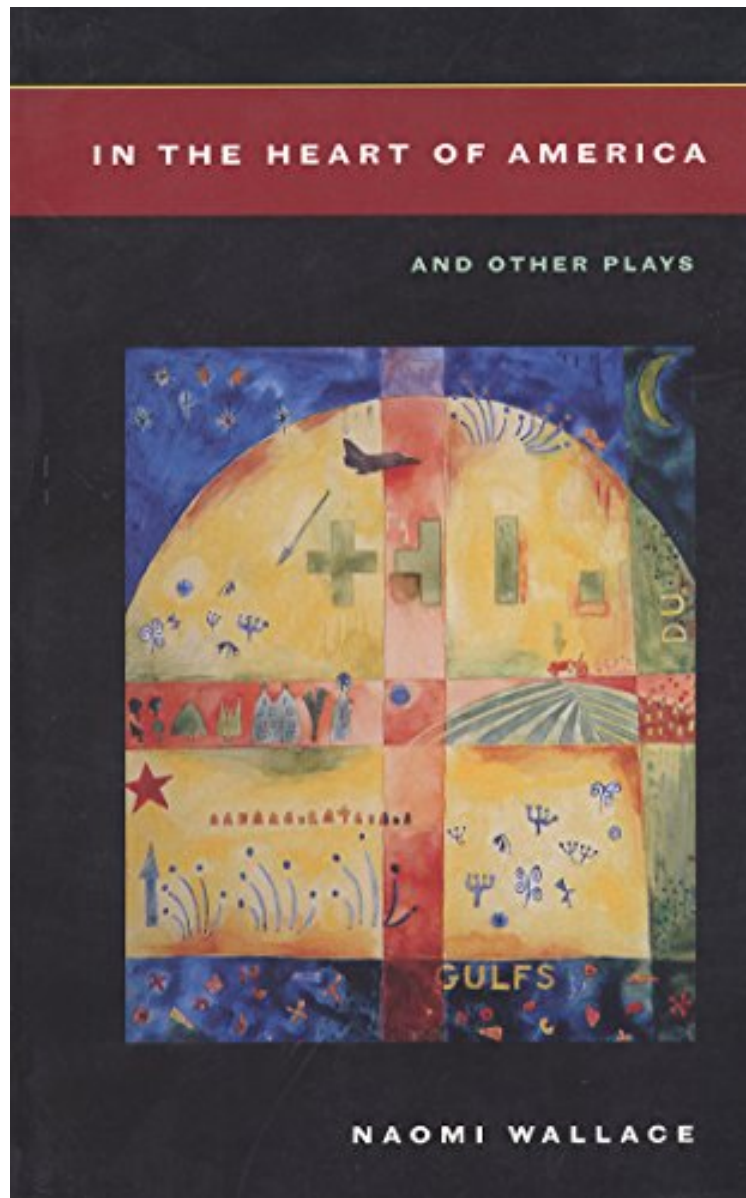


(Mobile book) In the Heart of America and Other Plays

In the Heart of America and Other Plays

Naomi Wallace

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Naomi Wallace : In the Heart of America and Other Plays before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In the Heart of America and Other Plays:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. an impressive collection of plays by a modern masterBy spacedoga collection of plays. i first became aware of wallace when my university did one flea spare, which i was extremely

impressed with for its depth, creativity, emotional focus, and brechtian wit. i really enjoyed one flea spare on the printed page; i truly believe this is a play that deserves to be put in the same class as the other american greats, such death of a salesman, mourning becomes electra, and the crucible. in one flea spare the action involves four people impatiently waiting out a quarantine sentence at the time of the great plague in london and its themes include the loss of innocence and class and gender struggles. the final play, trestle at pope lick creek, is definitely the second best of the plays. set in a rural community, the play's unflinching look at a world of poverty and lack of opportunity is chilling and memorable. there were parts of the other 3 plays that were also well done, although in general they were not as tightly scripted. it is interesting to see wallace's general style becomes more apparent in reading these plays, in her language and her use of such devices as playing with time. in the heart of america is set during the gulf war and the the war boys concerns three men watching the mexican-american border for illegal immigrants. slaughter city is about workers in a slaughtering factory who are trying to preserve their union. all in all this is definitely an impressive collection of plays by a modern master.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. but I find Wallace's writing skillful in how it integrates good writing with thought-provoking ideasBy Courtney SmithI adore this collection of plays. Some might be put off by how forcefully political they are, but I find Wallace's writing skillful in how it integrates good writing with thought-provoking ideas. Instead of merely projecting ideas she agrees with, she plays with them by bouncing them off her characters. I can't recommend this collection highly enough.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Convincing People Locked in Love or HateBy Kathy PhillipsTwo of the plays in this collection of five were "blew-me-away" top-notch: "In the Heart of America" and "Trestle at Pope Lick Creek." Wallace has two amazing talents that you don't always find together: an astute understanding of big social situations (such as wars) and the ability to express social issues only through their effects on totally believable people. As soon as she puts two characters together on the stage, they are locked in an intense emotional relationship, love or hate, and they draw the audience right away into caring about them. "In the Heart of America" focuses on characters in the Iraq War (with appearances from a few hold-overs from the Vietnam War), and to say that Wallace "understands" military training doesn't praise highly enough how we see that humiliation and transferred anger wrecking people. "Trestle" shows two young people stuck in economic hard times, and their tentative efforts, to love and dare, make us root for them and dread for them . Two superb plays!

Naomi Wallace's plays speak the underside of life. Her characters suffer and survive against the enormous weight of the times with a dignity that inspires. Her work challenges the audience and reader to reexamine the conflicts and meaning of our everyday lives through her singular, poetic imagery and language.Includes: One Flea SpareIn the Heart of AmericaSlaughter CityThe War BoysThe Trestle at Pope's Creek

About the AuthorNaomi Wallace is from Kentucky. She was a 1999 recipient of the prestigious MacArthur Fellowship, the grant popularly known as the genius award. A published poet in both England and The United States, she has also received grants from The Kentucky Foundation for Women and The Kentucky Arts Council and a 1997 NEA grant for poetry.