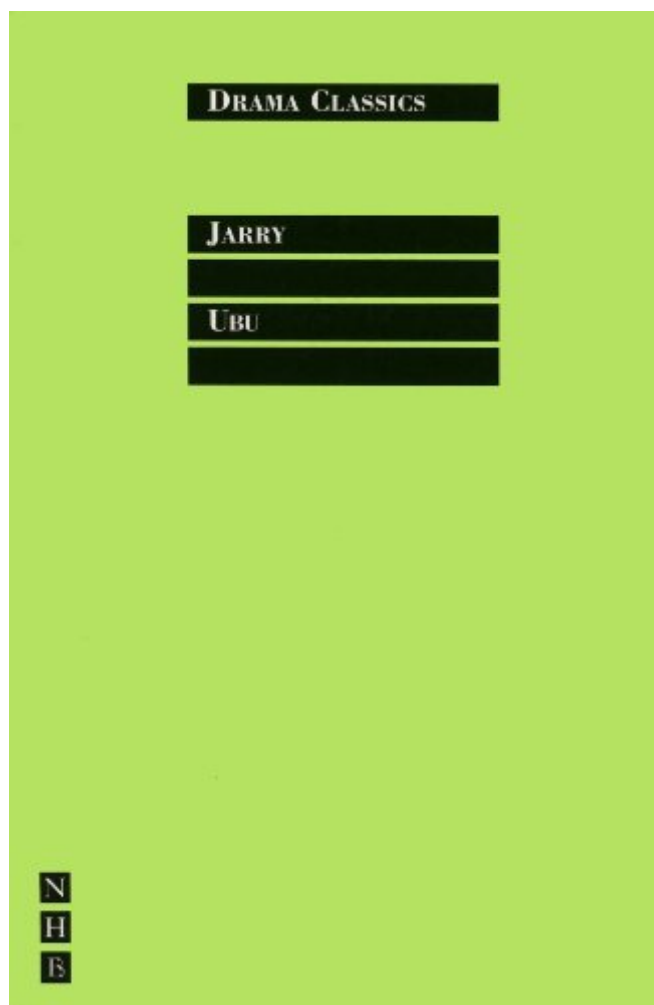


The book was found

Ubu: Full Text And Introduction (NHB Drama Classics)



Synopsis

The NHB Drama Classics series presents the world's greatest plays in affordable, highly readable editions for students, actors and theatre-goers. The hallmarks of the series are accessible introductions (focussing on the play's theatrical and historical background, together with an author biography, key dates and suggestions for further reading) and the complete text, uncluttered with footnotes. The translations, by leading experts in the field, are accurate and above all actable. The editions of English-language plays include a glossary of unusual words and phrases to aid understanding. This Drama Classics edition of Ubu contains three plays following the adventures of Pa and Ma Ubu in their absurd world: King Ubu, Cuckold Ubu and Slave Ubu. It is translated and introduced by Kenneth McLeish, the most widely respected and prolific translator of drama in Britain.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Alfred Jarry is the grandfather of modern day surrealism, and the Ubu trilogy is a great, twisted work

of genius. It reads like Shakespeare crossed with a slasher film. It's also a great parody of anything you can think of, and it is quite hilarious. The Ubu trilogy deals with the epic rise and fall of Pa and Ma Ubu, as they become Kings of several European countries, get involved in murder more than once, fight in wars, have deadly encounters with bears in caves, and even voluntarily become slaves. Great stuff! If you like Samuel Beckett, then you have to check out Jarry too!

This is a school joke that has evolved into an epic! McLeish's translation takes a lot of liberties and sometimes many things are lost. On the other side, he possesses great wit and through compensation, his work comes out as one of the best translations!

At nothing else it is a very interesting document that assess the deficient morals and ventures of a regime that is seemingly impossible in its ventures but all too relatable to select capitalists who have a what appears to me a severe deficiency in their moral, ethical, and logical undergarments - by this of course I mean Pa Ubu. Completely incredible and infinitely hilarious. I would recommend this book to anybody in search of a book recommendation. Additionally I recommend it to you the reader of this review.

I have read other worthy translations of the Ubu plays but from what I can tell so far, this is one of the best, if not the best, translations I have read so far. The scatological humor shows through strongly on every page and the dialogue flows nicely. The book also offers some well-written background on Jarry's life and works, which makes the book useful not only from a theatrical standpoint, but from an academic one as well.

By my Green Candle !! Jarry is very difficult to translate from the French, so be sure to read and compare various translations to really get the feel, if you don't read French. Well worth the effort, and this volume is a fine place to start.

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