



The Best American Short Plays: 2012-2013 (PB)

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For over 70 years, The Best American Short Plays has been the standard of excellence for one-act plays in America. From its inception, it has identified cutting-edge playwrights who have gone on to establish award-winning careers, including Tennessee Williams, Edward Albee, and more. In this volume, the plays capture the struggle between hot tempers and cold decrees. Humans love to think of themselves as rational beings well in control of their lives and surroundings from sunup to sundown, sundown to sunrise. We learn to follow rules of proper behavior and more than happily issue out advice to our friends who just can't get a handle on themselves. Restraint and order, after all, are the cornerstones of human society and civilization. The problem is that human nature bucks and bristles at every attempt to socialize and civilize. Shakespeare got it right when he penned the observation, The brain may devise laws for the blood, but a hot temper leaps over a cold decree. In those few words he has managed to capture precisely why it is so difficult to be human; if it were okay simply to let our hot tempers prevail, life would be so much easier. But cold decrees are what prevent us from self-destruction, and so we endure the struggle.

Includes the following plays:

- *The True Death of Socrates* by Frank Higgins
- *Existence* by Murray Schisgal
- *The Origins of the Drink They Named After Me* by Steve Feffer
- *Rise* by Crystal Skillman
- *Spatial Disorientation* by Lisa Soland
- *Between the Lines* by Amber Leanne Marcoon
- *The Rainbow* by James Armstrong
- *Subtraction* by Kevin McFillen
- *Flare* by Edith Freni
- *Blue, Blue Moon* by John Patrick Bray
- *Kid Gloves* by David Rusiecki
- *The Grim Raper* by Daniel Guyton
- *Hurt* by Saviana Stanesco
- *Cell* by Cassandra Medley
- *Abandoned in Queens* by Laura Maria Censabella
- *Free Will* by Billy Aronson
- *Dark King Kills Unicorn* by Reina Hardy
- *Deer Haunting: A Far Side Cartoon* by Andrea J Onstad
- *2nd Anniversary Near Taurus Major* by Gene Kato
- *The New Models* by Rory Leahy

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From reader reviews:

Earl Diehl:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with good friends is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love The Best American Short Plays: 2012-2013 (PB), you are able to enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still want to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

Kevin Kennard:

The Best American Short Plays: 2012-2013 (PB) can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort to set every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing The Best American Short Plays: 2012-2013 (PB) although doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource data that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information could drawn you into brand new stage of crucial contemplating.

Lillie Stein:

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George Chadwick:

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