

# The Best American Short Plays



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(Best American Short Plays). Applause is proud to continue the series that for over 70 years has been the standard of excellence for one-act plays in America. As previous series editor Ramon Delgado wrote in his introduction to The Best American Short Plays of 1989, the choice of entries for each edition has been based on the same goal: "to include a balance among three categories of playwrights: 1) established playwrights who continue to practice the art and craft of the short play, 2) emerging playwrights whose record of productions indicate both initial achievement and continuing artistic productivity, and 3) talented new playwrights whose work may not have had much exposure but evidences promise for the future." From its inception, The Best American Short Plays has identified new, cutting-edge playwrights who have gone on to establish award-winning careers, including Tennessee Williams ( A Streetcar Named Desire ), Edward Albee ( Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf ), Wendy Wasserstein ( The Heidi Chronicles ), David Mamet ( Glengarry Glen Ross ), and Horton Foote ( The Trip to Bountiful ). This volume is Barbara Parisi's fifth edition as series editor.

The volumes of the new millennium include the work of playwrights Murray Schisgal, Adam Kraar, Theodore Mann, David Ives, and Mark Medoff, among others, and tackle complex human issues through diverse theatrical styles and a wide range of character perspectives.