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0521383358 - Verbal Violence in Contemporary Drama: From Handke to Shepard

Jeanette R. Malkin

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In this book, Jeanette Malkin considers a broad spectrum of postwar plays in which characters are created, coerced, and destroyed by language. The playwrights examined are diverse and include Handke, Pinter, Bond, Albee, Mamet, and Shepard, as well as Václav Havel and two of his plays: *The Garden Party* and *The Memorandum*. These playwrights portray language's power over our political, social, and interpersonal worlds. The violence that language does, the "tyranny of words," grabs center stage in these plays. Characters are manipulated and defined through language; their actions and identity limited by verbal options. Writing in a variety of idioms and styles, the playwrights all adduce, and reveal, the link between language and power.

The book will be of interest to students and scholars of drama, theater history, American and European literature, and comparative literature.

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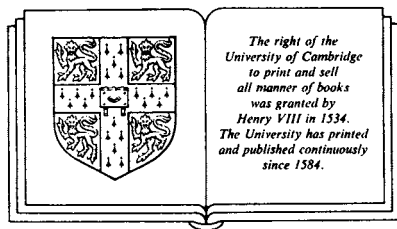
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VERBAL VIOLENCE IN CONTEMPORARY DRAMA

From Handke to Shepard

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Dedicated to the memory of my dear Father
Samuel Rosenzweig

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