

Measures Taken and Other Lehrstücke: Modern Masterpieces



Measures Taken and Other Lehrstücke (Modern Plays)

by Bertolt Brecht

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English

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Bertolt Brecht was one of the most influential playwrights of the 20th century. His plays are known for their sharp social commentary, their experimental form, and their enduring relevance. *Measures Taken and Other Lehrstücke* is a collection of four of Brecht's most important plays, each of which explores a different aspect of the human condition.

The title play, *Measures Taken*, is a powerful indictment of the Soviet Union's Stalinist regime. The play tells the story of a group of young Communists who are tasked with carrying out a political assassination. As they grapple with the moral implications of their actions, they begin to question the very nature of the revolution they are fighting for.

The other three plays in the collection are equally thought-provoking. *The Mother* is a compassionate portrait of a working-class woman who struggles to raise her children in the face of poverty and oppression. *The Decision* is a parable about the importance of collective action, while *The Exception and the Rule* is a cautionary tale about the dangers of unchecked power.

Measures Taken and Other Lehrstücke is a challenging and rewarding collection of plays that offer a unique perspective on the human condition. Brecht's plays are essential reading for anyone interested in theater, drama, or politics.

About the Author

Bertolt Brecht was born in Augsburg, Germany, in 1898. He began writing plays in his early twenties, and his first major success was *The Threepenny Opera*, which premiered in 1928. Brecht was a committed Marxist, and his plays often reflected his political beliefs. He was forced to flee Germany in 1933 after the Nazis came to power, and he spent the rest of his life in exile. Brecht died in Berlin in 1956.

Themes

The plays in *Measures Taken and Other Lehrstücke* explore a wide range of themes, including:

- Social justice
- Political responsibility
- The nature of power
- The importance of collective action

- The dangers of unchecked power

Style

Brecht's plays are known for their experimental form. He often used non-traditional techniques, such as music, dance, and film, to create a unique theatrical experience. Brecht's plays are also known for their didacticism, or their intention to teach a moral or political lesson.

Relevance

The plays in *Measures Taken and Other Lehrstücke* continue to be relevant today. They offer a sharp critique of the social and political problems of our time, and they challenge us to think critically about the world around us.

Measures Taken and Other Lehrstücke is a powerful and thought-provoking collection of plays that offer a unique perspective on the human condition. Brecht's plays are essential reading for anyone interested in theater, drama, or politics.



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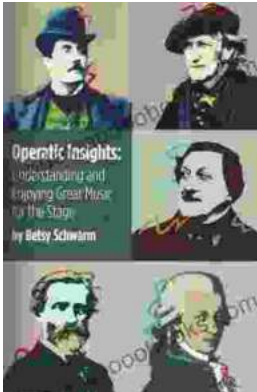
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