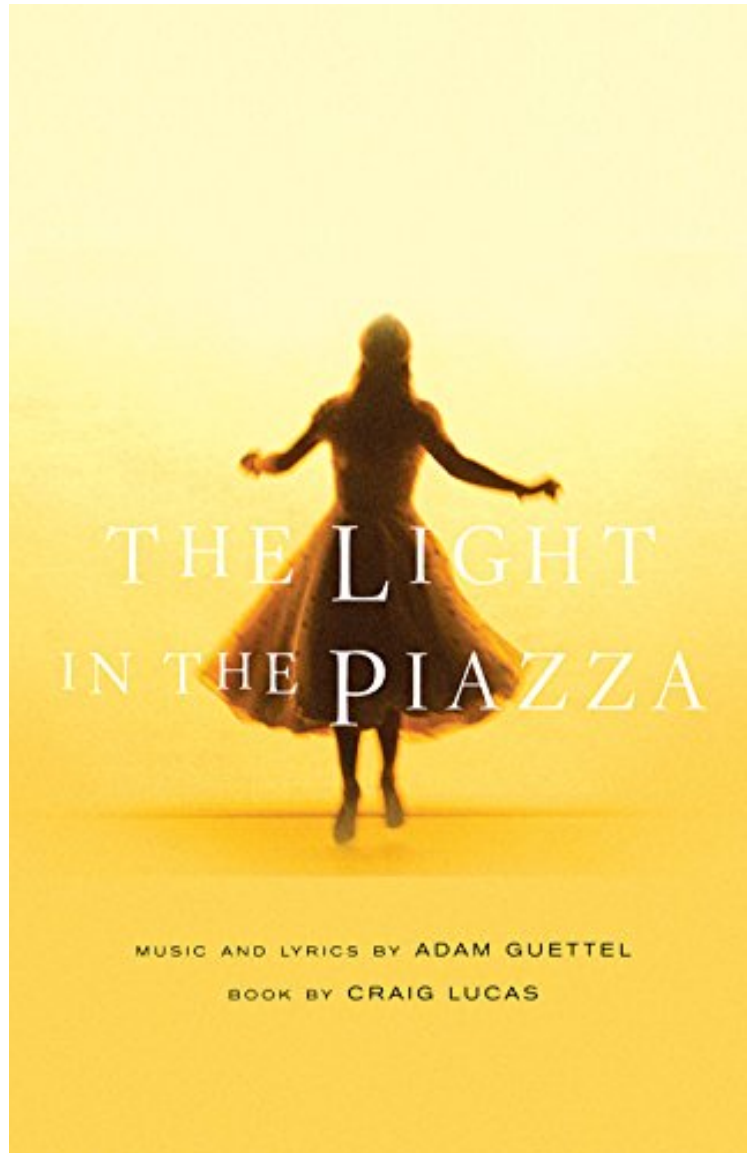


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## The Light in the Piazza

*Craig Lucas, Adam Guettel*

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**Craig Lucas, Adam Guettel : The Light in the Piazza** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Light in the Piazza:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Delightful downbeat musical comedyBy G. Canna"The Light In The Piazza" well deserved its many Tony Awards. Craig Lucas' book perfectly echoes Adam Guettel's gorgeous, lilting, classical score (not included, but worth listening to at the appropriate points in the book). After a charming opening scene, which introduces Clara's mental simplicity, without, thankfully, being heavy-handed about it. Indeed, Clara's mental condition takes a back seat to the story -- always lurking in the background, but not the reason that the show

exists. After the reader learns about her condition, Clara meets Fabrizio in a way that would make Wodehouse, Bolton, and Joseph Fields, the librettists of old, proud -- Clara's hat is caught by the wind and magically makes its way right to Fabrizio's hand. After their first encounter, however, it becomes clear that they are both secondary characters -- the musical comedy structure is a background against which Margaret Johnson, Clara's mother, struggles with herself, and whether she is truly helping or merely hindering Clara by keeping such a tight hand on her. My only qualms about the published libretto lie in plot points that are never resolved. Romance is implied between Margaret and Senor Naccarelli, Fabrizio's father, but the reader never learns what becomes of it. Similarly, Margaret tells (via telephone) her husband, Roy, not to come to Italy, because he will not find them. Both Margaret and Roy express sorrow at love that apparently disappeared, and desire to rekindle it. However, the reader never finds out exactly what Margaret means by her ultimatum. Her last words to her husband, who is still in North Carolina, are tender, but the reader is still wondering what she plans to do at the close of the play. Overall, highly recommended. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Kailey Green So happy to own the script of my favorite show. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Jonna Beautiful story, beautiful music

“The Light in the Piazza beautifully captures the eternal allure of Italy. . . . The story wraps itself around your heart.” —Chicago Sun-Times “Guettel’s music and lyrics take nothing from the razzle-dazzle bargain basement of feeling; they represent, instead, a genuine expense of spirit. . . . The Light in the Piazza doesn’t want to make theatre-goers feel good; it wants to make them feel deeply.” —The New Yorker “With Adam Guettel’s gorgeous melodies, a compelling narrative hook from Craig Lucas, and moving themes about happiness and risk, there’s no question that The Light in the Piazza is Broadway worthy.” —Daily Variety Composer Adam Guettel, best known for his Floyd Collins, has teamed with Prelude to a Kiss playwright Craig Lucas to create a passionate and soaring new musical based on Elizabeth Spencer’s 1960 novella, which was first published as an entire issue of The New Yorker. It is the story of an American ingenu abroad, whose chance meeting of a charming young Italian in a Florentine piazza sets off a whirlwind romance — with an unsettling revelation. The Light in the Piazza opens on Broadway at the Lincoln Center Theater this spring after major productions already in Seattle and Chicago. Adam Guettel wrote music and lyrics for Floyd Collins, produced across the country and in London. His other works include Lovers’ Fire, a collaboration with John Guare, and Saturn Returns, a concert at The Public Theater/New York Shakespeare Festival that was recorded by Nonesuch Records under the title Myths and Hymns. Craig Lucas won this year’s Obie Award for Best American Play for Small Tragedy and the New York Film Critics Award for Best Screenplay for The Secret Lives of Dentists. His other plays include Reckless, Blue Window, Prelude to a Kiss, God’s Heart, The Dying Gaul, Missing Persons, Stranger, and Singing Forest.

About the Author Craig Lucas recently won the 2004 OBIE Award for Best Play for his work "Small Tragedy". He is the author of numerous plays including "Reckless" and "A Prelude to A Kiss", both of which were Broadway successes and made into films. Composer and lyricist, Adam Guettel is best known for Floyd Collins (published by TCG in The New American Musical), which has been widely produced and available on Nonesuch Records.