

Coward in an Hour (Playwrights in an Hour)

Howard Kissel



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Coward in an Hour (Playwrights in an Hour) Howard Kissel BOOK SYNOPSIS

Noel Coward was a child when he saw an advertisement in the Daily Mirror calling on "a talented boy of attractive appearance" to act a lead role in a play about fairies called *The Goldfish*. Coward reasoned: I am "a talented boy, God knows, and, when washed and smarmed down a bit, passably attractive." The plays director, the young boy thought, would be a fool indeed to miss the magnificent opportunity of having him in the cast. He ran to his room to put his acting clothes on and prepare for the audition--and with that same blithe spirit, Coward went on to write some of the funniest, wittiest plays of the twentieth century.

Setting the playwright in context to his personal life, social, historical and political events, other writers of influence, and more, you will quickly gain a deep understanding of Coward and the plays he wrote. Read *Coward in an Hour* and experience his plays like never before. Know the playwright, love the play!

SELLING POINTS The book features: Coward in an Hour, the main essay of the book Coward in a Minute, a snapshot chronology A complete listing of Coward's work A list of Coward's contemporaries in all fields Excerpts from Coward's significant works An extensive bibliography grouped according to type of reader An index of the main essay.

THE SERIES

Playwrights in an Hour is a series devoted to the most produced and studied playwrights in the English language, from the Greek masters to contemporary writers, and written by leading authorities in the field. Each short book places the playwright and his or her work in historical, social, and literary context.

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Antione Wilson:

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Barbara Watson:

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