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## Lost in Yonkers (Drama, Plume)

By Neil Simon



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**Lost in Yonkers (Drama, Plume)** By Neil Simon

**Neil Simon's inimitable play about the trials and tribulations that test family ties – winner of the 1991 Pulitzer Prize for Drama**

What happens to children in the absence of love? That is the question that lies at the heart of this funny and heartrending play by one of America's most acclaimed and beloved playwrights. Debuting at the Richard Rodgers Theatre in 1990, *Lost in Yonkers* went on to win four Tony Awards, including Best Play, as well as the Pulitzer Prize, and tells the moving drama about the cruelties and painful memories that scar a family.

It is New York, 1942. After the death of their mother, two young brothers are sent to stay with their formidable grandmother for the longest ten months of their lives. Grandmother Kurnitz is a one-woman German front—a refugee and a widow who has steeled her heart against the world. Her coldness and intolerance have crippled her own children: the boys' father has no self-esteem . . . their Aunt Gert has an embarrassing speech impediment . . . their Uncle Louie is a small-time gangster . . . and their Aunt Bella has the mentality of a child. But it is Bella's hunger for affection and her refusal to be denied love that saves the boys—and that leads to an unforgettable, wrenching confrontation with her mother. Filled with laughter, tears, and insight, *Lost in Yonkers* is yet another heartwarming testament to Neil Simon's talent.



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## **Lost in Yonkers (Drama, Plume) By Neil Simon Bibliography**

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

Simon's 1991 Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning play about two young boys who are forced to live for a year with their domineering, ill-tempered grandmother while their father takes a job in another state is beautifully realized by the L.A. Theatre Works cast. Like most of Simon's works, this one features an eccentric cast of characters. Listeners meet Aunt Gert (played by Gia Carides), whose voice frequently switches into a wheeze midsentence, and Uncle Louie (played by Dan Castellaneta), a Bogart-like gangster. This production realizes Simon's trademark mix of comedy and drama: the one-liners are hilarious, but the characters' sad, dysfunctional relationships are poignant. The compassionate, three-dimensional performances, combined with Simon's nuanced writing and authentic rendering of 1940s speech, make the listener fully believe in these realistic, complex characters. Standout performers include Roxanne Hart as the boys' kindhearted but nervous Aunt Bella and Barbara Bain as Grandma Kurnitz, whose tough, coldhearted exterior is a reaction to a lifetime of devastating pain and loss. Also excellent are Ben Diskin and Kenneth Schmidt as the young boys. At first lonely and miserable, fearing and hating their stern grandmother, they gradually come to respect and understand her. Based on the Random House hardcover.

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From School Library Journal

YA-- An insightful drama about one woman's drive and its emotional toll on her and her family. Grandma Kurnitz has endured many crises, ranging from a harsh childhood in Germany to being a young widow with six children in a foreign country. From her life she learned to be strong, hard, and cold, and this is the lesson she tries to instill in her four remaining children. While her two teenage grandsons are in her care, the three learn the importance of being loved and loving, and the difference between living and surviving. The themes of family ties and the search for love should strike a responsive chord with many young adults.

*Patricia A. Long, R.E. Lee High School, Springfield*

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Review

"Neil Simon has done it again, with a craftsmanship and skill probably unmatched in the contemporary English-speaking theater." —Clive Barnes, *New York Post*

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

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Louise Hacker:**

The publication with title Lost in Yonkers (Drama, Plume) possesses a lot of information that you can understand it. You can get a lot of advantage after read this book. That book exist new knowledge the information that exist in this e-book represented the condition of the world now. That is important to yo7u to

understand how the improvement of the world. This book will bring you throughout new era of the glowbal growth. You can read the e-book with your smart phone, so you can read that anywhere you want.

**Jessica Rodriguez:**

Exactly why? Because this Lost in Yonkers (Drama, Plume) is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap that but latter it will jolt you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such awesome way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book include such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to delay having that book? If I were being you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

**Pedro Gonzales:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray you, why because this Lost in Yonkers (Drama, Plume) guide written by well-known writer we are excited for well how to make book that could be understand by anyone who else read the book. Written in good manner for you, dripping every ideas and composing skill only for eliminate your current hunger then you still hesitation Lost in Yonkers (Drama, Plume) as good book not simply by the cover but also with the content. This is one e-book that can break don't ascertain book by its deal with, so do you still needing one more sixth sense to pick this!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to yet another sixth sense.

**Marcie Johnson:**

Many people spending their period by playing outside along with friends, fun activity with family or just watching TV all day long. You can have new activity to shell out your whole day by studying a book. Ugh, ya think reading a book will surely hard because you have to accept the book everywhere? It alright you can have the e-book, having everywhere you want in your Smartphone. Like Lost in Yonkers (Drama, Plume) which is finding the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's find.

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