

once upon a mattress script

once upon a mattress script is a popular musical comedy adaptation of the classic fairy tale "The Princess and the Pea." This script has been widely performed in theaters, schools, and community productions due to its humorous dialogue, memorable characters, and catchy songs. Understanding the structure, characters, and themes of the once upon a mattress script is essential for directors, actors, and enthusiasts who wish to bring this enchanting story to life. This article explores the origins, plot summary, character breakdown, and performance considerations of the once upon a mattress script. Additionally, it offers insight into the musical numbers and staging tips to enhance any production. The following sections provide a comprehensive guide to this beloved theatrical script.

- Origins and Background of Once Upon a Mattress Script
- Plot Summary of Once Upon a Mattress Script
- Main Characters in Once Upon a Mattress Script
- Musical Numbers and Songs
- Performance and Staging Considerations
- Script Availability and Licensing

Origins and Background of Once Upon a Mattress Script

The once upon a mattress script is based on the fairy tale "The Princess and the Pea" by Hans Christian Andersen. The musical adaptation was created by Mary Rodgers, who composed the music, and Marshall Barer, who wrote the book and lyrics. The show originally premiered on Broadway in 1959 and has since enjoyed numerous revivals and amateur productions worldwide. Its comedic tone and lighthearted approach to the classic story have made it a favorite among family audiences and performers of all ages.

Creation and Broadway Premiere

The once upon a mattress script was developed as a musical comedy with witty dialogue and engaging music. It opened at the Alvin Theatre in New York City and quickly gained attention for its humor and charm. Carol Burnett starred as Princess Winnifred in the original production, helping to establish the musical's popularity. The script's blend of satire and fairy tale elements contributed to its critical and commercial success.

Cultural Impact and Adaptations

Over the decades, the once upon a mattress script has influenced various adaptations, including film versions, television specials, and numerous stage revivals. Its enduring appeal lies in its playful take on princess stereotypes and its unique, humorous storytelling style. The musical continues to be a staple in community theaters and educational programs, reflecting its broad accessibility and timeless themes.

Plot Summary of Once Upon a Mattress Script

The once upon a mattress script tells the story of Princess Winnifred, a lively and unconventional princess who seeks to marry Prince Dauntless. The kingdom is ruled by Queen Aggravain, who has imposed a strict rule that no one may marry until her son finds a true princess. To test Winnifred's authenticity, the Queen devises a challenge involving a mattress and a hidden pea, inspired by the original fairy tale. The plot unfolds with comedic twists as Winnifred attempts to pass the test and win the prince's heart.

Key Plot Events

- Arrival of Princess Winnifred at the royal court
- Queen Aggravain's scheme to prevent the prince's marriage
- The mattress test to determine true royalty
- Winnifred's humorous struggle and eventual success
- Resolution with the prince and the queen's acceptance

Thematic Elements

The script explores themes of individuality, acceptance, and the subversion of traditional fairy tale roles. Unlike typical princess stories, once upon a mattress script embraces humor and satire to challenge expectations about royalty and gender roles. This approach adds depth to the narrative while providing entertaining and relatable content for audiences.

Main Characters in Once Upon a Mattress Script

The once upon a mattress script features a colorful cast of characters, each contributing to the story's humor and charm. Understanding these characters is crucial for casting and directing decisions.

Princess Winnifred

Often called "Fred," she is the story's protagonist—a spirited and outspoken princess who defies convention. Her bold personality and determination drive the plot forward as she faces the Queen's challenges.

Prince Dauntless

The reluctant royal heir who is shy and somewhat awkward. His character provides both comedic moments and the romantic interest in the story.

Queen Aggravain

The overprotective and controlling mother who sets the strict rules for the prince's marriage. Her schemes create the central conflict in the narrative.

Supporting Characters

- Lady Larken, the prince's lady-in-waiting and secret love interest
- Sir Harry, the prince's loyal but bumbling attendant
- Minstrels and various courtiers who add humor and musical elements to the production

Musical Numbers and Songs

The once upon a mattress script is known for its lively and memorable musical numbers that complement the comedic storyline. The songs vary in style, ranging from playful solos to ensemble pieces, enhancing character development and plot progression.

Notable Songs

- "Shy" - Prince Dauntless's introduction highlighting his reserved nature
- "The Princess Is Giving a Ball" - An energetic number setting the scene for the princesses' arrival
- "Many Moons Ago" - Queen Aggravain's dramatic recounting of past events
- "In a Little While" - A romantic duet between Prince Dauntless and Lady Larken

- "Happily Ever After" - The joyful finale celebrating the resolution of the story

Musical Style and Arrangement

The music in once upon a mattress script blends mid-20th-century Broadway styles with whimsical motifs appropriate for a fairy tale setting. Directors and musical directors often adapt arrangements to suit the vocal ranges and instrumentation available in their productions, maintaining the spirit and energy of the original score.

Performance and Staging Considerations

Producing the once upon a mattress script involves careful attention to staging, casting, and design to capture the story's humor and fantasy elements effectively. The script's flexibility allows for creative interpretation in various theatrical environments.

Set and Costume Design

The setting typically reflects a whimsical medieval kingdom, with colorful costumes and exaggerated set pieces emphasizing the comedic tone. The iconic mattress stack used during the test scene is a central prop that requires practical design to ensure safety and visibility.

Casting and Direction

Strong comedic timing and musical ability are essential for principal roles, especially Princess Winnifred and Queen Aggravain. Directors should focus on balancing humor with character development to engage audiences of all ages.

Audience Engagement

The lighthearted nature of the script makes it ideal for family audiences, encouraging interactive and lively performances. Incorporating physical comedy and playful choreography can enhance the overall experience.

Script Availability and Licensing

Access to the once upon a mattress script requires proper licensing through authorized theatrical publishers. This ensures that productions comply with copyright laws and support the creators. Licensed scripts come in various formats, including full scores and librettos, suitable for professional and amateur use.

Where to Obtain the Script

- Theatrical licensing agencies specializing in musical theater
- Authorized online platforms providing digital script access
- Local theater groups or libraries offering rental options

Considerations for Licensing

Producers should review licensing terms carefully, including performance rights, royalties, and rehearsal material provisions. Early acquisition of rights is recommended to facilitate scheduling and production planning.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I find the full script for 'Once Upon a Mattress'?

You can find the full script for 'Once Upon a Mattress' through licensed script providers like Dramatists Play Service or by purchasing official copies from bookstores and online retailers.

Is the 'Once Upon a Mattress' script suitable for school productions?

Yes, 'Once Upon a Mattress' is a popular choice for school productions because it has family-friendly content, comedic elements, and roles suitable for various age groups.

Are there any royalty requirements for performing 'Once Upon a Mattress'?

Yes, performing 'Once Upon a Mattress' typically requires obtaining performance rights and paying royalties through licensing agencies such as MTI or Concord Theatricals.

Can the 'Once Upon a Mattress' script be adapted for a shorter performance?

Yes, directors often create shortened versions of the 'Once Upon a Mattress' script to fit time constraints, but any adaptation should be done with permission from the rights holder.

Where can I find the musical numbers included in the 'Once

Upon a Mattress' script?

The musical numbers are included within the full script and the official vocal score, which can be purchased or licensed from authorized distributors like MTI or Musicnotes.

Additional Resources

1. *Once Upon a Mattress: The Musical Script and Story*

This book contains the full script of the beloved musical "Once Upon a Mattress," a comedic retelling of the classic fairy tale "The Princess and the Pea." It offers detailed dialogue, stage directions, and song lyrics, making it an essential resource for theater enthusiasts and performers. Readers can explore the witty humor and charming characters that have made the show a favorite for decades.

2. *The Princess and the Pea: A Classic Fairy Tale Retold*

This beautifully illustrated book presents the original fairy tale that inspired "Once Upon a Mattress." It tells the story of a prince searching for a true princess, using a pea placed under mattresses to test her sensitivity. The timeless tale explores themes of identity, sensitivity, and true nobility.

3. *Broadway Musicals: A Hundred Year History*

This comprehensive volume delves into the history of Broadway musicals, including a detailed chapter on "Once Upon a Mattress." It covers the show's creation, key contributors like composer Mary Rodgers, and its impact on musical theater. The book is perfect for readers interested in the broader context of musical productions.

4. *Mary Rodgers: The Life and Music of a Broadway Composer*

A biography focusing on Mary Rodgers, the composer of "Once Upon a Mattress." It explores her career in music, her unique style, and her contributions to theater and literature. The book offers insights into the creative process behind the musical's memorable songs.

5. *Fairy Tale Adaptations in Modern Theater*

This scholarly work examines how classic fairy tales like "The Princess and the Pea" have been adapted into modern theatrical productions such as "Once Upon a Mattress." It discusses the transformation of traditional narratives to suit contemporary audiences, highlighting humor, character development, and thematic shifts.

6. *Costuming the Courts: Designs for Once Upon a Mattress*

A visual guide showcasing the costume designs used in various productions of "Once Upon a Mattress." Featuring sketches, photographs, and designer notes, this book offers a behind-the-scenes look at how costumes contribute to character and story in the musical. It's a great resource for costume designers and theater students.

7. *Musical Comedy: Writing and Performing for the Stage*

This practical guide covers the essentials of creating and performing musical comedies, using examples from "Once Upon a Mattress" to illustrate key points. It includes tips on scriptwriting, song integration, comedic timing, and character development. Aspiring playwrights and performers will find it especially useful.

8. *Once Upon a Mattress: The Complete Songbook*

A collection of all the songs from the musical, complete with piano arrangements and vocal lines.

This songbook allows fans and musicians to perform their favorite numbers from the show at home or in rehearsals. It also includes notes on musical style and performance tips.

9. *From Page to Stage: The Making of Once Upon a Mattress*

An insider's look at the production process of "Once Upon a Mattress," featuring interviews with cast members, directors, and crew. The book chronicles the journey from scriptwriting to opening night, highlighting challenges and creative decisions. It provides a fascinating glimpse into the collaborative nature of musical theater.

[Once Upon A Mattress Script](#)

Once Upon a Mattress Script: Your Ultimate Guide to Staging a Successful Production

Ever dreamt of bringing the whimsical magic of "Once Upon a Mattress" to life? Imagine the applause, the laughter, the sheer joy of seeing your hard work transform into a captivating theatrical experience. But the reality? It can be overwhelming. Finding the perfect script, navigating complex character interpretations, managing costumes, props, and set design—it's a herculean task! Feeling lost in a sea of possibilities, unsure where to even begin? This comprehensive guide will be your guiding star.

This ebook, "Once Upon a Mattress: The Complete Production Guide," by [Your Name/Pen Name] provides a practical, step-by-step approach to staging a memorable production.

Contents:

Introduction: Understanding the Play and its Significance
Chapter 1: Script Analysis: Character Deep Dives and Theme Exploration
Chapter 2: Casting and Directing: Finding the Perfect Ensemble
Chapter 3: Set Design and Construction: Building the Fairytale Kingdom
Chapter 4: Costume and Makeup Design: Creating Believable Characters
Chapter 5: Rehearsals and Blocking: Transforming the Script into a Performance
Chapter 6: Technical Elements: Lights, Sound, and Special Effects
Chapter 7: Marketing and Promotion: Selling Your Show
Chapter 8: Performance Day and Post-Show Analysis
Conclusion: Reflecting on Your Success and Future Productions

Once Upon a Mattress: The Complete Production Guide (Article)

Introduction: Understanding the Play and its Significance

"Once Upon a Mattress," a musical comedy based on the fairy tale "The Princess and the Pea," is a delightful choice for aspiring theatre groups. Its enduring popularity stems from its witty script, memorable musical numbers, and relatable characters. Understanding the play's underlying themes of societal expectations, perseverance, and finding true love is crucial for a successful production. This introduction sets the stage (pun intended!) by exploring the play's historical context, its critical reception, and its enduring appeal to modern audiences. We'll delve into the original Broadway production and compare it to subsequent adaptations, highlighting key differences and thematic nuances. A strong understanding of the source material is essential before proceeding to the more technical aspects of the production.

Chapter 1: Script Analysis: Character Deep Dives and Theme Exploration

This chapter is dedicated to a detailed analysis of the "Once Upon a Mattress" script. We'll go beyond a simple plot summary. Each character will be examined in depth – their motivations, relationships, and arcs. We'll explore their individual journeys and how they contribute to the overall narrative. The analysis will include:

Princess Winnifred: Analyzing her rebellious spirit, her determination to overcome adversity, and her ultimate triumph. We'll discuss different interpretations of her character and how to portray her effectively.

Prince Dauntless: Exploring his naiveté, his dependence on his mother, and his eventual awakening to Winnifred's true worth.

Queen Aggravain: Examining her controlling nature, her anxieties, and her eventual transformation. Understanding her motivations is key to portraying her believably.

King Sextimus the Silent: Exploring the humor behind his silence and his ultimate role in the resolution of the play.

Supporting Characters: Analyzing the roles of the other characters, such as the Jester, the Minstrel, and the other princesses. These smaller roles contribute greatly to the comedy and the overall comedic flow of the play.

We'll then move on to a thematic analysis, dissecting the play's commentary on societal expectations, the importance of individuality, and the power of love to overcome obstacles. This will inform casting choices, direction, and overall interpretation of the play.

Chapter 2: Casting and Directing: Finding the Perfect Ensemble

Casting is crucial. This chapter provides a practical guide to finding actors who embody the spirit and essence of each character. It outlines effective audition techniques, focusing on the key skills and qualities required for each role. We'll discuss:

Audition Preparation: Creating effective audition materials and providing feedback to aspiring actors.

Casting Decisions: Balancing talent, experience, and chemistry within the ensemble.

Directorial Vision: Establishing a clear artistic vision and effectively communicating it to the cast and crew.

Rehearsal Techniques: Methods for fostering collaboration, building confidence, and ensuring strong performances.

We will delve into different directing styles and how they can be applied to a production of "Once Upon a Mattress," along with methods for inspiring strong performances from each actor.

Chapter 3: Set Design and Construction: Building the Fairytale Kingdom

This chapter focuses on bringing the whimsical world of "Once Upon a Mattress" to life on stage. We'll cover various aspects of set design, from conceptualizing the overall look to the practical construction of the set. We will discuss:

Conceptualization: Developing a visual design that reflects the tone and style of the play.

Materials and Budgeting: Finding cost-effective materials and managing the budget for set construction.

Construction Techniques: Providing step-by-step instructions for building key set pieces.

Technical Aspects: Addressing practical considerations, such as set changes, entrances and exits, and safety.

This chapter also includes diagrams and examples of successful set designs from past productions.

Chapter 4: Costume and Makeup Design: Creating Believable Characters

Costumes and makeup play a vital role in transforming actors into believable characters. This chapter explores the process of designing and creating costumes that accurately reflect the characters' personalities and the play's setting. We will address:

Costume Design: Developing a design concept that complements the set design and enhances character portrayal.

Makeup Techniques: Creating makeup effects appropriate for each character.

Sourcing Materials: Finding affordable yet effective costumes and makeup products.

Costume Construction: Providing a practical guide to sewing and altering costumes.

Illustrations and examples of successful costume and makeup designs are provided.

Chapter 5: Rehearsals and Blocking: Transforming the Script into a Performance

This chapter provides a practical guide to rehearsing the play, moving from script reading to a polished performance. We'll cover:

Rehearsal Schedule: Creating a realistic and effective rehearsal schedule.

Blocking and Staging: Developing creative stage movements that enhance the story and character interactions.

Working with Actors: Techniques for providing effective direction and feedback to actors.

Musical Rehearsals: Addressing the specific challenges of incorporating musical numbers into the production.

This chapter also emphasizes the importance of collaborative work and clear communication between the director and actors.

Chapter 6: Technical Elements: Lights, Sound, and Special Effects

This chapter addresses the technical aspects of the production. We'll cover:

Lighting Design: Creating a lighting plan that enhances the mood and atmosphere of each scene.

Sound Design: Choosing music and sound effects to complement the action on stage.

Special Effects: Exploring cost-effective ways to create special effects that add excitement and spectacle.

Technical Rehearsals: Coordinating all technical elements to create a cohesive and polished performance.

Chapter 7: Marketing and Promotion: Selling Your Show

This chapter focuses on promoting the production to attract a large audience. It includes strategies for:

Publicity: Using press releases, social media, and other methods to generate excitement for the show.

Ticketing: Effective ticketing strategies for maximizing attendance.

Program Design: Creating an attractive and informative program for attendees.

Chapter 8: Performance Day and Post-Show Analysis

This chapter guides the production team through performance day, outlining strategies for managing any last-minute challenges and celebrating the success of the production. Post-show analysis is also addressed, encouraging reflection and providing tools for learning from both triumphs and challenges.

Conclusion: Reflecting on Your Success and Future Productions

This concluding chapter reinforces the key concepts covered in the book and encourages readers to apply their newfound knowledge to future theatrical endeavors. It offers suggestions for continuous learning and improvement in theatre production.

FAQs:

1. What experience level is this guide for? This guide is suitable for both beginners and experienced theatre professionals.
2. Can I adapt the script? While we recommend staying true to the original, adaptations are possible with careful consideration.
3. What is the estimated budget for a production? Budget depends on scale and resources; the guide provides cost-saving tips.
4. How long does it take to stage a production? Rehearsal time varies; the guide helps create a realistic timeline.
5. Where can I find the script? The guide provides resources for accessing authorized scripts.
6. What if I have limited technical resources? The guide offers creative solutions for budget-conscious productions.

7. How do I manage conflicts within the team? The guide emphasizes communication and collaborative problem-solving.
8. What kind of marketing works best for school productions? The guide offers various marketing strategies suitable for different contexts.
9. What are common pitfalls to avoid? The guide highlights potential challenges and provides strategies for mitigating them.

Related Articles:

1. Directing "Once Upon a Mattress": A Director's Handbook: Focuses specifically on directorial choices and interpretation.
2. Cost-Effective Set Design for "Once Upon a Mattress": Provides practical tips on creating a stunning set without breaking the bank.
3. Character Analysis of Princess Winnifred: A Deep Dive: Explores the nuances of the main character's personality.
4. The Music of "Once Upon a Mattress": A Musical Analysis: Analyzes the songs and their significance.
5. Creating Believable Costumes for "Once Upon a Mattress": Offers detailed tutorials on costume creation for the play.
6. Marketing Your School Play: A Step-by-Step Guide: Provides specific marketing advice tailored for school productions.
7. Handling Technical Challenges in Theatre Production: Addresses common technical difficulties and their solutions.
8. Building Community Through Theatre: The Power of Collaboration: Focuses on the importance of teamwork and community building.
9. Post-Show Analysis: Learning from Successes and Failures: Provides tools and techniques for conducting effective post-show reviews.

once upon a mattress script: Once Upon a Mattress Winnie Fred, Write Run, 2018-10-31 A quote from the novel, motion picture, and theatrical musical, Once Upon a Mattress. The play was written as an adaptation of the Hans Christian Andersen fairytale The Princess and the Pea. *** This journal alternates between 9 LINED pages for writing and 1 BLANK page for sketching throughout - Size 5.2 x 0.2 x 8 with 110 pages total. *** It can be used for show notes, as a simple diary, a mini class notebook, prayer journal, a place to write goals, dreams, and milestones, and more. Make the book even more special by tucking tickets, a gift card, or a little cash in the folds. When you want to wrap something that is more personal than a greeting card, this book does the trick. Check out our other selection of witty blank journals, musical theater quotes, and gag gifts all available at amazon.com at writerunbooks.com. Related terms: Prince Dauntless, Princess Winnifred, Lady Larken, King Sextimus, Cinderella, Snow White, princes and princesses, royal wedding, fairytale, Carol Burnett and Ken Berry (1972), Queen Aggravain, Wizard, Jester, Ladies-in-Waiting, the Minstrel. On the BACK COVER: Novel, Motion Picture, and Broadway Musical: Once Upon a Mattress ---- A musical comedy with music by Mary Rodgers, lyrics by Marshall Barer, and book by Jay Thompson, Dean Fuller, and Marshall Barer. Many moons ago in a far-off place... ***** Also Available from WriteRunBooks.com ***** ---- I want some happily ever after to happen to me ISBN-13: 978-1729620304 ---- I want some happily ever after to happen to me ISBN-13: 978-1729622025 ---- Goodbye, good luck, and get out! ISBN-13: 978-1729622162 ---- Cinderella Had Outside Help .ISBN-13: 978-1729622421 ---- Once Upon a Mattress ISBN-13: 978-1729622681 ---- Then Who Sir? Where Sir and When Sir? ISBN-13: 978-1729631386

once upon a mattress script: Beyond Broadway Professor Stacy Wolf, 2019-11-15 The idea of American musical theatre often conjures up images of bright lights and big city, but its lifeblood is

found in amateur productions at high schools, community theatres, afterschool programs, summer camps, and dinner theatres. In *Beyond Broadway*, author Stacy Wolf looks at the widespread presence and persistence of musical theatre in U.S. culture, and examines it as a social practice--a live, visceral experience of creating, watching, and listening. Why does local musical theatre flourish in America? Why do so many Americans continue to passionately engage in a century-old artistic practice that requires intense, person-to-person collaboration? And why do audiences still flock to musicals in their hometowns? Touring American elementary schools, a middle school performance festival, afterschool programs, high schools, summer camps, state park outdoor theatres, community theatres, and dinner theatres from California to Tennessee, Wolf illustrates musical theatre's abundance and longevity in the U.S. as a thriving social activity that touches millions of lives.

once upon a mattress script: Larry Cohen Tony Williams, 2016-04-18 Now in a revised edition, this book is the only published study devoted to Larry Cohen and his significance as a great American filmmaker. The first edition is long out of print and often sought after. This edition covers all the director's films, television work and screenplays, and contains an updated interview with the director as well as interviews with his colleagues Janelle Webb Cohen, Michael Moriarty and James Dixon. The filmography and bibliography are also updated.

once upon a mattress script: The Magic of Middle School Musicals Victor V. Bobetsky, 2008-12-16 Working on a musical is exciting for students, teachers, and the entire middle school community! As the first musical theater book especially for middle school productions, *The Magic of Middle School Musicals* provides a step-by-step guide for success. Bobetsky approaches planning and producing musicals in the context of a curricular unit of study and includes strategies for assessing student learning. Dr. Victor V. Bobetsky, a former New York City middle school music teacher, begins with advice on how to select a musical, obtain copyright permission, and arrange the music for middle school voices. He discusses strategies for teaching the music in the choral classroom, auditioning, casting, and rehearsal procedures. Practical suggestions show directors how to work with student actors, create choreography, and manage scenery, set design, costumes, lighting, and more. *The Magic of Middle School Musicals* gives music teachers the information and confidence they need to artistically adapt musicals from the American repertoire to the middle school level so that teachers, students, and audiences can experience and enjoy this unique, familiar, and musically expressive genre!

once upon a mattress script: The Psychology of Humor Jeffrey H Goldstein, 2013-10-22 *The Psychology of Humor: Theoretical Perspectives and Empirical Issues* examines theoretical perspectives and empirical issues concerning the psychology of humor. Theoretical views of humor range from the physiological to the sociological and anthropological. The relations between humor, laughter, and smiling are considered, along with the connection between collative variables and arousal. Comprised of 13 chapters, this book begins with an introduction to the history of thought and major theoretical issues on humor, followed by a description of models of different aspects of humor. The next section deals with empirical issues in which selected research areas are given detailed attention. The relations between humor, laughter, and smiling, on the one hand, and collative variables and arousal, on the other, are analyzed. Subsequent chapters explore the cognitive origins of incongruity humor by comparing fantasy assimilation and reality assimilation; a two-stage model for the appreciation of jokes and cartoons; and the social functions and physiological correlates of humor. The relationship between arousal potential and funniness of jokes is also explored, together with humor judgments as a function of reference groups and identification classes. The final chapter presents an annotated bibliography of published papers on humor in the research literature and an analysis of trends between 1900 and 1971. This monograph will be of interest to psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists, and behavioral scientists.

once upon a mattress script: The Complete Book of 1990s Broadway Musicals Dan Dietz, 2016-09-29 Musicals of the 1990s felt the impact of key developments that forever changed the landscape of Broadway. While the onslaught of British imports slowed down, the so-called Disneyfication of Broadway began, a trend that continues today. *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Lion*

King became long-running hits, followed by more family-friendly musicals. The decade was also distinguished by a new look at revivals—instead of slavishly reproducing old shows or updating them with campy values, Broadway saw a stream of fresh and sometimes provocative reinventions, including major productions of *My Fair Lady*, *Damn Yankees*, *Carousel*, *Show Boat*, and *Chicago*. In *The Complete Book of 1990s Broadway Musicals*, Dan Dietz examines in detail every musical that opened on Broadway during the 1990s. This book discusses the era's major hits (*Miss Saigon*, *Crazy for You*, *Rent*), notorious flops (*Shogun*, *Nick & Nora*, *The Red Shoes*), controversial shows (*Passion*, *The Capeman*), and musicals that closed during their pre-Broadway tryouts (*Annie 2: Miss Hannigan's Revenge*, *Whistle Down the Wind*). In addition to including every hit and flop that debuted during the decade, this book highlights revivals and personal-appearance revues with such performers as Sandra Bernhard, Michael Feinstein, Patti LuPone, Liza Minnelli, and Mandy Patinkin. Each entry contains the following information: Plot summary Cast members Names of all important personnel, including writers, composers, directors, choreographers, producers, and musical directors Opening and closing dates Number of performances Critical commentary Musical numbers and the performers who introduced the songs Production data, including information about tryouts Source material Tony awards and nominations Details about London and other foreign productions Besides separate entries for each production, the book offers numerous appendixes, including a discography, filmography, and published scripts, as well as lists of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, black-themed shows, and Jewish-themed productions. A treasure trove of information, *The Complete Book of 1990s Broadway Musicals* provides a comprehensive view of each show. This significant resource will be of use to scholars, historians, and casual fans of one of the greatest decades in musical theatre history.

once upon a mattress script: Hand to God Robert Askins, 2018-08-28 In the rec room in at a church in Cypress, Texas, Margery leads her students in a puppet pageant to strengthen their faith in the Bible and evade Satan's hand. But when the young members of the Christian Puppet Ministry put those teachings into practice, one devout young man's puppet takes on a shocking personality that no one could have expected. In this hilarious black comedy, a foul-mouthed sock puppet named Tyrone soon teaches those around him that the urges that can drive a person to give in to their darkest desires fit like a glove. In *Hand to God*, a true tour de force (*New York Times*), Robert Askins has written a play of unerring perfection (*Huffington Post*). The must-see hit of the 2015 Broadway season, starring Steven Boyer and Geneva Carr, garnered an Obie Award and five Tony Award nominations, including Best Play, following its sold out, critically acclaimed off-Broadway runs at MCC Theater and Ensemble Studio Theatre.

once upon a mattress script: The Performing Set Andrew Bennett Harris, 2006 The large-scale Broadway musical is one of America's great contributions to world theatre. Bill and Jean Eckart were stagedesigners and producers at the peak of the musical, and their designsrevolutionized Broadway productions. At a time when sets were meantto remain simply backdrops that established time and place but notmuch else, an Eckart set became part of the performance on stage, equal at times to an actor. Anyone who has seen *Phantom of the Opera* or *Les Miserables* has seen the innovations that the Eckarts brought tothe large Broadway-style musical production

once upon a mattress script: Sweet Sue Albert Ramsdell Gurney, 1987 THE STORY: The action of the play is set in Susan's home in a New York suburb--Susan being a romantically-minded, divorced mother of three, and a very successful artist and designer of greeting cards. It is summer and Jake, the Dartmouth roommate of

once upon a mattress script: The Princess and the Pea Hans Christian Andersen, Kari James, 2017-03-02 Simple text and captivating illustrations are paired with beautiful music and fun sound-effects to help tell the classic tale of *The Princess and the Pea*. Prince Fastidious travels the world to find his perfect princess. But something is not quite right about any of them. They either talk too much, or not at all. Some are too old for him, or too young. Others are spoiled or have too many noisy, little dogs. Find out what happens when Princess Rose accidentally comes to the castle

at night because of a fierce storm. How does she prove to the Queen that she's a real princess? A happy ending adds interest to this fairy tale and encourages a lifelong love for reading.

once upon a mattress script: Polaroid Stories Naomi Iizuka, 1999

once upon a mattress script: John Carradine Tom Weaver, 2024-10-15 Over more than six decades and 200 films, supreme movie villain John Carradine defined the job of the character actor, running the gamut from preacher Casey of *The Grapes of Wrath* to his classic Count Dracula of *House of Frankenstein* and *House of Dracula*. But for every *Prisoner of Shark Island* or *Jesse James*, Carradine—who also did great work on Broadway and the classical theater (he produced, directed and starred in *Hamlet*)—hammed it up in scores of B and C horror and exploitation films, developing the while quite a reputation for scandal. Through it all, though, he remained a survivor and a true professional. This is the first ever work devoted exclusively to the films of John Carradine. In addition to the comprehensive filmography, there is a biography of Carradine (contributed by Gregory Mank), commentary on the man by indie film director Fred Olen Ray (who helmed many latter-day Carradine movies), and an interesting piece by director Joe Dante, who writes about Carradine's involvement in Dante's 1981 werewolf movie *The Howling*.

once upon a mattress script: We Have Always Lived in the Castle Shirley Jackson, 1962 *We Have Always Lived in the Castle* is a deliciously unsettling novel about a perverse, isolated, and possibly murderous family and the struggle that ensues when a cousin arrives at their estate.

once upon a mattress script: Jagged Little Pill: The Novel Eric Smith, Alanis Morissette, Diablo Cody, Glen Ballard, 2022-04-26 A timely and gutsy YA novel based on the Tony and Grammy Award winning musical from Alanis Morissette, Diablo Cody, and Glen Ballard! Swallow it down—what a jagged little pill . . . *Jagged Little Pill: The Novel* follows the intertwining lives of five teens whose world is changed forever after the events at a party. Adopted Frankie struggles to see eye-to-eye with her mother—who would rather ignore a problem and preserve their “perfect” life than stand up for what’s right. Jo just wants her mom to accept her queer identity—and is totally crushed when Frankie, the only person who really gets her, finds herself infatuated with someone new. Phoenix tries to find his place at the new school and balance wanting to spend time with Frankie but knowing he also has to help out with his sick sister at home. Bella wants to enjoy the end of high school and just head off to college without a hitch. Everyone expects Frankie's brother Nick to be the golden boy, but even though he just got into his dream school, he’s not even sure he's a good person. Each of their stories intersects when Bella is sexually assaulted at a party, and it looks like the perpetrator might get away with it. Moving, heartfelt, and raw, *Jagged Little Pill: The Novel* draws on the musical’s story and gives readers deeper glimpses of the characters. It’s a story about the power of voicing your pain, standing up for what’s right, and finding healing and connection.

once upon a mattress script: The Abbott Touch Thomas Hischak, 2023-02-09 This in-depth and original study examines 100 productions and analyses why George Abbott's name became synonymous with the 'golden age' of Broadway. What did Abbott contribute? How did he work? How did he innovate the industry? How did he survive so long? All of these inquiries, and more, lead to the most fundamental question of all: what exactly was the famous “Abbott touch”? For sixty years, George Abbott was a vital force in the American theatre. As an actor, playwright, director, librettist, play doctor, and producer, he laid his touch on approximately 100 New York productions, from *The Pajama Game* and *Damn Yankees* through to *Once Upon a Mattress* and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Spanning this incredible figure's work chronologically, each chapter of *The Abbott Touch* examines a period of creativity in his life, culminating in how he became the famous multi-hyphenate artist he is now celebrated as. Beginning with his early career in 1913 through to his work on the 1994 revival of *Damn Yankees*, this book analyses his key contributions to his primary works, all of which have relied on his genius. The first study of its kind, *The Abbott Touch* provides key insights into the working life of one of the 20th Century's most prolific theatre practitioners, as well as a vital history for theatre scholars and fans alike.

once upon a mattress script: Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella Oscar Hammerstein

(II), Douglas Carter Beane, 2014 RODGERS + HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA: THE COMPLETE BOOK AND LYRICS OF THE BROADWAY MUSICA

once upon a mattress script: Pal Joey Julianne Lindberg, 2020 Pal Joey: The History of a Heel presents a behind-the-scenes look at the genesis, influence, and significance of Rodgers and Hart's classic musical comedy Pal Joey (1940).

once upon a mattress script: Amadeus Peter Shaffer, 2007 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is a genius, the most brilliant musician the world will ever see. But the court of eighteenth-century Vienna doesn't recognize his talents - only Antonio Salieri, the Court Composer, does, and he is tortured by what he hears. Seething with rage at the genius of this flippant buffoon and suddenly aware of his own mediocrity, Salieri declares war and sets out to destroy the man he sees as God's instrument on earth. Peter Shaffer's award-winning play is a rich, exuberant portrayal of a God-like man among mortals, and lives destroyed by envy.

once upon a mattress script: Flip the Script Oren Klaff, 2019-08-13 THE BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF PITCH ANYTHING IS BACK TO FLIP YOUR ENTIRE APPROACH TO PERSUASION. Is there anything worse than a high-pressure salesperson pushing you to say yes (then sign on the dotted line) before you're ready? If there's one lesson Oren Klaff has learned over decades of pitching, presenting, and closing long-shot, high-stakes deals, it's that people are sick of being marketed and sold to. Most of all, they hate being told what to think. The more you push them, the more they resist. What people love, however, is coming up with a great idea on their own, even if it's the idea you were guiding them to have all along. Often, the only way to get someone to sign is to make them feel like they're smarter than you. That's why Oren is throwing out the old playbook on persuasion. Instead, he'll show you a new approach that works on this simple insight: Everyone trusts their own ideas. If, rather than pushing your idea on your buyer, you can guide them to discover it on their own, they'll believe it, trust it, and get excited about it. Then they'll buy in and feel good about the chance to work with you. That might sound easier said than done, but Oren has taught thousands of people how to do it with a series of simple steps that anyone can follow in any situation. And as you'll see in this book, Oren has been in a lot of different situations. He'll show you how he got a billionaire to take him seriously, how he got a venture capital firm to cough up capital, and how he made a skeptical Swiss banker see him as an expert in banking. He'll even show you how to become so compelling that buyers are even more attracted to you than to your product. These days, it's not enough to make a great pitch. To get attention, create trust, and close the deal, you need to flip the script.

once upon a mattress script: Showstoppers! Gerald Nachman, 2016-11-01 When Robert Preston shouted Ya got trouble! in River City, when Carol Channing glided down a gilded staircase while waiters serenaded her with Hello, Dolly!, when Barbra Streisand defied us to rain on her parade in Funny Girl, audiences were instantly enchanted. Showstoppers! is all about Broadway musicals' most memorable numbers—why they were so effective, how they were created, and why they still resonate. Much of it is told through the eyes of the performers, songwriters, directors, and choreographers who first built these explosive numbers and lit the fuse. Gerald Nachman interviewed dozens of iconic musical theater figures, including Patti LuPone, John Raitt, Jerry Herman, Edie Adams, Dick Van Dyke, Joel Grey, Marvin Hamlisch, John Kander, Tommy Tune, Sheldon Harnick, and Harold Prince, uncovering priceless untold anecdotes and details.

once upon a mattress script: Hello Again Michael John LaChiusa, 1995 THE STORY: Ten nameless characters pair up in ten different scenes of sexual pleasure and/or despair. One character from each scene moves on to the next, seemingly dumping his old partner in favor of new prey. The play begins in 1900 with a Prostitute

once upon a mattress script: Flipped Wendelin Van Draanen, 2003-05-13 A classic he-said-she-said romantic comedy! This updated anniversary edition offers story-behind-the-story revelations from author Wendelin Van Draanen. The first time she saw him, she flipped. The first time he saw her, he ran. That was the second grade, but not much has changed by the seventh. Juli says: "My Bryce. Still walking around with my first kiss." He says: "It's been six years of strategic

avoidance and social discomfort.” But in the eighth grade everything gets turned upside down: just as Bryce is thinking that there’s maybe more to Juli than meets the eye, she’s thinking that he’s not quite all he seemed. This is a classic romantic comedy of errors told in alternating chapters by two fresh, funny voices. The updated anniversary edition contains 32 pages of extra backmatter: essays from Wendelin Van Draanen on her sources of inspiration, on the making of the movie of *Flipped*, on why she’ll never write a sequel, and a selection of the amazing fan mail she’s received. Awards and accolades for *Flipped*: SLJ Top 100 Children’s Novels of all time IRA-CBC Children’s Choice IRA Teacher’s Choice Honor winner, Judy Lopez Memorial Award/WNBA Winner of the California Young Reader Medal “We flipped over this fantastic book, its gutsy girl Juli and its wise, wonderful ending.” — The Chicago Tribune “Van Draanen has another winner in this eighth-grade ‘he-said, she-said’ romance. A fast, funny, egg-cellent winner.” — SLJ, Starred review “With a charismatic leading lady kids will flip over, a compelling dynamic between the two narrators and a resonant ending, this novel is a great deal larger than the sum of its parts.” —Publishers Weekly, Starred review

once upon a mattress script: Women and Mixed Race Representation in Film Valerie C. Gilbert, 2021-09-27 This book uses a black/white interracial lens to examine the lives and careers of eight prominent American-born actresses from the silent age through the studio era, New Hollywood, and into the present century: Josephine Baker, Nina Mae McKinney, Fredi Washington, Lena Horne, Dorothy Dandridge, Lonette McKee, Jennifer Beals and Halle Berry. Combining biography with detailed film readings, the author fleshes out the tragic mulatto stereotype, while at the same time exploring concepts and themes such as racial identity, the one-drop rule, passing, skin color, transracial adoption, interracial romance, and more. With a wealth of background information, this study also places these actresses in historical context, providing insight into the construction of race, both onscreen and off.

once upon a mattress script: Marc Blitzstein Howard Pollack, 2012-09-05 A composer and lyricist of enormous innovation and influence, Marc Blitzstein remains one of the most versatile and fascinating figures in the history of American music, his creative output running the gamut from films scores and Broadway operas to art songs and chamber pieces. A prominent leftist and social maverick, Blitzstein constantly pushed the boundaries of convention in mid-century America in both his work and his life. Award-winning music historian Howard Pollack's new biography covers Blitzstein's life in full, from his childhood in Philadelphia to his violent death in Martinique at age 58. The author describes how this student of contemporary luminaries Nadia Boulanger and Arnold Schoenberg became swept up in the stormy political atmosphere of the 1920s and 1930s and throughout his career walked the fine line between his formal training and his populist principles. Indeed, Blitzstein developed a unique sound that drew on everything contemporary, from the high modernism of Stravinsky and Hindemith to jazz and Broadway show tunes. Pollack captures the astonishing breadth of Blitzstein's work--from provocative operas like *The Cradle Will Rock*, *No for an Answer*, and *Regina*, to the wartime *Airborne Symphony* composed during his years in service, to lesser known ballets, film scores, and stage works. A courageous artist, Blitzstein translated Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill's *The Threepenny Opera* during the heyday of McCarthyism and the red scare, and turned it into an off-Broadway sensation, its *Mack the Knife* becoming one of the era's biggest hits. Beautifully written, drawing on new interviews with friends and family of the composer, and making extensive use of new archival and secondary sources, Marc Blitzstein presents the most complete biography of this important American artist.

once upon a mattress script: New York Magazine , 1996-09-30 New York magazine was born in 1968 after a run as an insert of the New York Herald Tribune and quickly made a place for itself as the trusted resource for readers across the country. With award-winning writing and photography covering everything from politics and food to theater and fashion, the magazine's consistent mission has been to reflect back to its audience the energy and excitement of the city itself, while celebrating New York as both a place and an idea.

once upon a mattress script: Laughing Till It Hurts J. Randy Taraborrelli, 2021-05-09 Carol Burnett is one of the few American comediennes to establish herself as an icon. *Laughing Till It*

Hurts is the ultimate Carol Burnett biography. For eleven years The Carol Burnett Show proved a showcase for Burnett's comic genius. Though extensive interviews with Carol's friends, family, and co-workers, Taraborrelli traces her career from her formative years through her first marriage to fellow actor Don Saroyan, and her breakthrough role starring as the princess in George Abbott's *Once Upon a Mattress*. *Laughing Till It Hurts* explores the darker side of the fame and pressures that it placed on Carol. As a result of her outspoken battles with the media and her personal ordeal with her daughters drug problems, Carol Burnett has metamorphized into a new woman—someone who not only knows how to be funny but is also uncompromisingly herself.

once upon a mattress script: *Theatrical Set Design* David Welker, 1979

once upon a mattress script: *Off Broadway Musicals, 1910-2007* Dan Dietz, 2010-03-10 Despite an often unfair reputation as being less popular, less successful, or less refined than their bona-fide Broadway counterparts, Off Broadway musicals deserve their share of critical acclaim and study. A number of shows originally staged Off Broadway have gone on to their own successful Broadway runs, from the ever-popular *A Chorus Line* and *Rent* to more off-beat productions like *Avenue Q* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. And while it remains to be seen if other popular Off Broadway shows like *Stomp*, *Blue Man Group*, and *Altar Boyz* will make it to the larger Broadway theaters, their Off Broadway runs have been enormously successful in their own right. This book discusses more than 1,800 Off Broadway, Off Off Broadway, showcase, and workshop musical productions. It includes detailed descriptions of Off Broadway musicals that closed in previews or in rehearsal, selected musicals that opened in Brooklyn and in New Jersey, and American operas that opened in New York, along with general overviews of Off Broadway institutions such as the Light Opera of Manhattan. The typical entry includes the name of the host theater or theaters; the opening date and number of performances; the production's cast and creative team; a list of songs; a brief plot synopsis; and general comments and reviews from the New York critics. Besides the individual entries, the book also includes a preface, a bibliography, and 21 appendices including a discography, filmography, a list of published scripts, and lists of musicals categorized by topic and composer.

once upon a mattress script: *Beyond Broadway* Stacy Ellen Wolf, 2020 The idea of American musical theatre conjures up images of bright lights and big city, but its lifeblood is found in local and amateur productions at schools, community theatres, summer camps, and more. In *Beyond Broadway*, author Stacy Wolf considers the widespread presence and persistence of musical theatre in U.S. culture, and examines it as a live, pleasurable, participatory experience of creating, watching, and listening. Why does local musical theatre flourish in America? Why do so many Americans passionately engage in a century-old artistic practice that requires intense, person-to-person collaboration? Why do audiences flock to see musicals in their hometowns? How do corporations like Disney and Music Theatre International enable musical theatre's energetic movement through American culture? Touring from Maine to California, Wolf visits elementary schools, a middle school performance festival, afterschool programs, high schools, summer camps, state park outdoor theatres, community theatres, and dinner theatres, and conducts over 200 interviews with practitioners and spectators, licensors and Disney creatives. In *Beyond Broadway*, Wolf tells the story of musical theatre's abundance and longevity in the U.S. as a thriving, joyful activity that touches millions of lives.

once upon a mattress script: *The Complete Book of 1960s Broadway Musicals* Dan Dietz, 2014-04-10 While the 1960s may have been a decade of significant upheaval in America, it was also one of the richest periods in musical theatre history. Shows produced on Broadway during this time include such classics as *Bye, Bye Birdie*; *Cabaret*; *Camelot*; *Hello Dolly!*; *Fiddler on the Roof*; *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying*; *Oliver!*; and *Man of La Mancha*. Performers such as Dick Van Dyke, Anthony Newley, Jerry Orbach, and Barbara Streisand made their marks, and other talents—such as Bob Fosse, John Kander, Fred Ebb, Alan Jay Lerner, Frederick Loewe, Jerome Robbins, and Stephen Sondheim—also contributed to shows. In *The Complete Book of 1960s Broadway Musicals*, Dan Dietz examines every musical and revue that opened on Broadway during the 1960s. In addition to providing details on every hit and flop, Dietz includes revivals and one-man

and one-woman shows that centered on stars like Jack Benny, Maurice Chevalier, Marlene Dietrich, Danny Kaye, Yves Montand, and Lena Horne. Each entry consists of: Opening and closing dates Plot summaries Cast members Number of performances Names of all important personnel, including writers, composers, directors, choreographers, producers, and musical directors Musical numbers and the names of performers who introduced the songs Production data, including information about tryouts Source material Critical commentary Tony awards and nominations Details about London and other foreign productions In addition to entries for each production, the book offers numerous appendixes: a discography, film and television versions, published scripts, Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, and lists of productions by the New York City Center Light Opera Company, the New York City Opera Company, and the Music Theatre of Lincoln Center. A treasure trove of information, this significant resource will be of use to scholars, historians, and casual fans of one of the greatest decades in musical theatre history.

once upon a mattress script: The Oxford Companion to the American Musical Thomas S. Hischak, 2008-06-02 From the silver screen to the Great White Way, small community theatres to television sets, the musical has long held a special place in America's heart and history. Now, in *The Oxford Companion to the American Musical*, readers who flocked to the movies to see *An American in Paris* or *Chicago*, lined up for tickets to *West Side Story* or *Rent*, or crowded around their TVs to watch *Cinderella* or *High School Musical* can finally turn to a single book for details about them all. For the first time, this popular subject has an engaging and authoritative book as thrilling as the performances themselves. With more than two thousand entries, this illustrated guide offers a wealth of information on musicals, performers, composers, lyricists, producers, choreographers, and much more. Biographical entries range from early stars Fred Astaire, Bing Crosby, Mary Martin, and Mae West to contemporary show-stoppers Nathan Lane, Savion Glover, and Kristin Chenoweth, while composers Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers, and Andrew Lloyd Webber all have articles, and the choreography of Bob Fosse, Tommy Tune, and Debbie Allen receives due examination. The plays and films covered range from modern hits like *Mamma Mia!* and *Moulin Rouge!* to timeless classics such as *Yankee Doodle Dandy* and *Show Boat*. Also, numerous musicals written specifically for television appear throughout, and many entries follow a work-Babes in Toyland for example-as it moves across genres, from stage, to film, to television. The Companion also includes cross references, a comprehensive listing of recommended recordings and further reading, a useful chronology of all the musicals described in the book, plus a complete index of Tony Award and Academy Award winners. Whether you are curious about *Singin' in the Rain* or *Spamalot*, or simply adore *The Wizard of Oz* or *Grease*, this well-researched and entertaining resource is the first place to turn for reliable information on virtually every aspect of the American musical.

once upon a mattress script: On the Line Robert Viagas, Baayork Lee, Thommie Walsh, 2006 (Limelight). *A Chorus Line*, the biggest Broadway hit of its generation, is returning to Times Square in a major fall 2006 revival. The show is based on a remarkable series of taped discussions made in the mid 1970s with some of the top gypsies (veteran Broadway dancers), many of whom went on to play characters based on themselves in the Tony- and Pulitzer-winning musical. In many ways, *On the Line: The Creation of A Chorus Line* is a continuation of the show itself. In this collective oral history, the 19 original cast members tell how they got involved with the project, how they labored through the months of workshops that shaped it, and what its success has meant for their lives and careers. They paint intimate and frank portraits of co-creators Michael Bennett, Joseph Papp, Ed Kleban and each other. Originally published in 1990, the book has been updated to continue telling their stories over the past 16 years. Wayne Cilento (*I Can Do That*) has become a Tony-winning choreographer of shows like *Wicked* and *Aida*; Kelly Bishop (*Can the adults smoke?*) has become a TV star; Trish Garland has become a California fitness guru, and so forth.

once upon a mattress script: Streisand Anne Edwards, 2016-02-15 *Streisand: A Biography* is much more than the story of the world's greatest living performer, how she got there, and why she remains at the top after three decades, it is also, in Anne Edwards's sure hands, a compelling chronicle of a woman's fight to validate her appearance, her talent, and her right to love and be

loved. Time and time again Streisand has demonstrated the ability to reinvent herself to keep pace with the continuing changes in musical taste. This updated edition of Edwards's pioneering biography chronicles her public life as a political activist as well as her private life as Mrs. James Brolin.

once upon a mattress script: Flowers In The Attic V.C. Andrews, 2011-02-08 Celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the enduring gothic masterpiece *Flowers in the Attic*—the unforgettable forbidden love story that earned V.C. Andrews a fiercely devoted fan base and became an international cult classic. At the top of the stairs there are four secrets hidden—blond, innocent, and fighting for their lives... They were a perfect and beautiful family—until a heartbreaking tragedy shattered their happiness. Now, for the sake of an inheritance that will ensure their future, the children must be hidden away out of sight, as if they never existed. They are kept in the attic of their grandmother's labyrinthine mansion, isolated and alone. As the visits from their seemingly unconcerned mother slowly dwindle, the four children grow ever closer and depend upon one another to survive both this cramped world and their cruel grandmother. A suspenseful and thrilling tale of family, greed, murder, and forbidden love, *Flowers in the Attic* is the unputdownable first novel of the epic Dollanganger family saga. The Dollanganger series includes: *Flowers in the Attic*, *Petals in the Wind*, *If There Be Thorns*, *Seeds of Yesterday*, *Garden of Shadows*, *Beneath the Attic*, and *Out of the Attic*.

once upon a mattress script: Theatre as Human Action Thomas S. Hischak, Mark A. Robinson, 2022-10-17 *Theatre as Human Action* is the ideal textbook to introduce students to the various aspects of theatre, especially for those who may have little or no theatergoing experience. Seven diverse plays are described to the reader from the start, and then returned to throughout the book so that students can better understand the concepts being discussed. Both the theoretical and practical aspects of theatre are explored, from the classical definition of theatre to today's most avant-garde theatre activities. Types of plays, the elements of drama, and theatre criticism are presented, as well as detailed descriptions of the different jobs in theatre, such as actor, playwright, director, designer, producer, choreographer, and more. The book concludes with a look at where and how theatre is evolving in America and the latest changes and innovations today. This fourth edition has been greatly expanded and updated, including: The introduction of four new plays—*Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*; *Fences*; *Angels in America*; and *Hadestown*—in addition to *Macbeth*, *You Can't Take It With You*, and *Hamilton* A discussion of the rise of social media in raising awareness and replacing traditional review outlets An entirely new, enhanced section on diversity and inclusion in theatre An updated selection of playwrights featured, including Terrence McNally, Lynn Nottage, Tony Kushner, and Lin-Manuel Miranda, to better reflect the diversity of those writing for the theatre today. Featuring full-color photographs, updated discussion questions, new topics for further research, and potential creative projects, the fourth edition of *Theatre as Human Action* is an invaluable resource to introduce students to the world of theatre.

once upon a mattress script: Identities and Audiences in the Musical Raymond Knapp, Mitchell Morris, Stacy Wolf, 2018-09-04 Issues of identity have always been central to the American musical in all its guises. Who appears in musicals, who or what they are meant to represent, and how, over time, those representations have been understood and interpreted, provide the very basis for our engagement with the genre. In this third volume of the reissued *Oxford Handbook of the American Musical*, chapters focus on race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality, regional vs. national identity, and the cultural and class significance of the musical itself. As important as the question of who appears in musicals are the questions of who watches and listens to them, and of how specific cultures of reception attend differently to the musical. Chapters thus address cultural codes inherent to the genre, in particular those found in traditional school theater programs.

once upon a mattress script: My Beautiful Laundrette Hanif Kureishi, 2014-10-30 Omar is a restless young Asian man, caring for his alcoholic father in the hustling London of the mid-1980s. His uncle, a keen Thatcherite, offers Omar an entrepreneurial opportunity to revamp a dingy

laundrette, and ambitious Omar rolls up his sleeves, enlisting the assistance of his old school-friend Johnny, who has since fallen in with a gang of neo-fascists. Omar and Johnny soon form an unlikely alliance that leads to business success, as well as other, more intimate surprises.

once upon a mattress script: From the Page to the Stage Shirlee Sloyer, 2003-04-15
Readers theatre is a powerful tool for building language skills and involving young readers with literature. Educator and seasoned readers-theatre coach Shirlee Sloyer provides teachers and librarians with nuts-and-bolts guidelines for integrating readers theatre into the classroom and library. Detailed instructions for every step guide readers through the process of setting up and conducting a successful program that is based on NCTE and IRA standards. Grades 4-8 Includes: • An Overview of Readers Theatre • Selecting the Literature • Exploring Key Literary Elements • Compiling and Adapting Material • Classroom Procedures • Preparing for Performance • The Performance and Afterward • A Model Program and Script • 11 Classroom-Ready Sample Scripts

once upon a mattress script: Strippers, Showgirls, and Sharks Peter Filichia, 2013-05-28
In *Strippers, Showgirls, and Sharks*, popular syndicated theatre critic Peter Filichia chronicles the American musical by looking at those shows that did not win the Tony Award. Every spring the American Theatre Wing bestows its annual Tony Awards. Only those shows that have reached Broadway are nominated and while all Tonys are created equal, the universally acknowledged biggest prize is the Best Musical Tony. But did the best musical always win Best Musical? And were there other factors that kept a more deserving show from winning? Filichia answers these questions and more as he looks at all 153 previous Best Musical Nominees that didn't win. In 1959 when Ethel Merman and a variety of strippers took the stage, there was a tie between 'The Sound of Music' and 'Fiorello'. In 1971, Stephen Sondheim's 'Follies' and its ghostly showgirls lost to a 'groovy' re-tuning of 'Two Gentlemen of Verona' best forgotten. And, in 1957, 'West Side Story' was bested by the fine people of River City Iowa singing their Americana hearts out in 'The Music Man'.--Publisher description.

once upon a mattress script: The Royal Tenenbaums Wes Anderson, Owen Wilson, 2001
Three grown prodigies, all with a unique genius of some kind, and their mother are staying at the family household. Their father, Royal, had left them long ago, but now returns to make things right with his family.

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