



A Jury of Her Peers and the First Ten Plays

Susan Glaspell

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This collection is comprised of Susan Glaspell's well-known short story "A Jury of Her Peers" and her first ten produced plays.

Contents:

Suppressed Desires [1915] with George Cram Cook

Trifles [1916]

A Jury of Her Peers [1917]

Close the Book [1917]

The Outside [1917]

The People [1917]

Woman's Honor [1918]

Tickless Time [1918] with George Cram Cook

Bernice [1919]

Inheritors [1921]

The Verge [1921]

"Susan Glaspell's... vein is satiric, although she can rise to a tragic realism at times. This tragic realism, evident by seemingly inconsequent details, will be found at its best in 'Trifles,' a one-act play that scored a great success when the Provincetown Players originally produced it. 'Trifles' is one of the best one-act plays that has been written in America. It moves with a quiet, inexorable piling up of incidents that eventually make clear to the audience who is guilty of the murder about which the action hinges. Miss Glaspell belongs to that group of playwrights of which Eugene O'Neill is the foremost example. Naturalism is their object. There must be no melodramatics.

The satiric vein of Miss Glaspell may be found in such plays as 'Woman's Honor' and 'Close the Book.' 'Close the Book,' which satirizes the desire to be anything but conservative and as other folk are, is delicious in its implications.... Miss Glaspell's style is entertaining and easy to read."—The New York Times

Of course, this Times review was written long before the fairly recent renewed interest in Glaspell's work as a subject of literary scholarship. Her plays amuse on the level noted in the review but also stand out as appropriate subjects for academic literary and cultural fields.

Note: Included is the diagram from "Tickless Time", redrawn for better legibility specifically for this edition.

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From reader reviews:

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