



Appropriate and Other Plays

By Branden Jacobs-Jenkins

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"The deftly crafted blend of shocking exaggeration and believability, politeness and fury...makes *Appropriate* land with the kind of thump you rarely encounter in the theater."—*Chicago Tribune*

"So energetic, funny, and entertainingly demented, you can't look away."—*New York* on *An Octoroon*

"Messy, bold, desperately funny, and deeply felt: *Neighbors* is worth getting to know."—*Los Angeles Times*

With deft attention to familial dynamics and a tense undercurrent of socio-political realities, *Appropriate* harkens the likes of Tracy Letts or Sam Shepard, but with Branden Jacobs-Jenkins's unique flair for melodrama and touch of the absurd.

Themes of history and racial politics permeate much of this young playwright's astounding work. This collection also includes the acclaimed play *An Octoroon*, a bombastic theatrical investigation of theater and identity, wherin an old play gives way to a startlingly contemporary piece. The third play, *Neighbors*, uses old minstrelsy tropes to challenge what makes contemporary society comfortable, and asserts pointedly that it shouldn't be.

Branden Jacobs-Jenkins's plays include *An Octoroon*, *Neighbors*, *Appropriate*, *Gloria*, and *War*. He is a playwright-in-residence at Signature Theatre. Recent honors include a 2014 Obie Award for Best New American Play (*An Octoroon* and *Appropriate*).

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Editorial Review

Review

"The deftly crafted blend of shocking exaggeration and believability, politeness and fury...makes Appropriate land with the kind of thump you rarely encounter in the theater."—Chicago Tribune (2014-04-07)

"So energetic, funny, and entertainingly demented, you can't look away."—New York on An Octoroon (2014-04-07)

"Messy, bold, desperately funny, and deeply felt: Neighbors is worth getting to know."—Los Angeles Times (2014-10-03)

About the Author

Branden Jacobs-Jenkins's plays include *An Octoroon*, *Neighbors*, *Appropriate*, *Gloria* and *War*. His work has been seen or will be seen at The Vineyard Theater, The Public Theater, Signature Theatre, Soho Rep, The HighTide Festival (UK), Yale Repertory Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Victory Gardens in Chicago, and Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company in Washington, D.C. He is a Lila Acheson Wallace fellow at the Juilliard School and a playwright-in-residence at Signature Theatre. Recent honors include a 2014 Obie Award for Best New American Play (*An Octoroon* and *Appropriate*), as well as the Tennessee Williams Award, the Paula Vogel Award, and the Helen Merrill Award for Emerging Playwrights.

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