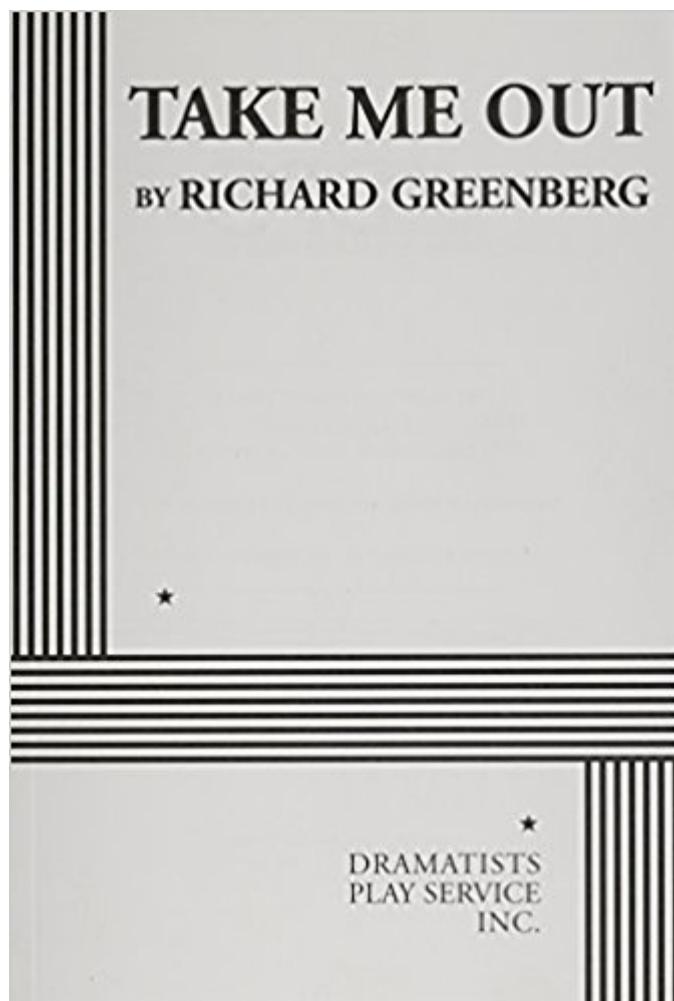


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Take Me Out - Acting Edition



Synopsis

?A funny and troubling look at athletes and identity . . . Take Me Out is a dynamic, involving play.? ?Donald Lyons, New York PostDarren Lemming is the star center fielder for the champion New York Empires. An extraordinary athlete, he fills both his fans and his teammates with awe at his abilities and his presence on the field and off. When he makes the matter-of-fact announcement that he?s gay, he throws his team into turmoil and confusion, while he also emboldens his closeted accountant, Mason Marzac, to come to terms with his own sexuality?and to fully experience the pure joy of watching great athletes play a sport as well as it can be played. But Darren?s announcement brings to the fore the confused and twisted hostilities of the Empires? brilliantly talented but deeply racist and homophobic pitcher, Shane Mungitt?from whose rage tragic consequences ensue. The American premiere of Take Me Out took place at the Public Theater in New York City in September 2002. It will move to the Walter Kerr Theatre on Broadway in February 2003.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a very entertaining play about a gay baseball player that won the 2003 Tony Award for best play. Imagine if Derek Jeter announced he was gay in the middle of the 2000 season. Darren Lemming is the stand-in for Jeter - he is the star, 5-tool center fielder of the 2-time defending champion New York Empires. He is the star of the play, along with Kippy, his closest friend on the team who also serves as a narrator/director in many of the scenes. Kippy is smart and supportive. There are teammates that are neither. Much like WW2 movies of the 1950s, this baseball team is

made up of a number of different racial groups and nationalities. There are Spanish speaking players, an intense Japanese pitcher who can't speak English, and an uneducated white redneck rookie closer (think a dumber John Rocker) who disturbs everything when he announces that he is uncomfortable Lemming taking showers with him. Greenberg does a good job developing the characters and moving the plot along. He even does an excellent job making every character a bit sympathetic, even the homophobic hick. That's the real trick here. It's a fun play - not an all time classic or a world beater, but it is quite good.

Wonderful play. If you can not see it live it is worth reading. As much as gay rights have gotten better we are not at a point of equality yet and this play highlights what is missing while discussing how good society could be.

First saw it onstage, and that was wonderful, but it's still great to read. There are some particularly strong characters in here, and the story is still relevant, perhaps even slightly ahead of its time, from when it was produced.

I saw Take Me Out produced several years ago at the Rep in St. Louis. It is one of my favorites

I normally don't like sports and try to stay away from sport books. But this caught my eye, it sounded so interesting, I had to read it. I instantly fell in love with it. It is very believable and I love all the characters, including Shane Mungitt. I could see his point of view on the whole situation and how scared and confused he is. But my all time favorite character was Mason Marzac's character. He was what made me see baseball in a different light. I still don't like baseball, but it made me think for a minute, which was good. You don't have to know baseball to read this, which is always a good thing. All in all a very good show. HBO should turn this into a movie, I would watch it.

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