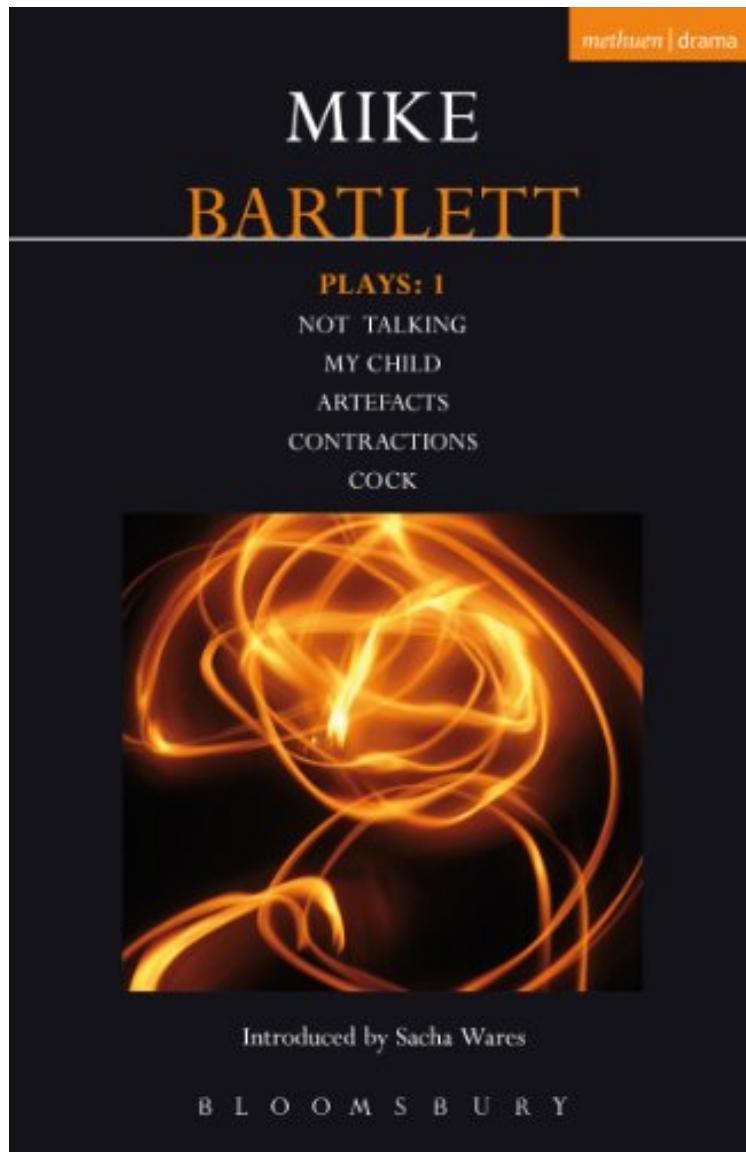


[Ebook pdf] Bartlett Plays: 1: Not Talking, My Child, Artefacts, Contractions, Cock (Contemporary Dramatists)

## **Bartlett Plays: 1: Not Talking, My Child, Artefacts, Contractions, Cock (Contemporary Dramatists)**

*Mike Bartlett*

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**Mike Bartlett : Bartlett Plays: 1: Not Talking, My Child, Artefacts, Contractions, Cock (Contemporary Dramatists)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bartlett Plays: 1: Not Talking, My Child, Artefacts, Contractions, Cock (Contemporary Dramatists):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Gripping, Contemporary Dramatic Writing By Jaybee90069Bartlett

is a brilliant sculptor of emotional conflict. The language is precise, contemporary and stark. With a tight focus on simple but compelling interpersonal struggles, he peels his way to the core of some very complex and specific 21st Century characters. You could probably call him an heir to Pinter, both in style and in the way he makes poetry out of small but emotionally/politically/sexually charged personal interactions. His characters are ordinary people. But he shows them in all their inner turmoil and complexity. There are no easy answers or pat endings to these plays.

Typically, a Bartlett character starts out with a specific, tough problem. But in resolving it, he or she usually ends up with a wider and bleaker view of human existence. For that reason these are not "feel good" stories. But they're very good, maybe even very important, plays. This is a must-read for anyone writing plays in 2012 and probably also for anyone interested in contemporary theatre.

This first collection of Mike Bartlett's plays showcases the adroit expertise and flair of a writer known for laser-sharp political comment, tight dialectics and needlingly real characters. *My Child* is a gut-wrenching exploration of the lengths a father will go to have access to his child. The play creates a violent world where good intentions count for very little, and offers an incisive, honest look at what it means to be a good parent. *Contractions* is an ink-black comedy about work and play: Emma's been seeing Darren. She thinks she's in love. Her boss thinks she's in breach of contract. The situation needs to be resolved. *Artefacts* depicts a father-daughter reunion which, after 16 years, crosses between the world of a British teenager and an Iraqi expert in antiquity, and is complicated by the ambivalent gift of a precious Mesopotamian vase. *Cock* is a punchy play which takes a playful, candid look at one man's sexuality and the difficulties that arise when you realise you have a choice.

**About the Author**  
Hailed by Stage as 'one of the most exciting new talents to emerge in recent times', Mike has worked with various theatres since graduating including Paines Plough, the Royal Court, Soho and Hampstead. He is a winner of the Old Vic New Voices Award and is currently participating in the prestigious Pearson Playwrights Scheme. His plays include *Cock* (Royal Court), *Artefacts* (Bush Theatre) and *Earthquakes* in London (Headlong/National Theatre).