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Spring Awakening



Synopsis

“This brave new musical, haunting and electrifying by turns, restores the mystery, the thrill to that shattering transformation that stirs in all our souls.” —Charles Isherwood, *The New York Times*

“The staggering purity of this show will touch all open hearts. In its refined, imaginative simplicity, it daringly reverses all the conventional rules by returning the American musical to an original state of innocence.” —John Heilpern, *The New York Observer*

“An unexpected jolt of sudden genius, edgy in its brutally honest, unromanticized depiction of human sexuality.” —*New York Post*

Spring Awakening is an extraordinary new rock musical with book and lyrics by Steven Sater and music by Grammy Award-nominated recording artist Duncan Sheik. Inspired by Frank Wedekind’s controversial 1891 play about teenage sexuality and society’s efforts to control it, the piece seamlessly merges past and present, underscoring the timelessness of adolescent angst and the universality of human passion. Steven Sater’s plays include the long-running *Carbondale Dreams*, *Perfect for You*, *Doll* (Rosenthal Prize/Cincinnati Playhouse), *Umbrage* (Steppenwolf New Play Prize), and a reconceived version of Shakespeare’s *Tempest*, which played in London. Duncan Sheik is a singer/songwriter who also collaborated with Sater on the musical *The Nightingale*. He has composed original music for *The Gold Rooms of Nero* and for *The Public Theater’s Twelfth Night* in Central Park.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I couldn't put it down when I first received it. *Spring Awakening*, is an amazing adaptation of

Wedekind's, *Spring's Awakening* first written in 1899. I own the original by Wedekind, and really appreciated how Steven Sater was able to maintain the integrity of the original while adapting it to a new libretto. When I read the lyrics of the songs in context to the story, I am nothin short of amazed. My recommendation is to read the script, and utilize the soundtrack at the appropriate times. It really enhances the experience. This book and play alone is magnificent, but coupled with the music of Duncan Shiek it is a masterpiece.

It's a great product for those people like myself who live a while away from New York City and don't have the time or money to get up there anytime soon. There is also a few sketches of the characters' costumes & a really interesting introduction by Stephen about the scenes he added & took off from the original play. All in all a good buy.

this is an AMAZING play and I was so excited to receive this book. I am very happy with the story and songs, but one thing REALLY makes me mad about this book. they mixed up two of the characters' names! two characters from *Spring Awakening*, Ernst and Hanschen's, names are mixed up with two other characters, Otto and Georg. this is a very crucial error, and changes a good bit of the story. now, maybe I've got this wrong and the scene originally had Otto and Georg, and they just changed it. I don't think that's the case, though. I still love this play, though it's a great coming of age story. just keep in mind that the "Word of Your Body" reprise is supposed to be sung by Hanschen and Ernst. NOT Otto and Georg. it will make the book make more sense.

First, get the soundtrack and play the songs as you come across them in the book. It adds so much depth. I can honestly say that I was more affected by this than by *Romeo and Juliet* or many of the other classic teenage tragedies.

When this came in, it was immediately requested by at least five of my friends for some side reading. I had a friend read it while we had downtime at a tournament who was obsessed afterwards. *Spring Awakening* is just a great musical and the book is worth the buy.

Excellent book. EXACTLY line for line from the musical. I highly suggest reading "*Spring's Awakening*" along with this. It is the original version of this play that the musical is based off of.

I had it assigned as a play I had to read to class. But I thoroughly enjoyed it! Reading isn't my my

thing much, but this kept me interested enough that I finished it in one sitting. It is very, very explicit sexually. Just a fair warning.

Water and Sheik did a wonderful adapting Wedekind's 1906 play by the same name. They were able to hold the presence of the time that the play was written but able to add even more of an edge with the contemporary music style of Sheik.

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