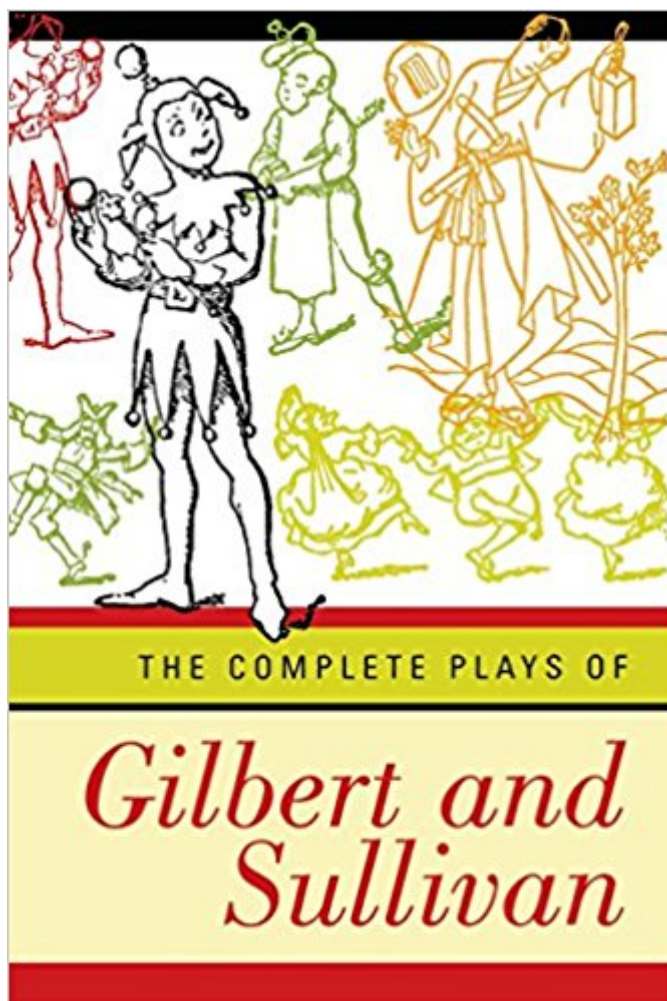


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The Complete Plays Of Gilbert And Sullivan



Synopsis

From *Trial by Jury* to *The Pirates of Penzance*: the complete librettos of all fourteen Gilbert and Sullivan operas. Gilbert's verses for Sullivan's music are the most fastidiously turned and inventively rhymed in all lyric comedy. As the Savoy Operas enter their second century on a swell of renewed popularity, Gilbert's reputation as the supreme wordsmith of light opera remains secure. Complete and authentic, these are the librettos on which modern performances and recordings are based. Scattered among the songs are over seventy of the amusing, quirky pictures Gilbert drew to illustrate them. A chronology prepared for this edition sketches the authors' lives and careers. This is a book that no lover of Gilbert and Sullivan, musical comedy, or indeed the English theater will want to be without.

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Customer Reviews

From *Thespis* to *The Grand Duke*, here are all the words to all the operettas on which William Schenk Gilbert and Arthur Seymour Sullivan collaborated. A fixture in Anglo-American music theater and humor for well over a century, their wit retains its edge after all these years. Norton offers the libretti available in handy, totable book form and generously illustrates them with Gilbert's accomplished pen-and-ink drawings. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Sir William Schwenck Gilbert, KBE, was an English dramatist, librettist, poet and illustrator, best known for his fourteen comic operas produced in collaboration with the composer Sir Arthur

Seymour Sullivan, of which the most famous include H.M.S. Pinafore, The Pirates of Penzance, and The Mikado. Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan, MVO, was an English composer, of Irish and Italian descent, best known for his operatic collaborations with librettist Sir William Schwenck Gilbert, including such continually popular works as H.M.S. Pinafore, The Pirates of Penzance, and The Mikado. Sullivan's artistic output included 23 operas, 13 major orchestral works, eight choral works and oratorios, two ballets, incidental music to several plays, and numerous hymns and other church pieces, songs, parlour ballads, part songs, carols, and piano and chamber pieces.

The complete lyrics and dialogue for 14 Gilbert and Sullivan Operettas. Written during the last half of the nineteenth century, these operettas are funny, entertaining and can easily be adapted to make fun of any current political event (and quite often are). Too grand to be called Musical Theatre and too English to be called Opera, these operettas include such favourites as The Mikado, The Pirates of Penzance, Iolanthe, H.M.S. Pinafore and all the rest. This is the perfect book for Gilbert and Sullivan fans, professional and amateur theatre troops alike. In the Kindle version of this book, the text appears complete, with no errors or omissions. The interactive contents list makes finding the correct play easy, but there is no way to navigate between acts using the 5way controller. There are no pictures in the Kindle version, however, I do not know if there were any in the original. There is limited citation as to which book this was transcribed from. 's title for this work (at time of writing this review) is 'The Complete Plays of Gilbert and Sullivan' however, the book claims to be 'The 14 Gilbert and Sullivan Plays'. A small discrepancy, I know, but I just thought I'd point it out just in case it proves useful to someone.

Text of the Gilbert and Sullivan operettas is still entertaining more than a hundred years later, with the help of a bit of historical and literary knowledge. When I read them now I can hear the music, but that's not essential to the enjoyment of these comic plays. Poobah, a pompous man who is exposed as having lied to the Mikado of Japan explains himself by saying that his tale was "merely corroborative detail intended to lend verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing narrative." Delicious!

This book has been so helpful! I am in a theater group that performs only Gilbert and Sullivan productions, and this has been such a great resource for auditions, rehearsals, and memorizing lines! It's so wonderful to have all of Gilbert and Sullivan's works in one collection! It also a wonderful book to have when looking for witty dialogues to audition with! I thoroughly enjoy having

this book on my kindle and I highly recomend it to any lover of theater or fan of Gilbert and Sullivan!

You know if you want this book simply by the title. It is just what it says it is - Gilbert's songs and librettos without Sullivan's music. This book will not reveal the brilliance of G&S, which comes out only in productions of the plays -- preferably live productions. This book is useful for going back over plays you have seen to refresh your memory, or exploring a less familiar work. Comic works from one era do not usually seem funny a hundred years later, but Sullivan has given Gilbert's humor immortality.

Its wonderful to have this available on my Kindle when I want to figure out exactly which words are being sung or to read the dialogue between songs. My one complaint would be that the table of contents links to each act, rather than each song, making it difficult to find one particular song. Patter songs, for example, are far more likely to require looking up than most other songs in the work. Other than that, though, its quite nice to have.

This is a duplicate of an older format with the classic illustrations. Very readable. I bought it to replace a missing older out-of-print hardback. Just what I wanted.

Classical stuff, still marvelous to read.

It is wonderful to be able to get the complete plays of Gilbert and Sullivan with one click. (Well, actually just Gilbert, since there is no music in this volume, just text.) Unfortunately, the text will only display "centered" on my Kindle, which makes reading a bit difficult. Still, it's a great addition to a reference e-library.

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