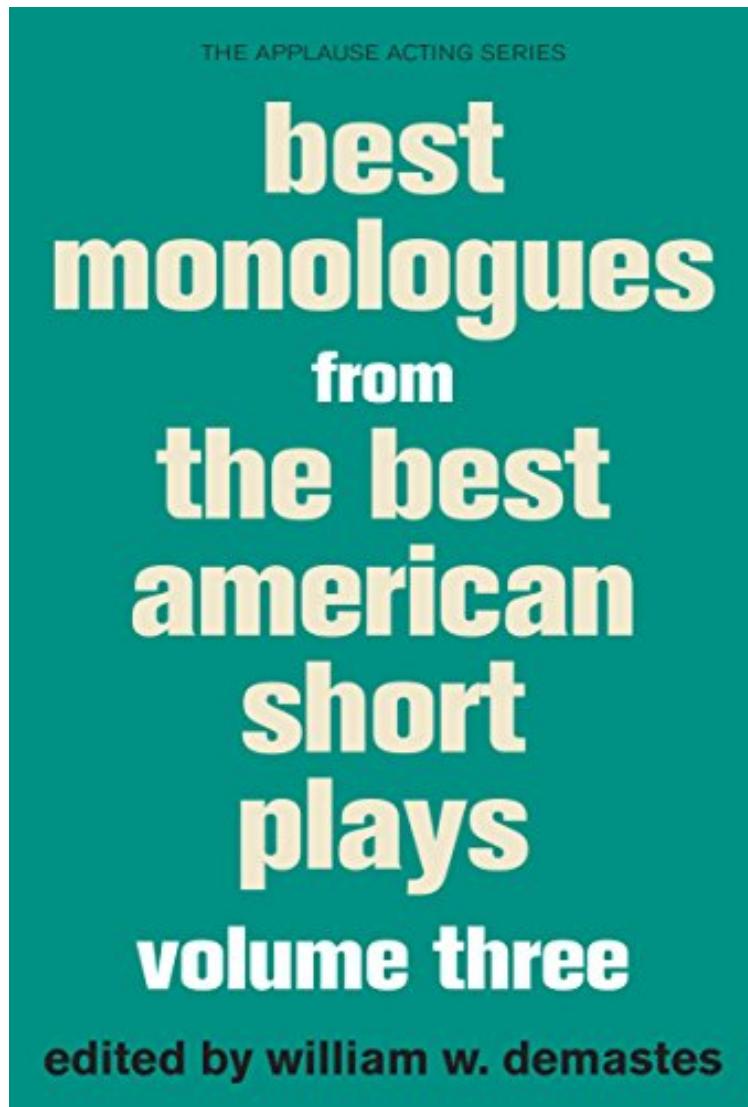


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## **Best Monologues from The Best American Short Plays, Volume Three: 3 (Best Monologues from the Best Amerian Short Plays)**

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(*Best American Short Plays*). "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." Really? Words can break spirits, destroy confidence. They can also build hope and incite great acts of heroism. Playwrights know this, and so do theater audiences. Otherwise, why go? Words matter and carry clout every bit as dangerous as a hammer or crowbar. This, too, playwrights know. The monologues in this volume are full of such blows, striking at our imaginations and our memories, generating responses such as joyful laughter or chilling surprise. Others squeeze us into worlds we've never experienced, or perhaps experienced at the furthest edges of memory and recollection. Still others may help us alter the way we see certain things, people, or beliefs. *Best Monologues from The Best American Short Plays, Volume Three* is a collection of monologues drawn from the popular *Best American Short Plays* series, an archive of works from many of the best playwrights active today. Long or short, serious or not, excerpts or entireties, this collection abounds in speech acts that may trigger physical reactions and almost certainly will transform an attitude or two, drawing out lost memories, creating new ones, and definitely entertaining, engaging, amusing us all along the way.

About the Author WILLIAM W. DEMASTES has published widely on modern theatre and drama, including *Comedy Matters*, *Spalding Gray's America*, *Staging Consciousness*, *Theatre of Chaos*, and *The Cambridge Introduction to Tom Stoppard*.