Google Drive



Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater

Jonathan Kalb

Download now

Click here if your download doesn"t start automatically

Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater

Jonathan Kalb

Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater Jonathan Kalb

"Reading this book is certainly a vigorous experience. Kalb's sense of nuance, unpredictability, and the complexity of perception brings these productions to life. He is our surrogate, our scapegoat even, enduring the length of these productions so that he can convey the essence of their power."
---Stanton B. Garner, Jr., University of Tennessee

"Jonathan Kalb takes us on a tour of monumental theater events, which flaunt the rules of economy, Aristotelian and otherwise. Kalb captures these unwieldy marathon productions by skillfully mixing personal experience and scholarly analysis. I read this engaging book in a single sitting---and came away ready to join the first theater marathon I could find."
---Martin Puchner, Harvard University

"Jonathan Kalb's *Great Lengths* leaps to the head of any class in theatre history. Rich with critical perspective of 'marathon' works by Peter Brook, Tony Kushner, Robert Wilson, and others, and written with panache and lucidity, Kalb's book is filled with suspense as he describes and demystifies more than the post-modern and post-dramatic haunting recent theatre. This is history as present event, embracing the Greeks, Shakespeare, and even Charles Dickens."
---Gordon Rogoff, Yale University

We know that size matters in many areas of human endeavor, but what about works of the imagination? Why do some dramatic creations extend to five hours or more, and how does their extreme length help them accomplish extraordinarily ambitious aims? In *Great Lengths*, theater critic and scholar Jonathan Kalb addresses these and other questions through a close look at seven internationally prominent theater productions, including Tony Kushner's *Angels in America*, Robert Wilson's *Einstein on the Beach*, and the Royal Shakespeare Company's *Nicholas Nickleby*, and the “durational works” of the British experimental company Forced Entertainment. This is a book about extreme length, monumental scope, and intensive immersion in the theater in general, written by a passionate spectator reflecting on selected pinnacles of his theatergoing over thirty years.

The book's examples, deliberately chosen for their diversity, range from adapted novels and epics, to dramatic chronicles with macrohistorical and macropolitical implications, to stagings of super-size classic plays, to "postdramatic" works that negotiate the border between life and art. Kalb reconstructs each of the works, re-creating the experience of seeing it while at the same time explaining how it maintained attention and interest over so many hours, and then expanding the scope to embrace a wider view and ask broader questions. The discussion of *Nicholas Nickleby*, for example, considers melodrama as a basic tool of theatrical communication, and the section on Peter Brook's *The Mahabharata* explores the ethical problems surrounding theatrical exoticism. The chapter on *Einstein on the Beach* grows into a reflection on the media-age status of the much-debated *Gesamtkunstwerk* (or "total artwork") and a reassessment of the long avant-gardist tradition of challenging the primacy of rational language in theater. The essay on Peter Stein's *Faust I + II* becomes a reflection on the interpretive role of theater directors and the theatrical viability of antitheatrical closet drama. *Great Lengths* thus offers a remarkable panorama of the surprisingly broad field of contemporary marathon theater---an art form that diverse audiences of savvy, screen-weaned spectators continue to seek out, for the increasingly rare experiences of awe, transcendence, and sustained immersion that it provides.

Great Lengths will appeal to general readers as well as theater specialists. It situates the chosen productions in various historical and critical contexts and engages with the many lively scholarly debates that have swirled around them. At the same time, it uses the productions as springboards for wide-ranging reflections on the basic purpose and enduring power of theater in an attention-challenged, media-saturated era.

Download Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater ...pdf

Read Online Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater ...pdf

Download and Read Free Online Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater Jonathan Kalb

---

From reader reviews:

Gerardo Whittaker:

Reading a book can be one of a lot of action that everyone in the world loves. Do you like reading book thus. There are a lot of reasons why people enjoyed. First reading a reserve will give you a lot of new information. When you read a reserve you will get new information due to the fact book is one of several ways to share the information or even their idea. Second, examining a book will make you actually more imaginative. When you studying a book especially fictional book the author will bring someone to imagine the story how the personas do it anything. Third, it is possible to share your knowledge to others. When you read this Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater, you could tells your family, friends along with soon about yours guide. Your knowledge can inspire the mediocre, make them reading a book.

David Hernandez:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of information. Even you love Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater, you may enjoy both. It is fine combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout men. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Carol Boissonneault:

Reading a book to get new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to learn a book. When you read a book you can get a lots of benefit. When you read textbooks, you can improve your knowledge, because book has a lot of information onto it. The information that you will get depend on what sorts of book that you have read. If you would like get information about your research, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, this kind of us novel, comics, along with soon. The Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater provide you with a new experience in looking at a book.

Carolyn Franklin:

It is possible to spend your free time you just read this book this guide. This Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater is simple to deliver you can read it in the area, in the beach, train along with soon. If you did not possess much space to bring typically the printed book, you can buy often the e-book. It is make you simpler to read it. You can save the book in your smart phone. Therefore there are a lot of benefits that you will get when one buys this book.

Download and Read Online Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater Jonathan Kalb #UCM1B2O56TN

Read Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater by Jonathan Kalb for online ebook

Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater by Jonathan Kalb Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater by Jonathan Kalb books to read online.

Online Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater by Jonathan Kalb ebook PDF download

Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater by Jonathan Kalb Doc

Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater by Jonathan Kalb Mobipocket

Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater by Jonathan Kalb EPub