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A Bright Room Called Day

Tony Kushner
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Tony Kushner : A Bright Room Called Day before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Bright Room Called Day:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy MandyTimely!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I don't agree with most of Kushner's politics but this is a wonderful drama about the despair of individuals in the face ...By CI used to have a rule when I argued with my political friends. It was simple enough: the first person to make a comparison to the Nazis generally or Hitler specifically lost the argument.I refer to it as a "rule".

I had no clout to enforce it. But you get the idea. People are so quick to make those comparisons and they are almost always ridiculous. In "A Bright Room Called Day" Tony Kushner juxtaposes a group of friends living in Germany as the Weimar Republic falls with a Long Ilsander in the 80s who doesn't care for Ronald Reagan. Yet this title is far more subtle than Reagan = Hitler. I don't agree with most of Kushner's politics but this is a wonderful drama about the despair of individuals in the face of an unstoppable zeitgeist. There's magical realism, warm humor and a cameo by the Devil himself. It's an interesting read and I suspect it would make an engaging evening if you're lucky enough to live in a city where it receives one of its rare productions. And because it's Kushner the theatricality is mesmerizing. 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Bright and Brilliant By Kate K. Many plays have focused on groups of people fighting their many losing battles. In Tony Kushner's first well-known work, these people are the Communist Party in 1930's Germany; knowing full well that they live in turbulent times, they are fighting to stay standing. Agnes Eggeling, unsure of even the philosophy to which she has ascribed, clings to her apartment. She pays her rent, and in return, she has this small "bright room called day," where she is temporarily safe. "A Bright Room Called Day" displays all the characteristics of the more well-known "Angels in America." There is a great deal of political discussion, but also the painful and individual conflicts between characters. Lines are laced with wry irony, and characters often speak in poetic, beautiful language. I have not yet found another playwright whose characters are both so verbose and so real. Neither is today's world left out; scenes from Germany are peppered with refreshing but unsettling monologues from a modern woman. She is very angry and a little lost - just as caught up in the tides of her times as the other characters are in theirs. Although, in the original version of the play, she ranted against Ronald Reagan, this copy contains a revised set of monologues prepared for an early 1990's performance. Three different decades in one play; that's a broad scope, and it makes a brilliant read. My one regret is that I have never seen "A Bright Room Called Day" performed.

From the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Angels in America* comes this powerful portrayal of individual dissolution and resolution in the face of political catastrophe. "It's brash, audacious and...intoxicatingly visionary." — Sid Smith, *Chicago Tribune*