

The ~~EXES~~

DIVORCE HAS
NEVER BEEN
THIS MUCH FUN

A NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT:

I believe laughter is the single, most powerful unifying human expression, second only to unconditional love. We need more plays that allow us to laugh, be silly, make fun of ourselves and just let our hair down. I wrote this play as my homage to two playwriting giants who understood this: Neil Simon and Noel Coward— with a nod to Mel Brooks and George Carlin. I worked diligently to create an intelligent, tightly written, fast-paced comedy with a heart— honoring conventional playwriting structure, comedic timing and funny as well as irreverent devices so that my audiences —your audiences— can laugh.

I'm proud of this play. And thankful to have been able to have this Off Broadway run. I know you will enjoy putting the production together. And I'm more than happy to attend your performance, scheduling permitting, and help advise you or answer questions.

Lenore M. Skomal



Photos by EmilyHewittPhotography.com

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Written by award-winning author Lenore Skomal
and directed by Magda S. Nyiri

Played 60 performances off-Broadway at New York's Theatre Row, Aug-Oct, 2019.

It's self-made billionaire Richard Killingworth's daughter's big day! The last person he wants to see is his estranged wife Mavis—the woman who put the “ex” in “exes.” Celebrating with his best friend Dick, who happens to be Mavis' first husband, Richard's life turns upside down when the Queen of Chaos drops in, unannounced, with her new fiancé in tow. Throw in a sharp-tongued butler (um, house manager), a champagne-soaked bridezilla and a snarky stepson, and you have the perfect storm of pandemonium—the fun kind—in this comedy with a heart, reminding us why marriage and divorce make for the strangest of bedfellows.

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KEY INSIGHTS ABOUT THE EXES

The themes in this play are vital and relevant to all ages and all times, set within the framework of a comedy with layers of satire thrown in:

- One man's reluctant hero's journey to find his own truth.
- The ludicrousness of extreme wealth and power.
- The ultimate realization that love is what matters most, no matter how it is packaged.



A few notes worth mentioning:

- This play was written with community theatres in mind. It's supposed to reach the masses, as art should be accessible to all and at a reasonable cost. This play is easily affordable by community-funded theatres.

Toward that end:

- It's a one set play with no significant costume changes. (While the costumes are formal wear, who in your community doesn't have an old wedding dress they can donate? What tuxedo shop doesn't have old inventory to lend?)
- It requires a conventional mature cast: 5 men, 2 women (no children). Since many community theatres have older actors, this is a perfect play to mine that talent since five of the seven characters are over 50.
- It's simple set design that can utilize existing props and set pieces: Living room and hallway of a penthouse apartment. While the Off-Broadway production utilized a conventional and realistic interpretation, this play can and I'd even suggest it should be interpreted conceptually with a minimal set suggesting extreme wealth.
- The play is written with an intermission, but it's run time is 1:50. Conceivably, the intermission could be shortened or eliminated.
- The original music is provided at a small additional fee and includes one bridge for the entire show, including the pantomime scene, and preshow/intermission mixes. While helpful and meant to make this easier for your production, it is not essential to your production and you can certainly create your own sound cues.



Ready to learn more about bringing The Exes to your theatre?
Email us at TheExes.OffBroadway@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

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