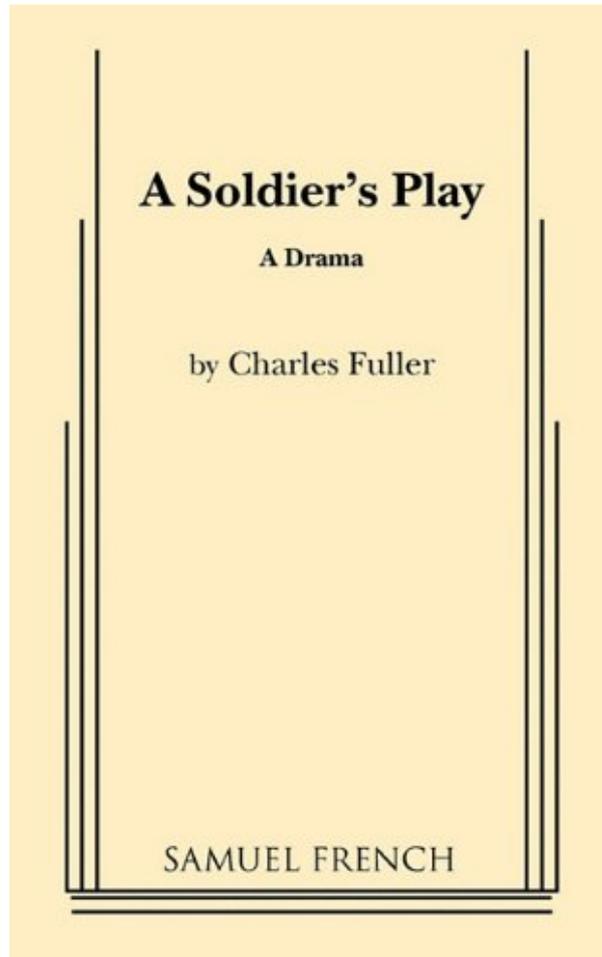


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A Soldier's Play

A Drama

by Charles Fuller

SAMUEL FRENCH

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Review

“A powerful drama...skillfully wrought...one of the most evenhanded, penetrating studies that we have yet seen.” ?Edwin Wilson, The Wall Street Journal

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About the Author

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A SOLDIER'S PLAY BY CHARLES FULLER PDF

Charles Fuller

Full Length, Drama

Characters: 13 male (10 black, 3 white)

Unit Set

In a Louisiana army camp in 1944 Capt. Taylor, the white C.O., has a problem. He commands a black company whose sergeant has been murdered. He is worried the murderer may be a white officer or the local Klan. A black captain is assigned to investigate and Taylor tries to discourage him because he feels the assigning of a black investigator means the case is to be swept under the rug. Capt. Davenport perseveres and, as he probes deeper, he finds the black soldiers are as corrupted with hatred as the whites. Each one had a motive for the killing. Davenport solves the case and the truth is even more shocking than the murder itself.

"A work of great resonance and integrity."-Newsweek

"One of the contemporary American theatre's most forceful and original voices."-NY Times

Winner of the 1982 Pulitzer Prize for Drama

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- Brand: Brand: Samuel French, Inc.
- Published on: 2011-03-31
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- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.99" h x .27" w x 5.00" l, .29 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 126 pages

Features

- Used Book in Good Condition

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Most helpful customer reviews

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

A powerful WW2 drama

By Michael J. Mazza

"*A Soldier's Play*," by Charles Fuller, was presented by the Negro Ensemble Company in New York City in 1981, and went on to win a Pulitzer Prize. A film version, retitled "*A Soldier's Story*," was directed by Norman Jewison. This play takes place in 1944 (during World War II) at Fort Neal, Louisiana. Fuller takes us into an all-Black unit, commanded by a white officer, in the segregated army.

The play begins with the murder of one of its principal characters: Tech/Sergeant Vernon Waters, by an unknown killer. Waters' story is recreated in flashbacks; the play is essentially the story behind the investigation into the crime. The situation on the base, which is already hot with racial tension, intensifies when an African-American officer is assigned to the case.

Fuller has taken an explosive combination of elements and from them fashioned a truly gripping piece of dramatic art. Suspense, vivid dialogue, memorable characters, and penetrating insights all combine to make this a truly remarkable play. This is also one of those excellent plays which also succeeds as a text for readers.

This is a compelling look at the tensions and controversies surrounding the segregated army. Fuller is particularly effective at demonstrating the corrosive effects of racism on both Blacks and whites. Waters is one of the most powerfully tragic figures in all of American drama. I highly recommend "*A Soldier's Play*"; it is one of the great literary works about military life.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Two thumbs up for *A Soldiers Play* by Devin Wright

By A Customer

A Soldiers Play is one of the best war stories that i have ever read in my life. If you are looking for a mystery book with twists and turn, this is the book you have been looking for. This book reaches many points that you may not expect. *A Soldiers Play* has a great deal of Loyalty, Betrayal, and Racism. By the time you finish reading the book, you will detect those plus more. What really made the book good for me was that i had the oppurtunity to act out one of the roles in my class room. I played one of the main roles "*Vernon C. Waters*". When you act it out, it gives you the chance to know the character better

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

A great book

By A Customer

A Soldier's Play by Charles Fuller is a great book if you enjoy reading books that have suspense. This book takes place in 1944 Fort Neal, Louisiana when racism was a big issue during World War 2. Tech Sergeant Vernon C Waters was a shot with a .45 caliber gun the person or persons involved in his murder are unknown. Waters enlisted men think that the Ku Klux Klan killed him. Then the book leads into the investigation of Captain Richard Davenport and how he uncovers the mystery. Even though this book is short it includes a lot of details that you need to pay a close mind to. I enjoyed reading this book was a page turner. It kept you guessing until the end. I would recommend it anybody that enjoys reading a good book.

This book also reminds of another book I am currently reading The Color Purple by Alice Walker. This book also deals with racism but in South Carolina. A young girl named Celie, is raped by her father and some what has to grow up, and raise her siblings at the same time. She goes through a lot of things while growing up. She discovers secrets and lies that were kept away from her. Celie gets hit even by her own husband whom she calls Mr._. Mr.'s son Harpo marries young women named Sofia. At one point she gets arrested and becomes a maid for a white lady. After being scared, abused, and unhappy Celie gains power thanks to Shug Avery, a beautiful blues singer, which helped her and showed her to love and be happy.

K. DOMINGUEZ

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