



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Plays for Living scripts, synopses, and brochures

1962-1996

*T-Mss 1997-008

Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2015.

Summary

Creator: Plays for Living (Organization)

Title: Plays for Living scripts, synopses, and brochures

Date: 1962-1996

Size: .84 linear feet (2 boxes)

Source: Donated by Plays for Living, 1997.

Abstract: Plays for Living is a non-profit organization that develops and produces scripts for theatrical productions, with the goal of fostering community discussion and social change. From 1959 to 1985, Plays for Living was a division of the Family Service Association of America. The Plays for Living scripts, synopses, and brochures contains scripts that were published by Plays for Living from 1962 to 1995, a book of synopses of the scripts that were available for purchase from the organization in 1996, and various promotional brochures for the organization. Social issues addressed in the scripts include AIDS, alcoholism, family life and parenting, workplace harassment, and suicide prevention. Many of the scripts were written by Elizabeth Blake.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

Conditions Governing Use: The author/creator retains copyright of materials.

Preferred citation: Plays for Living scripts, synopses, and brochures, *T-Mss 1997-008. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2015.

Key Terms

Subjects

Drama in education

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Scripts

Names

Family Service Association of America

Plays for Living (Organization)

Container List

Scripts

- b. 1 f. 1 *These Are Not Children* undated
Jerome, Alden
- b. 1 f. 1 *The Children Are Listening* 1962
Davidson, Barbara Kay
- b. 1 f. 1 *A Choice to Make* 1963
Stirling, Nora B., 1900-
A play about aging, change and sense of self.
- b. 1 f. 1 *The Uprooted* 1963
Beyea, Basil
- b. 1 f. 2 *Hello and Goodbye* 1965
Blake, Elizabeth, 1932-
A play for parents about learning to love and let go.
- b. 1 f. 2 *Lady on the Rocks* 1966
Blake, Elizabeth, 1932-
A play on alcoholism.
- b. 1 f. 2 *There Was a Little Boy* 1968
Davidson, Barbara Kay
A play about the importance of communication between parents and children.
- b. 1 f. 2 *The Underground Bird* 1968
Schiller, Rose Leiman
- b. 1 f. 2 *War of the Words* 1968
Coigney, Virginia
A play about the signals children give in response to marital tensions.
- b. 1 f. 3 *Quiet Cries* 1969
Blake, Elizabeth, 1932-
A play about suicide prevention suitable for presentation by amateur drama groups.
- b. 1 f. 3 *Ring Around the Family* 1969
Thorne, Joan Vail
- b. 1 f. 3 *How Was the Trip?* 1970
Blake, Elizabeth, 1932-
A play concerned with drug abuse.
- b. 1 f. 3 *Tomorrow Is Now* 1970
Barbour, Thomas
A play on campus unrest.
- b. 1 f. 3 Three scripts for family crisis intervention 1971
Blake, Elizabeth, 1932-
- b. 1 f. 4 *You Didn't Know My Father* 1973
Davidson, Barbara Kay
A play on death with dignity.
- b. 1 f. 4 *The Inner Tiger* 1974
Coigney, Virginia
A play about child abuse.
- b. 1 f. 4 *We, the Family...* 1974
Thorne, Joan Vail
A play about the family in crisis.

Scripts (cont.)

- b. 1 f. 4 *Number 29-1048367* 1975
Blake, Elizabeth, 1932-
A play about justice.
- b. 1 f. 4 *Who's Counting?* 1976
Blake, Elizabeth, 1932-
A play on attitudes toward aging.
- b. 1 f. 5 *Message in a Bottle* 1977
Davidson, Barbara Kay
A play on alcoholism in industry. 2 copies.
- b. 1 f. 5 *Divide...and Multiply* 1978
Thorne, Joan Vail
A drama about single parents, separation and divorce.
- b. 1 f. 5 *The Road to Nowhere* 1979
Barbour, Thomas
A play about illiteracy--its causes and effects.
- b. 1 f. 5 *Who Says I Can't Drink?* 1980
Blake, Elizabeth, 1932-
A drama about teenage drinking.
- b. 1 f. 6 *Tell Me It's Going to Be Wonderful* 1982
Caldwell, Joseph, 1928-
A play about teenage sexuality and pregnancy.
- b. 1 f. 6 *Touch Me Where It Hurts* 1983
Coigney, Virginia
A play about arthritis and its impact on our lives.
- b. 1 f. 6 *It Was Easy: My Credit Is "A" Number One* 1984
Gage, Bob
A play about money problems in marriage.
- b. 1 f. 6 *Cross Currents* 1985
Thorne, Joan Vail
A play on the connection between the workplace and the home.
- b. 2 f. 1 *Just One Step* 1987
Hunkins, Lee
A drama about children who live with parental alcoholism.
- b. 2 f. 1 *Not Me!* 1987
Thorne, Joan Vail
A play on the use and abuse of crack.
- b. 2 f. 2 *Anybody I Want to Be!* 1989
Hunkins, Lee
A teen motivation play. 2 copies.
- b. 2 f. 2 *Live Wire* 1989
Peyton, Bruce
A play about AIDS prevention among teenagers.
- b. 2 f. 2 *The Survivors* 1989
Glass, Leslie
A play about teen suicide prevention.
- b. 2 f. 2 *Where Does It End?* 1989
Young, William Baldwin
A play about prejudice and discrimination among teenagers.

Scripts (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 3 *On the Edge* 1990
Glass, Leslie
A play on teen stress.
- b. 2 f. 3 *Still Growing* 1992
Brown, Mark AltonLaDuke, Dee
A celebration of aging.
- b. 2 f. 3 *Hiding on the Outside* 1992
Ceraso, Christopher
- b. 2 f. 3 *Making the Rounds* 1993
Young, William Baldwin
AIDS in the community.
- b. 2 f. 3 *The Silent Contract* 1993
Thorne, Joan Vail
A play focusing on sexual harassment in the workplace.
- b. 2 f. 4 *People Like Us* 1994
Erickson, Michael ((Michael Gene)), 1951-
A play about diversity in the workplace.
- b. 2 f. 4 *Rule of Thumb* 1995
Simon, Sarah Levine
A one-act play on domestic violence.
- b. 2 f. 4 *What's the Difference* 1995
Young, William Baldwin
Youth and diversity.
- b. 2 f. 5 **Synopsis book** 1996
Description and cast list of plays available for production.
- b. 2 f. 6 **Brochures** undated