pro- and anti-zombie factions. As paranoia, prejudice, and terrorist attacks threaten to turn into full-scale war, scientists—living and otherwise—desperately seek a cure. But their efforts, and Nora and Bram's budding relationship, may be doomed when a whole new strain of "The Laz" appears—and the nation of New Victoria braces for the next wave of the apocalypse. "A realistic and exciting world with a swoon-worthy romance . . . The plot is addictive, the characters well-rounded."—RT Book Reviews "Nora and Bram's touching and tender relationship, with its emphasis on equality and living in the moment, feels particularly special."—Publishers Weekly, on *Dearly, Departed*

dearly departed play: *Dearly Devoted Dexter* Jeffry P. Lindsay, 2010 A secret vigilante killer who works as a blood spatter analyst for the Miami Police Department, Dexter Morgan finds his efforts to seek domestic tranquility undermined by a psychopath terrorizing the city.

dearly departed play: *User Not Found* Chris Goode, *Dante or Die*, 2018-08-03 It's the moment of your death. There's a magic button. Do you delete your entire online legacy? Or do you keep it – and leave the choice for someone else? *USER NOT FOUND* is about our digital lives after we die. *Dante or Die*'s play, created with pioneering theatre-artist Chris Goode, is inspired by a Guardian article by Caroline Twigg about dealing with her late husband's digital afterlife. In the play Terry becomes responsible for the online legacy of his partner - he is flooded with condolence texts and messages about his partner's death, and then has to decide what to keep and what to delete. The performance was originally developed with creative technologists Marmelo, and was performed in a café, where the audience share Terry's story through smartphones and headphones. In this format the play was performed in cafés across the country, including at the 2018 Edinburgh Fringe. The audience become a fly-on-the-wall to peer into the life of a man who is faced with keeping or deleting. A story of contemporary grief unfolds through this intimate, funny performance that gently interrogates our need for connection. With his tender script, [Goode] hands us each the weight of the internet and asks how we get closure in a world where nothing ever switches off. *The Guardian*.

dearly departed play: *The Dixie Swim Club* Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, Jamie Wooten, 2008 Five Southern women, whose friendships began many years ago on their college swim team, set aside a long weekend every August to recharge those relationships. Free from husbands, kids and jobs, they meet at the same beach cottage on North Carolina's Outer Banks to catch up, laugh and meddle in each other's lives. [The play] focuses on four of those weekends and spans a period of thirty-three years... As their lives unfold and the years pass, these women increasingly rely on one another, through advice and raucous repartee, to get through the challenges (men, sex, marriage, parenting, divorce, aging) that life flings at them. And when fate throws a wrench into one of their lives in the second act, these friends, proving the enduring power of teamwork, rally round their own with the strength and love that takes this comedy in a poignant and surprising direction.--Back cover.

dearly departed play: *The First Phone Call From Heaven* Mitch Albom, 2013-11-12 From the beloved author of the #1 New York Times bestsellers *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* comes his most thrilling and magical novel yet—a page-turning mystery and a meditation on the power of human connection. One morning in the small town of Coldwater, Michigan, the phones start ringing. The voices say they are calling from heaven. Is it the greatest

miracle ever? Or some cruel hoax? As news of these strange calls spreads, outsiders flock to Coldwater to be a part of it. At the same time, a disgraced pilot named Sully Harding returns to Coldwater from prison to discover his hometown gripped by miracle fever. Even his young son carries a toy phone, hoping to hear from his mother in heaven. As the calls increase, and proof of an afterlife begins to surface, the town—and the world—transforms. Only Sully, convinced there is nothing beyond this sad life, digs into the phenomenon, determined to disprove it for his child and his own broken heart. Moving seamlessly between the invention of the telephone in 1876 and a world obsessed with the next level of communication, Mitch Albom takes readers on a breathtaking ride of frenzied hope. *The First Phone Call from Heaven* is Albom at his best—a virtuosic story of love, history, and belief.

dearly departed play: *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* Morris Panych, 2003 Length: 2 acts.

dearly departed play: Dearly Departed: a Reverse Harem Academy Romance Loxley Savage, Katie May, 2019-09-16 All great stories start with a death. In this case, it's my own. Instead of the pearly white gates and yellow brick road leading me to Heaven, my soul is chosen to join Afterworld Academy - an exclusive boarding school to train selected souls on how to manage the Afterlife. Ghosts, Demons, Reapers, and Angels. Classes on how to fly. Studies on the proper way to select souls. Weaponry. Premonition. Oh, and field trips to Hell. Sounds peachy, right? When souls turn up dead, I must work with my four sexy-as-sin mentors to uncover the truth of my new reality. Things are about to take a deadly turn. Welcome to Afterworld Academy where the price of admission...is your life. *Dearly Departed* is book one of a four book series by bestselling authors, Loxley Savage and Katie May. This is a reverse harem romance meaning that the main character won't have to choose between her love interests. This is medium-burn and does contain strong language and sexual themes. Oh, and death. Lots and lots of death. Book one will end in a cliffhanger.*Note from Authors The main character does pass away from cancer (which is how she ends up in the Afterworld Academy). Please keep this in mind while reading, especially if that may be triggering to you. We would love for you to read our book, but we want you to take care of yourself.

dearly departed play: *Girl of the Limberlost* Gene Stratton-Porter, 2006-07 Reprint. Originally published: New York: Grosset & Dunlap, A1909.

dearly departed play: *Roger Ebert's Movie Yearbook 2004* Roger Ebert, 2003 Featuring every review Ebert wrote from January 2001 to mid-June 2003, this treasury also includes his essays, interviews, film festival reports, and In Memoriams, along with his famous star ratings.

dearly departed play: Like Brothers Mark Duplass, Jay Duplass, 2018-05-08 The multitalented writers, directors, producers, and actors (as seen on *The League*, *Transparent*, and *The Mindy Project*) share the secrets of their lifelong partnership in this unique memoir. "A book that anyone will love . . . You can enjoy it even if you have no idea who the Duplass brothers are."—Janet Maslin, *The New York Times* Whether producing, writing, directing, or acting, the Duplass Brothers have made their mark in the world of independent film and television on the strength of their quirky and empathetic approach to storytelling. Now, for the first time, Mark and Jay take readers on a tour of their lifelong partnership in this unique memoir told in essays that share the secrets of their success, the joys and frustrations of intimate collaboration, and the lessons they've learned the hard way. From a childhood spent wielding an oversized home video camera in the suburbs of New Orleans to their shared years at the University of Texas in early-nineties Austin, and from the breakthrough short they made on a three-dollar budget to the night their feature film *Baghead* became the center of a Sundance bidding war, Mark and Jay tell the story of a bond that's resilient, affectionate, mutually empowering, and only mildly dysfunctional. They are brutally honest about how their closeness sabotaged their youthful romantic relationships, about the jealousy each felt when the other stole the spotlight as an actor (Mark in *The League*, Jay in *Transparent*), and about the challenges they faced on the set of their HBO series *Togetherness*—namely, too much togetherness. But *Like Brothers* is also a surprisingly practical road map to a rewarding creative partnership. Rather than split all their responsibilities fifty-fifty, the brothers learned to capitalize on each other's

strengths. They're not afraid to call each other out, because they're also not afraid to compromise. Most relationships aren't—and frankly shouldn't be—as intense as Mark and Jay's, but their brand of trust, validation, and healthy disagreement has taken them far. Part coming-of-age memoir, part underdog story, and part insider account of succeeding in Hollywood on their own terms, *Like Brothers* is as openhearted and lovably offbeat as Mark and Jay themselves. "Wright. Ringling. Jonas. I'm sure you could name a bunch of famous brother teams. They're all garbage compared to Mark and Jay. I can't wait for you to read this book."—from the foreword by Mindy Kaling

dearly departed play: *Dearly* Margaret Atwood, 2020-11-10 A new book of poetry from internationally acclaimed, award-winning and bestselling author Margaret Atwood In *Dearly*, Margaret Atwood's first collection of poetry in over a decade, Atwood addresses themes such as love, loss, the passage of time, the nature of nature and - zombies. Her new poetry is introspective and personal in tone, but wide-ranging in topic. In poem after poem, she casts her unique imagination and unyielding, observant eye over the landscape of a life carefully and intuitively lived. While many are familiar with Margaret Atwood's fiction—including her groundbreaking and bestselling novels *The Handmaid's Tale*, *The Testaments*, *Oryx and Crake*, among others—she has, from the beginning of her career, been one of our most significant contemporary poets. And she is one of the very few writers equally accomplished in fiction and poetry. This collection is a stunning achievement that will be appreciated by fans of her novels and poetry readers alike.

dearly departed play: *The Top Ten Things Dead People Want to Tell YOU* Mike Dooley, 2024-02-20 A perennially popular book by a beloved author—now in an updated package with a new preface—sheds light on what the next life may have in store. "A book about living that will help readers see more beauty, feel more power, and know more love." — don Miguel Ruiz, international best-selling author of *The Four Agreements* If the dead could speak, don't you wonder what they would say to those of us they've left behind? What would they tell us to soothe our sorrow for their loss, calm our fears of what happens when we die, and fire us up to live the best possible lives we can right now? These are the questions New York Times best-selling author Mike Dooley seeks to answer in *The Top Ten Things Dead People Want to Tell You*—and ten years after its initial release, it's still one of Mike's most popular and beloved books. In pages filled with wisdom, humor, and, yes, joy, Mike explores our most pressing and profound questions about the afterlife—and this life—by adopting the perspective of those who have made the transition to the next phase. Among the revelations and insights they share: • We were ready; you are not. • There's no such thing as a devil or hell. • We're sorry for any pain we may have caused. • Your pets are just as crazy, brilliant, and loving here as they were there. • Nothing we say can prepare you for the beauty of the moment you arrive. New readers are discovering *The Top Ten Things Dead People Want to Tell You* all the time—and this anniversary release gives the book a fresh new package and new preface from the author to frame its invaluable insights for the times we live in now. "Mike Dooley lifts the veil between our perceptual world and the world beyond our physical sight. [He] reminds us that we're always being guided. . . . Read this book and reconnect with the love that is all around you." — Gabrielle Bernstein, #1 New York Times best-selling author

dearly departed play: *Giant* Don Graham, 2018-04-10 A larger-than-life narrative of the making of the classic film, marking the rise of America as a superpower, the ascent of Hollywood celebrity, and the flowering of Texas culture as mythology. Featuring James Dean, Rock Hudson, and Elizabeth Taylor, *Giant* is an epic film of fame and materialism, based around the discovery of oil at Spindletop and the establishment of the King Ranch of south Texas. Isolating his star cast in the wilds of West Texas, director George Stevens brought together a volatile mix of egos, insecurities, sexual proclivities, and talent. Stevens knew he was overwhelmed with Hudson's promiscuity, Taylor's high diva-dom, and Dean's egotistical eccentricity. Yet he coaxed performances out of them that made cinematic history, winning Stevens the Academy Award for Best Director and garnering nine other nominations, including a nomination for Best Actor for James Dean, who died before the film was finished. In this compelling and impeccably researched narrative history of the making of the film, Don Graham chronicles the stories of Stevens, whose trauma in World War II intensified his

ambition to make films that would tell the story of America; Edna Ferber, a considerable literary celebrity, who meets her match in the imposing Robert Kleberg, proprietor of the vast King Ranch; and Glenn McCarthy, an American oil tycoon; and Errol Flynn lookalike with a taste for Hollywood. Drawing on archival sources *Graham's Giant* is a comprehensive depiction of the film's production showing readers how reality became fiction and fiction became cinema.

dearly departed play: How to Tame a Fox (and Build a Dog) Lee Alan Dugatkin, Lyudmila Trut, 2019-04-14 Tucked away in Siberia, there are furry, four-legged creatures with wagging tails and floppy ears that are as docile and friendly as any lapdog. But, despite appearances, these are not dogs—they are foxes. They are the result of the most astonishing experiment in breeding ever undertaken—imagine speeding up thousands of years of evolution into a few decades. In 1959, biologists Dmitri Belyaev and Lyudmila Trut set out to do just that, by starting with a few dozen silver foxes from fox farms in the USSR and attempting to recreate the evolution of wolves into dogs in real time in order to witness the process of domestication. This is the extraordinary, untold story of this remarkable undertaking. Most accounts of the natural evolution of wolves place it over a span of about 15,000 years, but within a decade, Belyaev and Trut's fox breeding experiments had resulted in puppy-like foxes with floppy ears, piebald spots, and curly tails. Along with these physical changes came genetic and behavioral changes, as well. The foxes were bred using selection criteria for tameness, and with each generation, they became increasingly interested in human companionship. Trut has been there the whole time, and has been the lead scientist on this work since Belyaev's death in 1985, and with Lee Dugatkin, biologist and science writer, she tells the story of the adventure, science, politics, and love behind it all. In *How to Tame a Fox*, Dugatkin and Trut take us inside this path-breaking experiment in the midst of the brutal winters of Siberia to reveal how scientific history is made and continues to be made today. To date, fifty-six generations of foxes have been domesticated, and we continue to learn significant lessons from them about the genetic and behavioral evolution of domesticated animals. *How to Tame a Fox* offers an incredible tale of scientists at work, while also celebrating the deep attachments that have brought humans and animals together throughout time.

dearly departed play: *A Devil Inside* David Lindsay-Abaire, 2000 THE STORY: Mrs. Slater has waited fourteen long years to tell her son, Gene, the truth. And when he wakes up on his twenty-first birthday, she greets him with the customary banners and good wishes, and then gets to the point. Your father was murder

dearly departed play: *Bell, Book and Candle* John Van Druten, 1951 THE STORY: Gillian Holroyd is one of the few modern people who can actually cast spells and perform feats of supernaturalism. She casts a spell over an unattached publisher, Shepherd Henderson, partly to keep him away from a rival and partly because

dearly departed play: Getting Off Jonathan Reiss, 2017 Fiction. You can almost make just enough money to buy heroin every day by jacking off for people on the Internet. This is America. That makes you an entrepreneur. But how do you stop being human? Is it possible? What if you can't? What then? In this relentless, heart-shattering first novel, Jonathan Reiss gently takes your hand and leads you on a grand insider's tour of the nicest parts of hell, where giving up on everything is extremely hard work. GETTING OFF is raunchy, sad, weird, smart, and riotously fun to read. Gross sex, drug shakes, LA, scary cults--what more can you ask for? Reiss has written a refreshingly dark book, with pretty much zero redemption for his characters but plenty of attention and love.--Paula Bomer As soon as I read the first paragraph I knew I wasn't going to be able to sleep till I'd finished. Because it was too real. Novels have endings, thank God.--Stoya Jonathan Reiss is a real rocket ship of a writer. Wild and sad, GETTING OFF pops with complicated worlds of internet sex, dreams, and loss. This is a book full of web cam hook-ups and people wanting to be fucked by the ocean. It's a book asking you to show your chest and prove you're not a cop, even though we all are.--Scott McClanahan Beautifully written, terribly sad, and frightfully funny. It's an experience almost so painful that you can't turn away from it, and it doesn't let up until it's finished. I loved it.--Sean Bonnette, cofounder of AJJ A surprisingly affectionate novel...Reiss's sympathy for

Simon--not to mention his sense of humor--carries his readers along on a trip that could have been tedious in the hands of a lesser storyteller. Neither Reiss nor Simon wallows in Simon's misery. Simon treats his sex work matter-of-factly; Reiss refuses to make jerking off for other men a straight guy's vision of absolute hell...Reiss sees the harm where it belongs--not in sexwork, but in the more overarching despair and primal self-loathing that causes and sustains most junkies' despair and self-destruction.--Ed Sikov Much like its predecessors, such as Donald Goines's Dopefiend and Irvine Welsh's Trainspotting, Reiss doesn't shy away from showing the complete squalor a broke heroin addict lives in. . . . both disgusting and engaging, entertaining, and full of excellent writing...An excellent debut.--Ben Arzate

dearly departed play: *Texts from Jane Eyre* Daniel Mallory Ortberg, 2015-11-05 Mallory Ortberg presents... *Texts from Jane Eyre* is a whimsical collection of sharp, satirical and side-splittingly funny text message conversations from your favourite literary characters. Of course if Scarlett O'Hara had an unlimited data plan, she'd be sexting Ashley Wilkes at all hours; and if Mr Rochester could text Jane Eyre, his ARDENT MISSIVES would be in ALL-CAPS; and Daisy Buchanan would text you from behind the wheel - and then text you to come pick her up after the car crash. *Texts from Jane Eyre* is a witty, original and very clever kind of mashup that brings your favourite authors and literary characters right into the twenty-first century. Mallory Ortberg is a genius.

dearly departed play: *The Essential Marilyn Monroe* Joshua Greene, 2017-09 Milton H. Greene (1922-1985), famous for his fashion photography and celebrity portraits from the golden age of Hollywood, met Marilyn Monroe on a photo shoot for *Look* magazine in 1953. The pair developed an instant rapport, quickly becoming close friends and ultimately business partners. Greene passed in 1985, thinking his life's work was succumbing to the ravages of time. His eldest son, Joshua, began a journey to meticulously restore his father's legacy. After spending nearly two decades restoring his father's archive, Joshua Greene and his company are widely regarded as one of the leaders in photographic restoration and have been at the forefront of the digital imaging and large-format printing revolution. Now Joshua Greene, in conjunction with Iconic Images, presents 'The Essential Marilyn Monroe, Milton H. Greene: 50 Sessions'. With 280 photographs, including many never-before published and unseen images, newly scanned and restored classics, as well as images that have appeared only once in publication, Greene's Marilyn Monroe archive can finally be viewed as it was originally intended when these pictures were first produced more than 60 years ago. These classic sessions - 50 in all - cover Monroe at the height of her astonishing beauty and meteoric fame. From film-sets to the bedroom, at home and at play, Joshua has curated a lasting tribute to the work of a great photographer and his greatest muse--Publisher's description.

dearly departed play: *The Red Velvet Cake War* Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, Jamie Wooten, 2019-12-17 THE STORY: In this riotously funny Southern-fried comedy, the three Verdeen cousins--Gaynelle, Peaches and Jimmie Wyvette--could not have picked a worse time to throw their family reunion. Their outrageous antics have delighted local gossips in the s

dearly departed play: *On Golden Pond* Ernest Thompson, 1979 THE STORY: This is the love story of Ethel and Norman Thayer, who are returning to their summer home on Golden Pond for the forty-eighth year. He is a retired professor, nearing eighty, with heart palpitations and a failing memory--but still as tart-tongue

dearly departed play: *Bounty and Switched* elise sax, 2021-07-19 Two stand alone, funny romantic suspense books by USA Today bestselling author Elise Sax. *Bounty*: Abby Williams just got a promotion. The job in London comes with perks aplenty, including a trip to an exotic island to review a five-star resort with poolside service. Unfortunately, on day two of her vacation, Abby finds herself bound and stuffed into a burlap bag, on her way across two continents. Iain Brodie is a muscle-bound mercenary. He just helped a despotic dictator take over an island. He's also Abby's kidnapper, and he has his own problems. Framed for a murder he didn't commit and a boss who's out to get him, he has to face facts: Early retirement is out of the question and Abby Williams looks damned good in a burlap bag. Elise Sax delivers another hilarious page-turner. *Bounty* is a sexy, wild ride, and is certain to appeal to fans of *Romancing the Stone* and *National Treasure*. *Switched*:

Debra's wedding day ended when the groom jilted her three hours before the ceremony, leaving her with a stiff catering bill and a broken heart. Now, he's off to Bora Bora on a one-man honeymoon, and she's on the couch in her wedding dress, watching Christmas movies and eating her way through the corner market. Inspired by her movie marathon, she decides to do a home exchange on a Spanish island to get over her ex. But Debra's life is nothing like the movies, and her home exchange goes terribly wrong. Stranded, she draws the attention of a hunky cafe owner who might know more than he admits about the disappearances of some local women. If Debra's not careful, she may be the next one to disappear.

dearly departed play: It's Only a Play Terrence McNally, 1992 THE STORY: It's the opening night of The Golden Egg on Broadway, and the wealthy producer (Julia Budder) is throwing a lavish party in her lavish Manhattan townhouse. Downstairs the celebrities are pouring in, but the real action is upstairs

dearly departed play: **Christmas Belles** Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, Jamie Wooten, 2007 THE STORY: A church Christmas program spins hilariously out of control in this Southern farce about squabbling sisters, family secrets, a surly Santa, a vengeful sheep and a reluctant Elvis impersonator. It's Christmas-time in the small town of Fayro, Tex

dearly departed play: **Where the Deer and the Antelope Play** Nick Offerman, 2021-10-12 A humorous and rousing set of literal and figurative sojourns as well as a mission statement about comprehending, protecting, and truly experiencing the outdoors, fueled by three journeys undertaken by actor, humorist, and New York Times bestselling author Nick Offerman Nick Offerman has always felt a particular affection for the Land of the Free—not just for the people and their purported ideals but to the actual land itself: the bedrock, the topsoil, and everything in between that generates the health of your local watershed. In his new book, Nick takes a humorous, inspiring, and elucidating trip to America's trails, farms, and frontier to examine the people who inhabit the land, what that has meant to them and us, and to the land itself, both historically and currently. In 2018, Wendell Berry posed a question to Nick, a query that planted the seed of this book, sending Nick on two memorable journeys with pals—a hiking trip to Glacier National Park with his friends Jeff Tweedy and George Saunders, as well as an extended visit to his friend James Rebanks, the author of *The Shepherd's Life* and *English Pastoral*. He followed that up with an excursion that could only have come about in 2020—Nick and his wife, Megan Mullally, bought an Airstream trailer to drive across (several of) the United States. These three quests inspired some “deep-ish thinking from Nick, about the history and philosophy of our relationship with nature in our national parks, in our farming, and in our backyards; what we mean when we talk about conservation; and the importance of outdoor recreation, all subjects very close to Nick's heart. With witty, heartwarming stories and a keen insight into the human problems we all confront, this is both a ramble through and celebration of the land we all love.

dearly departed play: Play: A Dark Mafia Romance Abbi Cook, 2021-11-23 The fourth book in the Villains Club series is Nick Rule's story! The youngest of Stephen Rule's sons, Nick Rule doesn't have to worry about the pressures of pleasing his father like his older brothers have all their lives. That's just one of the perks of being the baby. He's grown up after four years in Europe, though, and the family he left isn't the same anymore. His brothers are at war with one another, and both sides expect him to choose in this family fight. But he's got better things to do now that he's returned. He's ready to step into the family business with a winning idea that will make his billionaire family even richer. Everyone's thrilled to see the youngest Rule back home, but not me. Nick Rule is the quintessential bad boy with too much money. Charming, sexy, and unbelievably good looking, he expects women to fall at his feet. But I kneel for no Rule. I've hated him and his family for so long, nothing he can do will ever change that. Nick Rule is the enemy. As long as I hate all things Rule. Topics: dark romance, organized crime thrillers, crime thrillers, romantic suspense, anti-hero, mafia romance, contemporary romance, women's psychological fiction, villain, happily ever after, standalone, kidnapping thriller, suspense thriller, organized crime romance, Gothic romance, kidnapping thrillers romance, women's crime fiction, organized crime romance mafia, dark suspense

thriller romance, Abbi Cook Perfect for fans of Renee Rose, Faith Summers, Zoe Black, J.L. Beck, Natasha Knight, Jane Henry, Rina Kent, Vanessa Vale, Lee Savino, Anna Zaires, A. Zavarelli, Clarissa Wild, Stasia Black, Alta Hensley, CD Reiss, Julia Sykes, Skye Warren, Pepper Winters, Penelope Sky, Aleatha Romig, Charmaine Pauls, Amelia Wilde, Willow Winters

dearly departed play: Matchmaker Marriage Mysteries: Books 1-2 elise sax, 2022-10-24 Gored of the Rings and Slay Misty for Me are the first two books in the Matchmaker Marriage Mysteries, the continuing adventures of Gladie Burger with all of the regular characters from the Matchmaker Mysteries. It's perfect for fans of Miss Fortune, Stephanie Plum, and small-town, funny mysteries. Gored of the Rings It's been three years since Gladie married Spencer and settled down as a full-time matchmaker. The three years have been quiet, filled with marital bliss and absolutely no murder. Without a mystery to solve, Gladie has grown bored, even as she has excelled as a matchmaker with more than a little psychic ability. Now, her Grandma Zelda has decided to expand the family business to wedding planning, and Gladie is going to be in charge of it. Her first customer wants a wedding with all the trimmings, including an axe-throwing room, a tractor parade, and a longhorn bull instead of a limo to the ceremony. When one of the wedding party winds up dead, a freak accident is blamed. But Gladie's murder antennae are up, and she's determined to prove that it's murder and bring the killer to justice. Slay Misty for Me It's September in Cannes, California, which means it's apple season. The town is enjoying the festivities and the apple pie, but a series of vicious conspiracies has thrown suspicion on a number of the townsfolk. From someone listening to private conversations in their homes to a drug-running funeral home to mysterious words added to dictionaries and killer vacuum robots on the loose, it's citizen against citizen in the usually idyllic town. But Gladie is trying to stay out of the chaotic conspiracies as she continues her wedding planning business. When she discovers a woman dead by marshmallows after a wedding, Gladie becomes entangled in a murder mystery that might be connected to the conspiracies and might even turn out to be the biggest conspiracy of them all.

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