



Waiting for Lefty and Other Plays

Clifford Odets

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Includes Awake and Sing!, Till the Day I Die, Paradise Lost, Golden Boy, and Rocket to the Moon.

Waiting for Lefty and Other Plays Details

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Author : Clifford Odets

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From Reader Review Waiting for Lefty and Other Plays for online ebook

Rolls says

Clifford Odets is so identified with the turbulent thirties that people might avoid his work for fear that it is dated. While the Marxism his characters espouse can sometimes come off as jejune, before the arrival of Tennessee Williams upon the Broadway scene, Odets' dialogue was the American theatre's finest. If this was all Odets had to offer, his plays would still demand reading, re-reading and staging in this and future times. However Odets - a true man of the theatre - filled his plays with characters that passionately choose life over death in words equal parts timeless poetry and pungent thirties argot. Don't be fooled! Odets is the real thing.

Lance Lusk says

'Waiting for 'Lefty' was decent for a dated snapshot. 'Awake and Sing!' is a much more well-rounded, stronger play, and the best of this collection.

David says

I really hate having to get rid of these old books. all the movie/theater stuff is being shipped off.. one last read...

Especially in today's environment there should be a revival of all these works. Do people think they are dated?

Waiting for Lefty indeed...i guess even though he really wasn't that radical too far left for today. But love the passion. and the street talk.

Alexis Fedor says

Just the creme-DE-la-creme of the Depression era playwrights. Amazingly insightful, tragic, daunting, beautiful lyricism.

Leighann Asklar says

An excellent collection. Odets is a master of character and his dialogue, though it sometimes borders on cliche, somehow works with the characters he's created. "Rocket to the Moon" and "Awake and Sing" are my favorites.

Debs says

Taught it. Does it stand up to a 21st century critique? No. Is it a fabulous classroom tool? Yes. Do I wish this earnest writing still existed SOMEWHERE? Yes.

Carlos Rodriguez says

Excellent collection. Clifford Odets was considered one of the great dramatists of our time and the leading playwright to deal thoroughly with the social and political issues of those affected by the Great Depression in the 1930's. Great book for actors and drama majors or anyone interested in theater and the controversial and profound subject matter of the time.

Rowena says

this is for *waiting for lefty*. it was ok, the setup was interesting, i don't really remember much of it, i think some of the dialogue was strange or the situations were kind of unbelievable. i am not really a fan of agitprop i guess.

Ryan says

I read a couple of plays from this collection in a class with Vivian at Alma. Loved the class, wasn't exactly crazy about Clifford, but I see his perspective.

Lee says

It seems old fashioned at first but there are many pertinent ideas that are timeless. It is also very interesting linguistically. For those looking for an easy read this is not for you but it does paint a good picture of America during the depression era.

Ali says

one of the famous plays from Agitprop theatre in 1930's US. Odets was a big shot at the time, one of those who established Group Theatre, (Lee Strasburg, Harold Clurman and Cheryl Crawford)... I like his theatre and I've translated two of his plays to Persian, "Waiting for Lefty" and "Awake and Sing"...

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<http://www.ali-ohadi.com/global/index...>

James says

3.5 stars. Nothing like some commie literature to warm the heart. It got a little preachy in the last episode, but it was still a great play.

Gregorio says

I would disagree with those that say Odets is dated. If anything, poverty and class has become more relevant than ever, and the basic undercurrent of feelings is still there.

Play by play, Waiting for Left and Awake and Sing! are the two best pieces in the collection, followed by Golden Boy. The other three are fine and worth the read, but if you've been exposed to American media a lot of the tropes and the ideas Odets used back then are the norm now-- which is interesting if you are studying stereotypical storytelling, as a lot of these stories have what we consider now common. Rocky movies? Check. Underground Nazi rebellions? check. The two plays that are out of the norm are Awake and Sing! and Rocket to the Moon (which didn't personally interest me that much, but I feel it is well written). Overall, worth approaching with a mind that isn't focused on the texts being "outdated," but rather relevant in the feelings and the subject of class differences.

Ray LaManna says

This classic American play is just as relevant today as it was when first performed in 1935... a family struggling with inner tensions and outside societal pressures. It's well worth the time to read it.

Alyse says

good short read about labor relations. Always very topical. I would like to see a production of this...
