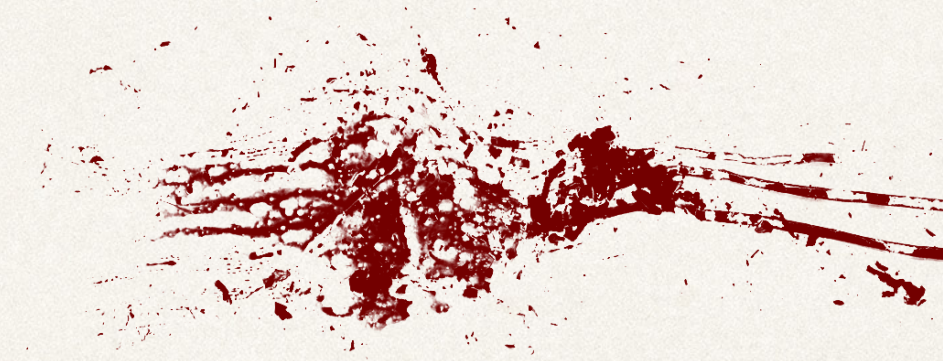
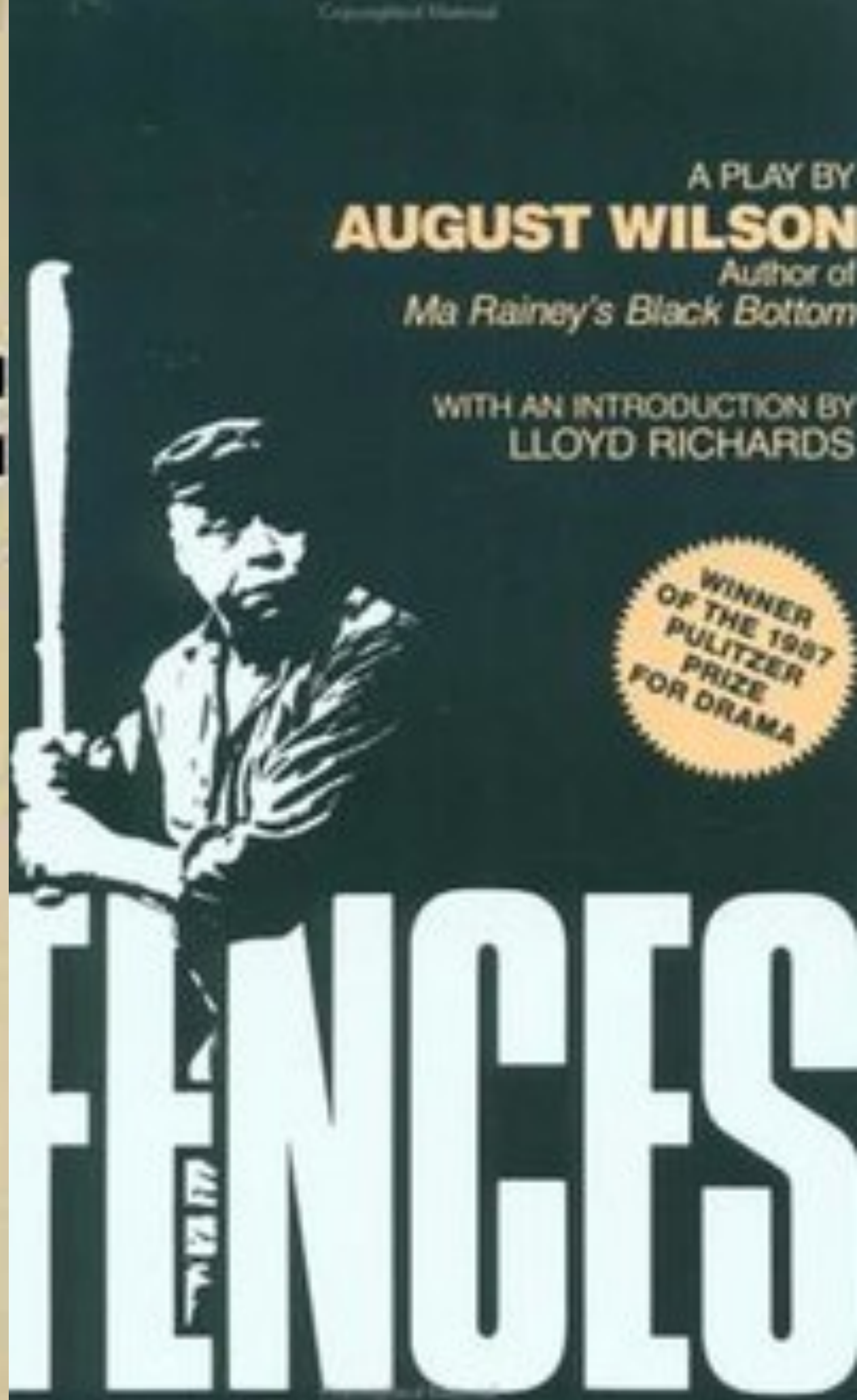
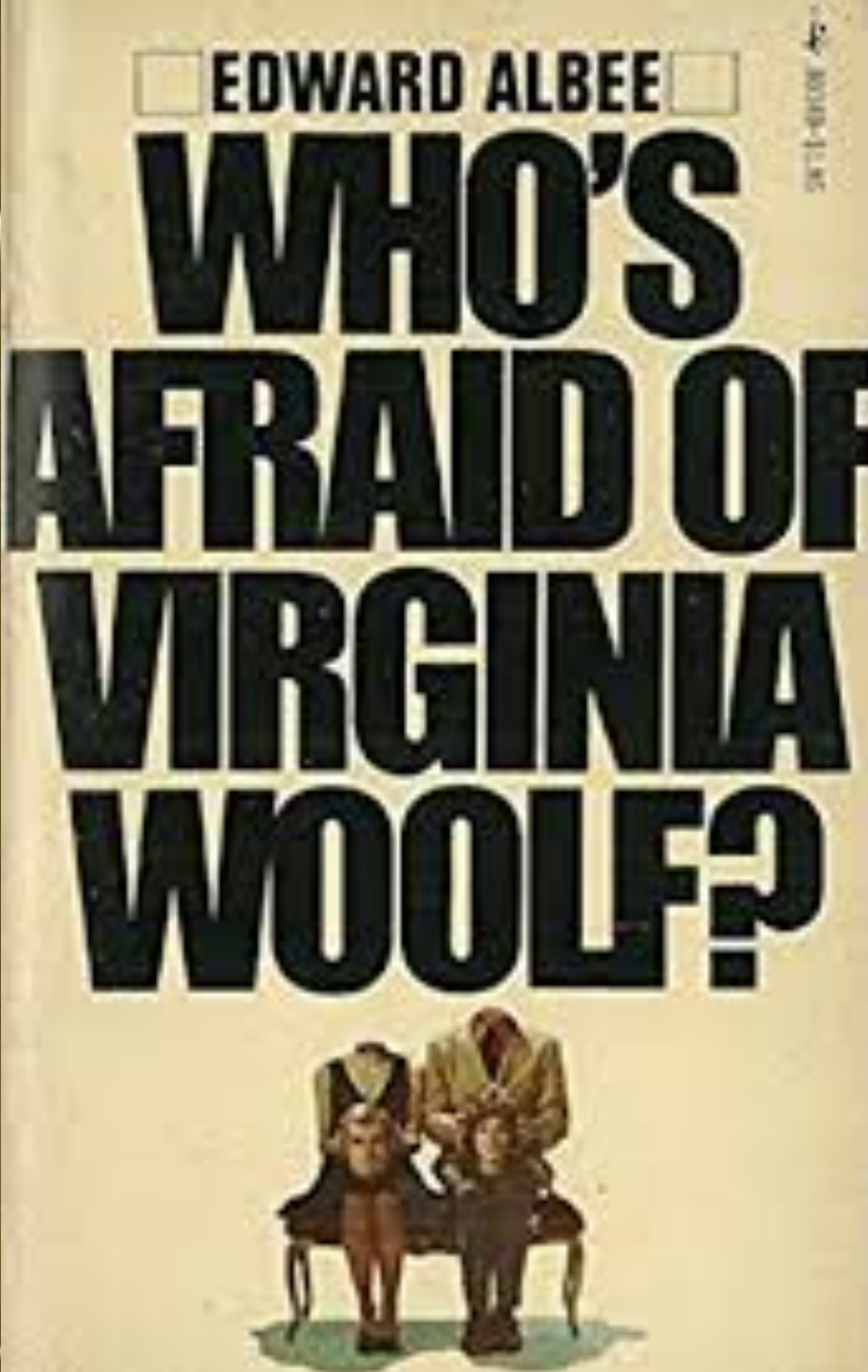
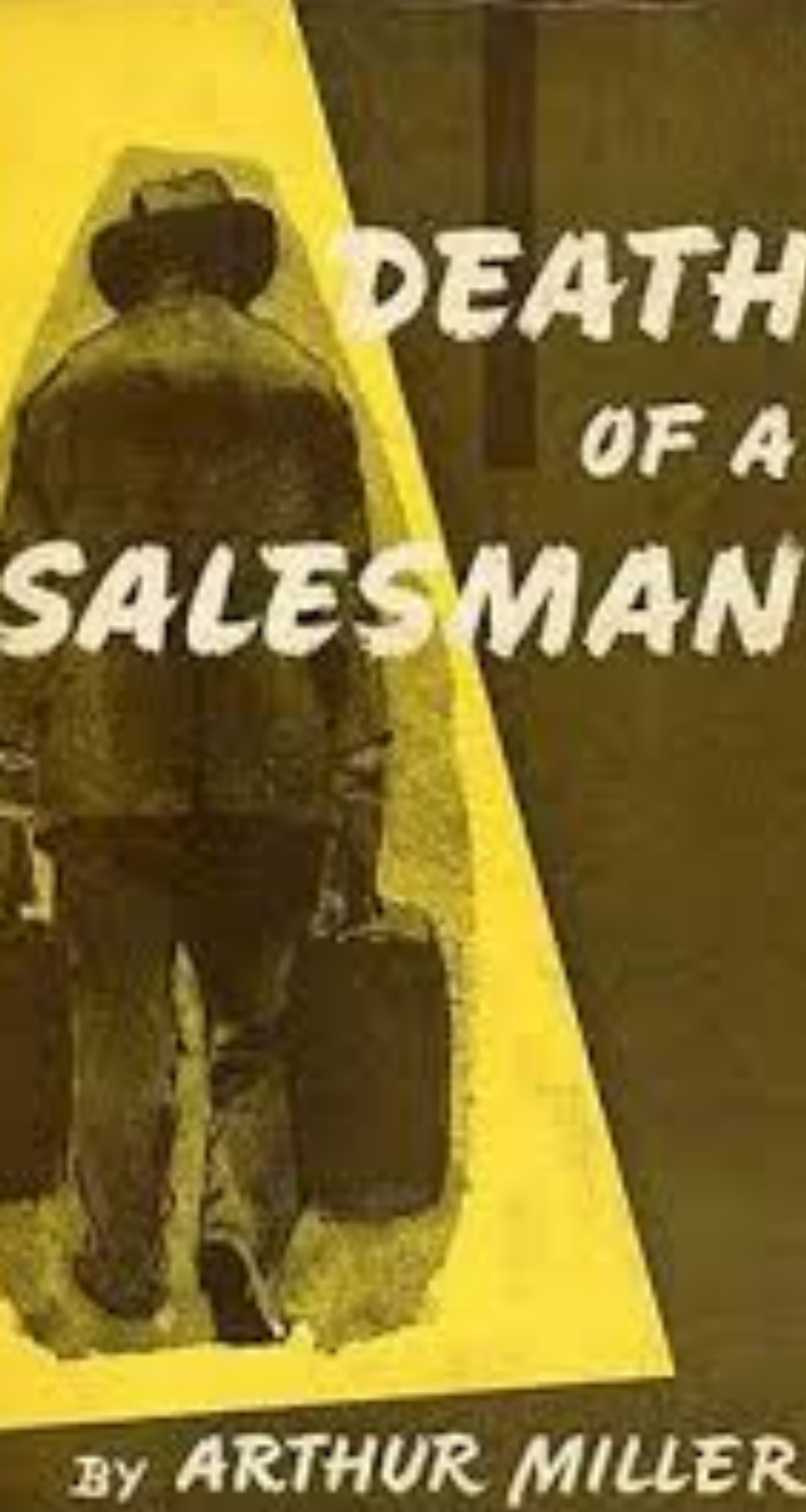




Birdy by Casey J. Adler

A play in three acts.





Logline

While piano teacher Birdy Warlo teaches her pupil, her estranged daughter Jakari returns home with a bombshell request: sign the divorce papers to Birdy's second husband so Jakari can marry him.



Why should this play be produced?

- ❖ Every story teaches us about ourselves, no matter its content. Self and society go hand in hand. Therefore, in order for this play to reach audiences cathartically, we must understand why we're producing it. Society is filled with families; families are the way we learn about society.
- ❖ American Society is a complex phrase, so if we focus on one family—the Warlo Family—we might learn a little more about American Society.
- ❖ The Warlo Family is filled with love and destruction — two historical ingredients of America.
- ❖ The Warlo Family is comprised of three giant personalities: Birdy, Jakari, and DeeDee. If Birdy represents destruction, her daughter Jakari represents love. Standing in the middle is DeeDee, the one proclaiming forgiveness. But forgiveness is only addressed, when grievances are aired — something American Society and thus, the Warlo Family struggle to understand.

Birdy Warlo

Piano teacher. Alcoholic. Abusive Parent. Atheist.

Birdy's mental instability and desire to control her surroundings leads to unspoken disaster in the Warlo Family.

Tamiko Washington

Professor Tamiko Washington holds an M.F.A. in Acting from the University of California, Irvine. Her seventeen-year history as an accomplished actor, voice, and movement teacher lead her to originate American Noh Theatre based on the traditional movements of Japanese Noh Theatre and Suzuki Master Tadashi Suzuki. She continues to perform her (twelve-year) highly acclaimed one-woman show *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* by Harriet Ann Jacobs. Her performance of the Nurse in *Romeo and Juliet* with Shakespeare Orange County in 2007 won critical acclaim in the *Los Angeles Times*. She also has appeared in notable Actors' Equity Association performances at South Coast Repertory, the Old Globe Theatre, the Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company, Shakespeare Orange County, Stages Theatre, the Vanguard Theatre, and Pacific Theatre Ensemble, among others.





Jakari

Independence. Abuse. Wry humor. Motherhood.

Jakari needs one thing: to get her mother to sign the divorce papers so she can marry the love of her life, Stefan.

Charmee Taylor

Charmee is a BroadwayWorld Nominated actress for best leading actress in a play. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Acting from Pennsylvania State University. Charmee also studied acting at the National Theatre School of Ireland Gaiety School of Acting and studied theatre in London at the International Education of Students.





DeeDee

Republican. Christian. Responsibility. Sisterhood.

Dee returns to her sister to help with the daily needs of Birdy's house arrest.

Lee Sherman

Lee can be seen as Aunt Haleemah in the upcoming digital series, 'East Of La Brea' from writer Sameer Gardezi (Modern Family, Outsourced) and Paul Feig's (Laura Fischer - CEO) media production company, Powderkeg. Lee recently wrapped her first special effects role in the upcoming short film, 'Dispel' from award winning writer/director Kylie Eaton. Theatre Credits: Un-Rule-Lee (Off-Broadway), Denver Center Theatre. Lee has received favorable reviews in Stage and Cinema. Los Angeles Times, LA Weekly, and Backstage.





James Morris / Playwright

Ex-con. Pianist. Amateur. Counselor.

James wants nothing more than to become a great pianist under Birdy's tutelage.

Casey J. Adler

Adler quickly established himself as a character actor in Hollywood with recurring guest stars on Freeform's critically acclaimed show *Bunheads*, FOX's *Grandfathered*, Dan Fogelman's *NBA Pilot*, the indie film *Juveniles*, and a screen test with the legend Robert De Niro.

As a writer, he co-wrote the children's book *Yorkietown* that is currently being turned into a series as well as a rom-com screenplay in the works with Elliot Smith--producer for the new acclaimed film *Cut Throat City*.



Playwright Statement

I wrote this play for one important reason, I wanted to act with my mentor Tamiko Washington. I received my BFA in theatre performance from Chapman University and while attending, Professor Washington was my greatest influence. Her teachings stressed imagination, moment-to-moment work, confidence, and acting for something higher than oneself. After directing me in countless productions at Chapman including Hedda Gabler, I yearned to perform with a truly great actor: Tamiko Washington. BUT...I could not find a single play that fit our unique physical attributes. So, we started a theatre company called Actors Circle Ensemble, where she directed Indian Wants the Bronx, Tom & Jerry, and American Noh Theatre at such terrific venues as Stella Adler, Ivy Substation, and South Coast Rep. However, I was still determined to find a way to perform with Tamiko. After years of searching for plays and failing, I began writing the first draft, of what became, Birdy. Seven years later, we're here.

Casey J. Adler





Birdy
Family
Adultery
Politics
Music
Murder
Violence
Peace
Human
Intrude
Help

Justice
Strangers
Sisters
Religion
Honesty
Hate
Love
Gang
Black
Faith

