

Finding Plays, Scenes, Monologues, and Plot Summaries

pd 2/08

Finding Specific Plays

1. A **title** search in the online catalog will find plays published as individual books or available online. For example: *crimes of the heart*
lystrata
2. A **keyword** search in the online catalog will find plays published in collections or anthologies. Use main words in the title of the play and the author's name to search. For example: *odd couple simon*
raisin sun hansberry
3. If #1 and #2 don't work, try the online database **LitFinder**.
4. If #1, #2, and #3 don't work, use one of the sources listed below to identify a book or a magazine that includes the play. Then check the online catalog to see if the Library has the source.

Inter-Play: An On-Line Index to Plays in Collections, Anthologies, and Periodicals <http://www.lib.pdx.edu/systems/interplay/>

WorldCat (a database available on the Library homepage)

Play Index REF Z 5781 .P72

Ottmiller's Index to Plays in Collections Ref Z 5781 .O8 1988

The Drama Scholars' Index to Plays and Filmscripts: A Guide to...Selected Anthologies, Series, and Periodicals (1986)
REF Z 5781 .S17

Index to Plays in Periodicals, 1977-1987 REF PN 1721 .K39 1990

Index to Plays in Periodicals (1979) REF Z 5781 .K43 1979

Plays for Children and Young Adults: An Evaluative Index and Guide
REF PN 1627 .K37 1991

Index to Children's Plays in Collections REF PN 1627 .K7 1977

- ◆ To find collections of **one-act plays** or **10 minute plays** in the library, do a **keyword** search in the online catalog: *one act plays*
ten minute plays
- ◆ To find collections of **children's plays** in the library, do this **keyword** search in the online catalog: *childrens plays*

over

Finding Monologues or Scenes

The library owns many collections of monologues and/or scenes. To locate a list of these, do the following searches in the online catalog.

subject search: *monologues*

keyword search: *acting scenes*

You can also use the database **Twentieth Century North American Drama** to find monologues and scenes by specific criteria, for example, number of characters, gender, race, genre, etc. (For a monologue, search for a scene with one character.)

The following can be used to identify a specific type of monologue or scene (for example, on a certain topic or for actors of a certain age or sex):

The Ultimate Scene and Monologue Sourcebook

REF PN 2080 .H66 1994

Guide to Monologues: Men - An Index of Over 800 Monologues from Classical and Modern Plays

REF PN 2080 .G84 1988

Guide to Monologues: Women - An Index of Over 800 Monologues from Classical and Modern Plays

REF PN 2080 .G85 1988

To find books with material for **improvisation**, do this **keyword** search in the online catalog: *improvisation acting*

Plot Summaries / Brief Descriptions

International Dictionary of Theatre: Vol. 1 – Plays

REF PN 2035 .I49 1992 v. 1

The Book of 1,000 Plays REF PN 6112.5 .F54 1989

20th-Century Plays in Synopsis REF PN 6112.5 .S68

Masterplots II: Drama Series REF PN 6112.5 .M37 1990

Crown Guide to the World's Great Plays from Ancient Greece to Modern Times REF DESK PN 6112.5 .S45 1984

Masterplots PN 44 .M1933 1996

The Ultimate Scene and Monologue Sourcebook (see Part One for synopses of plays) REF PN 2080 .H66 1994

Ganzl's Book of the Broadway Musical MT 95 .G19 1995

Drury's Guide to Best Plays REF Z 5781 .D8 1987