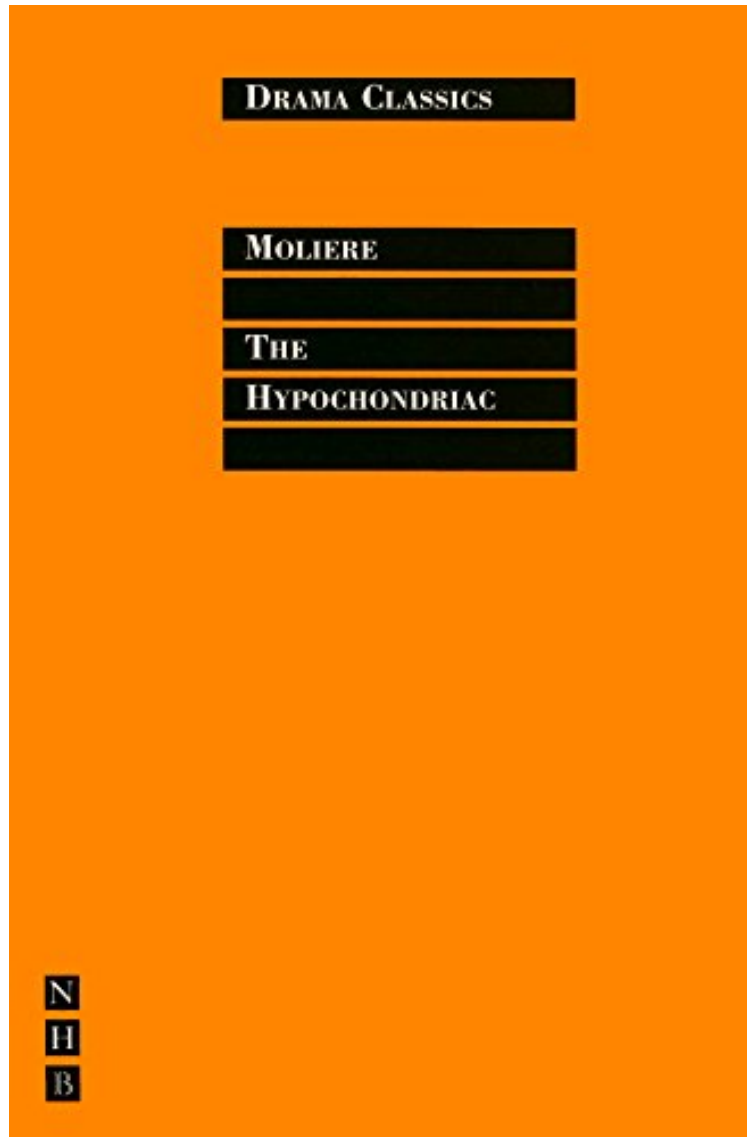


[FREE] The Hypochondriac: Full Text and Introduction (NHB Drama Classi)

The Hypochondriac: Full Text and Introduction (NHB Drama Classi)

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Moliegrave;re : The Hypochondriac: Full Text and Introduction (NHB Drama Classi) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hypochondriac: Full Text and Introduction (NHB Drama Classi):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "With friends like these, who needs enemas?" By B. Wilfongldquo;The Hypochondriacrdquo; is Richard Beansquo;s version of Molierersquo;s ldquo;The Imaginary Invalidrdquo;, as literally translated by Chris Campbell. I write that because it is important to understand that this is a

modern vernacular revision of the original play. And that is not a bad thing. I have seen *The Imaginary Invalid* and *The Hypochondriac* in professional performances, and I enjoyed the latter over the former. I read *The Hypochondriac* after greatly enjoying a performance at the Stratford Festival. I laughed a lot, and had a wonderful time at the theatre, so I wanted to investigate this version a little more closely. Mr. Bean has taken a lot of s*#t because his version is vulgar, full of doody jokes, and maybe too common for some in the academic community. However, I feel his version is very true to the original intent of Moliere and the updates are merely imitations of what Moliere would do if he were alive today. And that is fine and dandy. I read the text in one afternoon and it is funny. Laugh out loud funny at times. The roles are one dimensional for the most part, but in the hands of a good company of actors they are a delight. The most enjoyable to read are the hypochondriac of the title, Argan, his scheming wife Beline, and his maid Toinette. They have the wittiest dialogue and some of the play's better moments. The character through which the audience hears the truth is in the form of Argan's brother Beralde, and through him the play's morals and wisdom are passed to the reader. What can I say, *The Hypochondriac* is fun. I love this version. I would see and read it again. Pour a couple of glasses of wine, sit in a comfy chair and enjoy.

The NHB Drama Classics series presents the world's greatest plays in affordable, highly readable editions for students, actors and theatregoers. The hallmarks of the series are accessible introductions (focussing on the play's theatrical and historical background, together with an author biography, key dates and suggestions for further reading) and the complete text, uncluttered with footnotes. The translations, by leading experts in the field, are accurate and above all actable. The editions of English-language plays include a glossary of unusual words and phrases to aid understanding. Moliere's classic farce, *Le Malade Imaginaire*, in a fresh and performable translation. The 'imaginary invalid' Argan is so obsessed with his health that he fails to notice what is happening around him in his own family. His scheming wife and loving daughter are finally revealed to him in their true light by Argan's brother, who poses as a quack doctor and suggests he feigns death to test their loyalty. Translated and introduced by Martin Sorrell.

"McGough's...skills happily serve his second Moliere adaptation."--"Sunday Times" (of London) "It's a tonic, guaranteed to lift your spirits and keep them high, buoyed up by the wit and dexterity of McGough's verse...A ticklish tour de farce."--"Sunday Daily Mail" "McGough has added his own medicinal properties...upping the laughter quotient in an elixir that's easy to swallow."--"The Independent" "About the Author Moliere (1622-73) is known as the greatest French writer of comedy. His plays include "The Misanthrope," "Tartuffe," and "The School for Wives." Roger McGough is an award-winning poet and playwright and is considered one of the 'Liverpool Poets'.