

The Meeting Place

Mr Darren Brealey

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Darren R. Brealey

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Mr Darren Brealey : The Meeting Place before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Meeting Place:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Theatre Review by Ralph McleanBy D. BrealeyTheatre Review
Written By: Ralph McleanPosition: Arts JournalistProgram: On Stage Melbourne (3RRR radio)Darren Brealey's first time writing/directing piece in a makeshift bar theatre. His The Meeting Place was a simple even old fashioned story of family and loss. I rarely cry in the theatre - at least for emotional reasons - but there I was enjoying some new talent. And I was bawling, with the joy of it and of the magic of a good yarn well put, the tears running down my cheeks like a bloody baby.

David takes us on a journey through a weekend of tragedy, which not even he could alter through misfortunes of fate. As Craig and Sheryl apathetically deal with the death of their love, their three children, David, Michelle and Rick relentlessly struggle with denial, contempt and rebellion. The sibling rivalry abounds with our protagonist David, openly discussing his sexuality within the realms of his family home. David struggles to hold his own place in the world. His circle of friends comforts him; however his longing for acceptance from his family remains poignant. The wicked web we weave within the family unit; acceptance is as important as is non-acceptance within David's family, yet brotherly love can only show its boundaries once tested and it fails. The relationship between denial and rebellion build a night of thick tension, exposing itself in the face of sodomy and complacency. Not even David's bloodline can stop the outcome it first set up to accomplish.