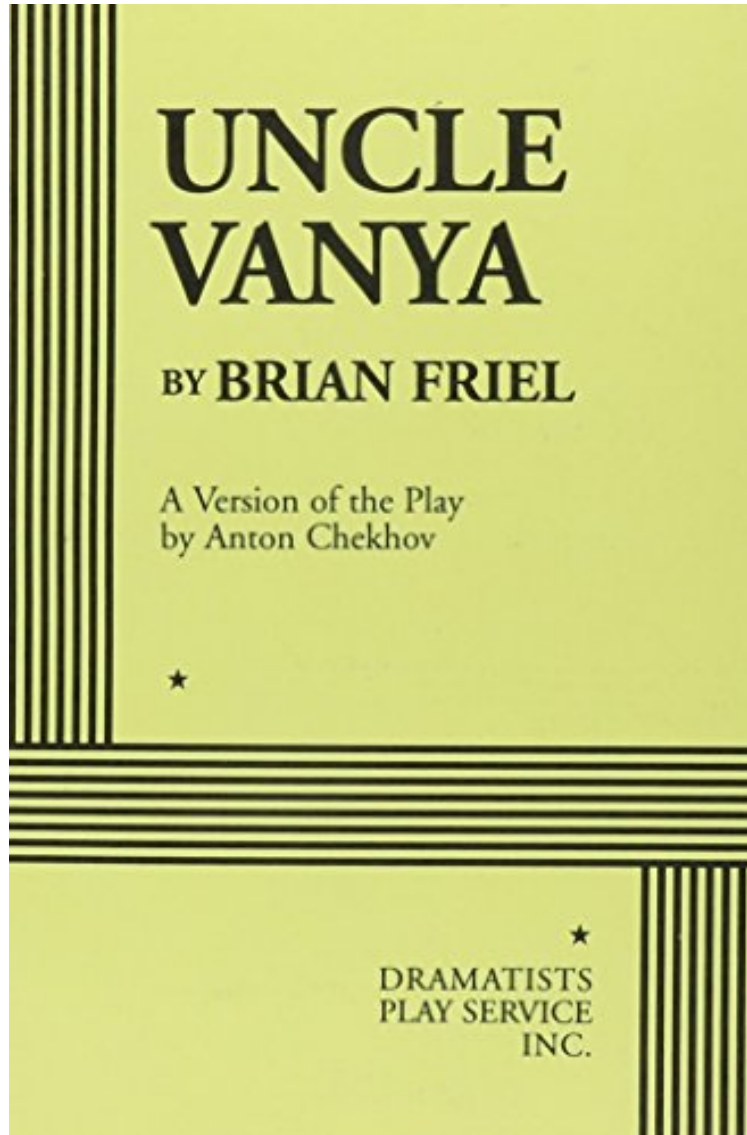


[Mobile ebook] Uncle Vanya: A Version of the Play by Anton Chekhov

Uncle Vanya: A Version of the Play by Anton Chekhov

Brian Friel

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singinpirateI definitely wouldn't have thought I'd ever give this play 4 stars. At first, I was bored, but I just needed to get acquainted with the world of the play, the world that it was written in, and to look past just the words on the page. It's subtle and sad. It's definitely worth a read, maybe two.

Uncle Vanya By Anton Chekhov

From Library JournalSo, what happens in Uncle Vanya? Not much; just life, played out over four acts. There are rich people, and there are people who work for the rich people, whom the rich people don't really care about. There is a gun fired in anger and desperation, but there aren't any bodies to carry off stage. There are men making fools of themselves over women. There are those who accept their fates and wait for their rewards in heaven, and there are others who don't care one way or another. There is a character whose name is in lights as the title, but he doesn't add up to all that much. Chekhov's play moves so languidly that, without a vibrant cast, an understanding director, and a lively translation, it stands the chance of passing under the radar of the average audience. Columbus's reworking of the script (done for Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre Company) aims at accessibility, replacing the "outdated colloquialisms" and "brittle prose" of earlier translations. And, for the most part, it's OK. It's not revelatory or revolutionary, but it stands as good a chance as any of getting the audience to come back after intermission. Recommended for collections in need of a new copy of this work. Larry Schwartz, Minnesota State Univ. Lib., MoorheadCopyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. Recommended. (Library Journal)Language NotesText: English (translation) Original Language: Russian