



The Collected Plays of Neil Simon, Volume 1: The Odd Couple; Plaza Suite; Barefoot in the Park; Come Blow Your Horn; The Star-Spangled Girl; Last of the Red Hot Lovers; Promises, Promises

By Neil Simon

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"If Broadway ever erects a monument to a patron saint of laughter, Neil Simon will have to be it." —*Time Magazine*

This first volume of **The Collected Plays of Neil Simon** contains the triumphs that put Neil Simon's unique brand of comic genius on the American stage, and made him the most successful playwright of his generation. His mixture of verbal wit and beautifully crafted farce, ethnic humor and insight into universal foible, and above all compassion and understanding, make even his sharpest barbs touch the heart as well as the funny bone. These seven plays, beginning with his unforgettable debut, **Come Blow Your Horn**, make us laugh uproariously even as we indelibly identify with the objects of our laughter.

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- Sales Rank: #72854 in Books
- Brand: Plume Books
- Published on: 1986-11-01
- Released on: 1986-11-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.97" h x 1.71" w x 6.00" l, 1.76 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 672 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

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About the Author

Since 1960, a Broadway season without a Neil Simon comedy or musical has been a rare one. His first play was **Come Blow Your Horn**, followed by the musical **Little Me**. During the 1966-67 season, **Barefoot in the Park**, **The Odd Couple**, **Sweet Charity**, and **The Star-Spangled Girl** were all running simultaneously; in the 1970-71 season, Broadway theatergoers had their choice of **Plaza Suite**, **Last of the Red Hot Lovers**, and **Promises, Promises**. Next came **The Gingerbread Lady**, **The Prisoner of Second Avenue**, **The Sunshine Boys**, **The Good Doctor**, **God's Favorite**, **California Suite**, **Chapter Two**, the musical **They're Playing Our Song**, **I Ought to Be in Pictures**, **Brighton Beach Memoirs** (which won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best Play of 1983), **Biloxi Blues** (which won the Tony Award for Best Play of 1985), and the female version of **The Odd Couple**.

Mr. Simon began his writing career in television, writing **The Phil Silvers Show** and Sid Caesar's **Your Show of Shows**. He has also written the screen adaptations of **Barefoot in the Park**, **The Odd Couple**, **Plaza Suite**, **The Prisoner of Second Avenue**, **The Sunshine Boys**, **California Suite**, **Chapter Two**, and **I Ought to Be in Pictures**. His original screenplays include **The Out-of-Towners**, **The Heartbreak Kid**, **Murder by Death**, **The Goodbye Girl**, **The Cheap Detective**, **Seems Like Old Times**, **Only When I Laugh**, **Max Dugan Returns**, and **The Slugger's Wife**. He received the Tony Award and the Pulitzer Prize in 1991 for **Lost in Yonkers**.

The author lives in California and New York. He is married to Diane Lander and has three daughters, Ellen, Nancy, and Bryn.

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