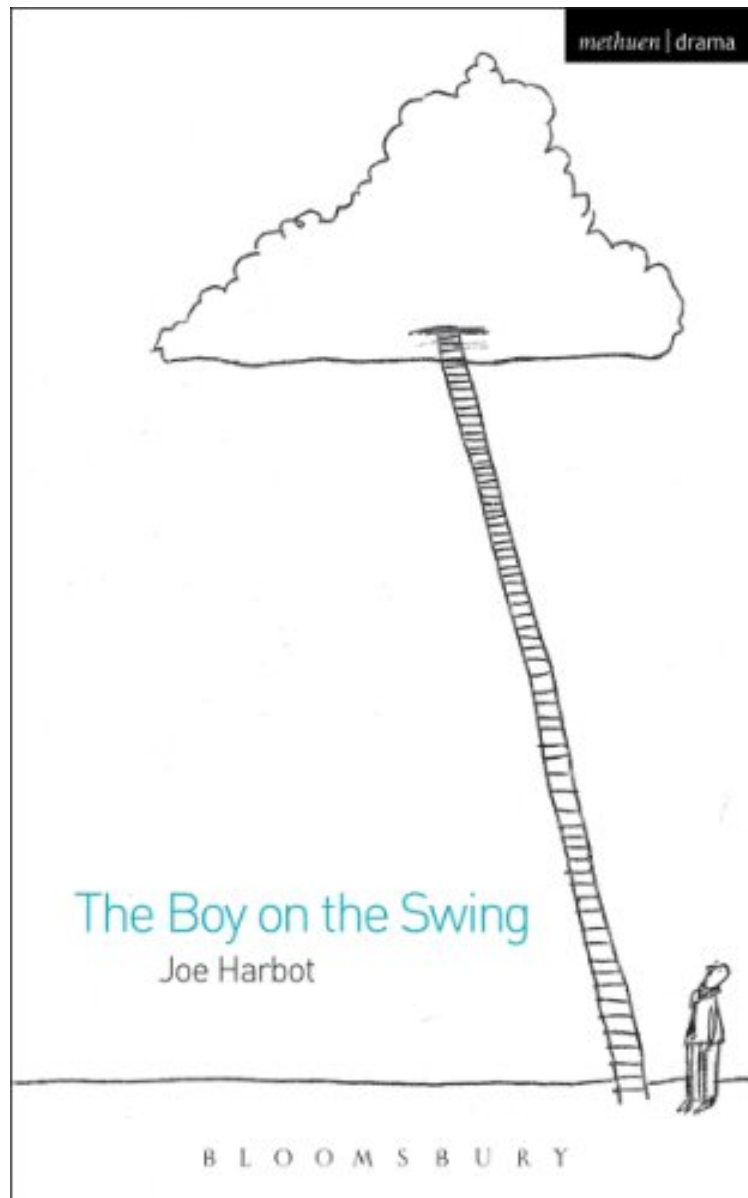


(Read ebook) The Boy on the Swing (Modern Plays)

The Boy on the Swing (Modern Plays)

Joe Harbot

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Joe Harbot : The Boy on the Swing (Modern Plays) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Boy on the Swing (Modern Plays):

The Boy on the Swing portrays an individual in the throes of a corporation with intimidating authority and an almost inexplicable leverage to trap and injure. Upon finding a mysterious business card labelled 'Talk to God' in the street,

protagonist Earl Hunt comes into contact with the Hope and Trust Foundation which offers the chance to meet God - for a price. After submitting credit card details during a bafflingly threatening phone interview, Earl proceeds to a visit to the Hope and Trust office full of unfathomable power games which alternate between geniality and intimidating menace. The promised meeting with 'God' arrives when, in a dingy room, Earl finally comes into contact with an old man of 85. From the pseudo business-evangelical spiel of the Hope and Trust Foundation to the frugal simplicity of the man presented as God, Joe Harbot's range and pace is cleverly broad and elusive. From a set-up which subtly suggests the mercenary exploitation of the lost and the lonely, the play's arc turns to darker and stranger themes of metaphysical significance. *The Boy on the Swing* is an enigmatic piece of writing, sometimes baffling and sometimes blackly funny. For all its bizarre and perplexing notes, the play has a smart, dark sense of humour and grapples with abstract, preternatural questions.

...Joe Harbot's kooky comedy combines Kafkaesque bewilderment with the daftness of Douglas Adams. Straightening out vast metaphysical paradoxes into consumer-friendly language results in some cracking gags. It's more than a string of jokes, however, and Harbot neatly skewers the commodification of faith. -- Matt Trueman * *Time Out London*

*About the Author Playwright Joe Harbot wrote his first play, *Gathered Dust and Dead Skin*, when he was just fifteen and has recently graduated from the Royal Court's Young Writers' Program. His other plays include *A Sock in the Wash* (Live Theatre, Newcastle), *Fish Missing* (Theatre 503, Battersea), *The Running Machine* (rehearsed reading, Royal Court Upstairs) and *This Way Up* (Live Theatre, Newcastle). He has also had a short film, *Linked*, which was produced in 2007.