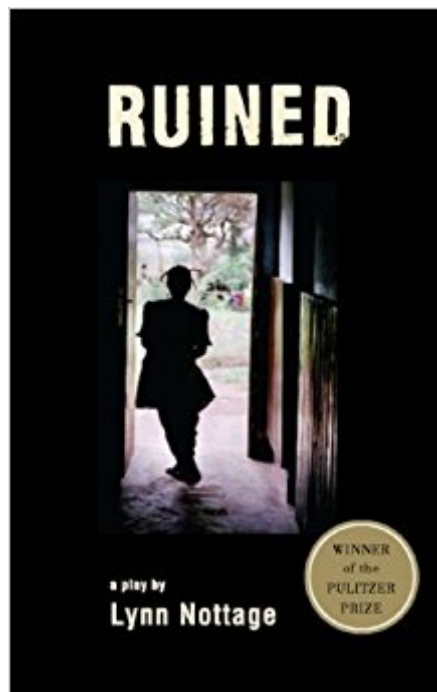


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Ruined (TCG Edition)



Synopsis

Winner of the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for Drama—A powerhouse drama. . . . Lynn Nottage's beautiful, hideous and unpretentiously important play [is] a shattering, intimate journey into faraway news reports. —Linda Winer, *Newsday*—An intense and gripping new drama . . . the kind of new play we desperately need: well-informed and unafraid of the world's brutalities. Nottage is one of our finest playwrights, a smart, empathetic and daring storyteller who tells a story an audience won't expect. —David Cote, *Time Out New York*—A rain forest bar and brothel in the brutally war-torn Congo is the setting for Lynn Nottage's extraordinary new play. The establishment's shrewd matriarch, Mama Nadi, keeps peace between customers from both sides of the civil war, as government soldiers and rebel forces alike choose from her inventory of women, many already ruined by rape and torture when they were pressed into prostitution. Inspired by interviews she conducted in Africa with Congo refugees, Nottage has crafted an engrossing and uncommonly human story with humor and song served alongside its postcolonial and feminist politics in the rich theatrical tradition of Bertolt Brecht's *Mother Courage*. Lynn Nottage's plays include *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*, *Fabulation*, and *Intimate Apparel*, winner of the American Theatre Critics' Steinberg New Play Award and the Francesca Primus Prize. Her plays have been widely produced, with *Intimate Apparel* receiving more productions than any other play in America during the 2005-2006 season.

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Customer Reviews

A brothel can be a battlefield as much as anywhere else. Lynn Nottage's "Ruined" is a script for a play that has won several best plays of 2009 awards. Set in a Congo brothel during a civil war, "Ruined" tells of the plight of the women, when the men seem to care only about power and little else. "Ruined" proves why it's acclaimed, offering much food for thought in its text form.

Simply put ... this is one of the best plays I've ever read! Beautiful, brutal, hopeful, angry - this is a masterpiece. I've been a theatre director for over twenty-five years and there are only a handful of plays that I couldn't put down once I'd started reading - William M. Hoffman's "As Is", Tony Kushner's "Angels In America - Millennium Approaches" and John Patrick Shanley's "Doubt, come to mind. Nattage's "Ruined" is far and away one of the best I've come across in a long time. What a way to start 2010!

I had to read this book for a college theater class and fell in love with it. I had a hard time putting it down because it really does raise awareness of civil war in other countries, especially the Congo. This play reads incredibly easily, almost like a novel. It's hard putting each character to a face at first but as you continue reading the personalities blossom and it's easy to establish who is who. The worst part is though, that it's hard to see which side of the revolution is right because the egregious things BOTH of them do. This play captivates the audience on the poor women caught in the middle.

Could it be any more depressing? I realize it is important that everyone know the horrors that are happening in the world today. But in this play even the positive things that could have happened are stopped by circumstance.

Perfect piece for any college or community theater to take on! Believable characters, and creates a wonderful chance to challenge the audience and to dialogue with others about the affects of war not just on countries but individuals. Powerful piece! Wish I could be in this or direct it!

Such a strong story and so beautifully written. The final scenes still resonate with me. Why do wars always begin and end with the women? as if those who possess the women are those who possess the power.

One of the best plays written. I saw it performed and I read it and its get better and better each time i

read it. Anyone wanting to touch the heartbeat of what is going on in the world should pick this up. Changing the world everyday. Amazing work

A friend saw this play and gave it rave reviews. So I bought it, read the first page, and didn't pick it up for a year and a half because I was afraid of what it would do to me to read it. When I finally got the courage to pick it up and finish it I was annoyed that I hadn't done so sooner. Nottage is the real deal.

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