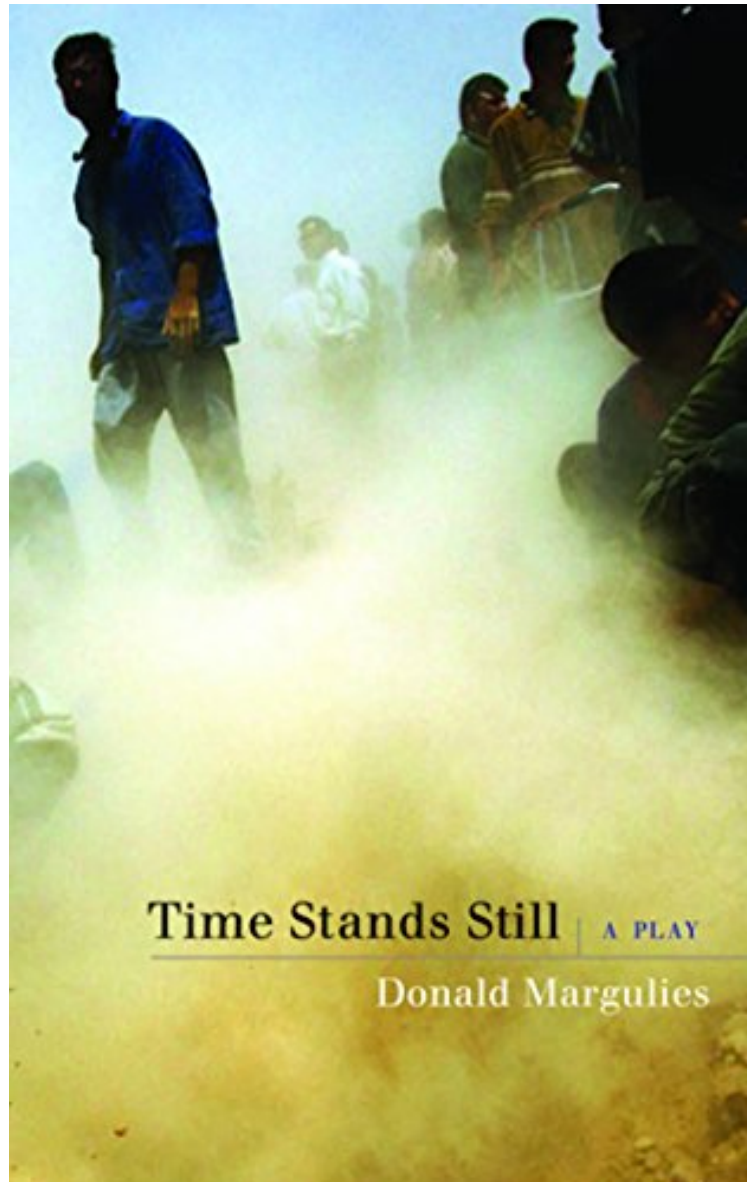


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Time Stands Still (TCG Edition)

Donald Margulies

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#457227 in Books Donald Margulies 2010-04-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.30 x .20 x 5.30l, .30
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Donald Margulies : Time Stands Still (TCG Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Time Stands Still (TCG Edition):

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. A Fine Insightful Play By John F. Rooney I saw a performance of "Time Stands Still" on Broadway on Sunday, January 9, 2011. The printed script is very easy to read and follow. It was a thrilling play to see and is equally satisfying to read. The four actors in New York were James (Brian D'Arcy

James), Sarah (Laura Linney), Richard (Eric Bogosian), and Mandy (Christina Ricci). Sarah, a photographer who has been in many of the world crises and war zones, hobbles on crutches into her loft apartment in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn with Richard, her lover of eight years. They have just come from a long flight and are bushed. She was badly injured in a bomb blast and had a long recovery period in an American service hospital in Germany. Richard flew there when he first heard about the injury and stayed with her all during the convalescence. Their driver/translator/fixer, Tariq, had been killed in the same blast. They have many issues between them. Richard who had been partnering with her in Iraq witnessed a horrible explosion, had a serious nervous breakdown, and had to return to the States leaving Sarah there with Tariq. He feels that she could have flown back with him during his crisis, and she feels as if he had abandoned her. Shortly after they get in the apartment, Richard, the photo editor of her magazine and a former lover of Sarah's from decades before, comes in with his new young trophy girlfriend, Mandy, who seems to be somewhat dumb. It's Mandy, however, who brings out two important themes in the play. She says, quite vehemently that she can't understand how photographers can take pictures of people who are in pain or great stress. Why don't they put down their cameras and help. No, says Sarah, they can do much more good by providing the world with a photographic record of the suffering. Later Mandy says why can't Sarah and James stop writing stories and taking pictures of the miserable things happening in the world, the downer stories and pictures. For her and millions of others they just want to live their own lives and don't need to see pictures of people "who go around hacking each other to death" These people, she says, "have always been killing each other," and there's nothing the ordinary person looking at a magazine can do anything about. Later alone with Sarah, James says that Sarah fell in love with a man's "suffering, his victimhood, the romance of his wretched people...Oppression itself." James says she gets turned on by war, chaos, and drama. She "needs the buzz." At one point Sarah says, "I live off the suffering of strangers. I built a career on the sorrows of people I don't know and will never see again." You wonder if she really cares about people. Author Donald Margulies has written a play that has real three-dimensional people facing authentic situations. His four characters are swiftly but fully drawn, and we know a great deal about them. His dialogue crackles, is sharp and brilliant. Not a word or gesture is wasted. In the theater or as a reader you are going to be propelled along by the narrative drive of this unique play full of all sorts of cross-currents and bristling with serious ideas. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Small interactions reflecting on big issues By Peter J. Orveti Margulies is a master at using the small interactions between individuals and couples to cast broader light on their relationships, and he takes that talent to the next level here by having a series of conversations between two couples reflect on the U.S. war in Iraq, global conflict, the media, and other matters. The most interesting parts deal with what Sarah's motivations are for practicing photojournalism in conflict zones. Is her primary interest in capturing the truth of war, regardless of personal risk, or is she an adrenaline junkie desperate to get her next fix? The weakest element is the character of Mandy, who to be fair does become a bit more fleshed out (literally and figuratively) by the end of the play, but who still comes off as a caricature of a young, ditzzy millennial with no interests or knowledge beyond her immediate life. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Time Stands Still - and Our Minds Stay Busy By Kate Farren Time Stands Still is timely, witty and deeply serious, moving, and challenging. With a background of a Mid-East war hovering over this Brooklyn loft, the play asks us to examine our own moral centers, both on the world stage and in our most intimate relationships: our responsibilities, our choices. Will we merely observe or will we act? This is the question faced by the central characters, one a photo-journalist, the other a war-zone writer. Will we look at what is painful - in the world and in our lives - or will we just change the channel, turn our heads? Perhaps Donald Margulies's finest play to date, Time Stands Still makes demands of us as and delivers, in return, a rich experience.

The plays two hours fly by as if you've barely taken a breath. . . . Ethical dilemmas arise like exploding mines. Variety Mr. Margulies is a skilled practitioner of fluid dialogue that is naturally funny and sensibly smart. The New York Times In his absorbing intelligent (Los Angeles Times) and timely new play, Donald Margulies uncovers the layers of a relationship between a photojournalist and foreign correspondent once addicted to the adrenaline of documenting the atrocities of war, and now grounded in the couples Brooklyn loft. Photographer Sarah was seriously injured while covering the war in Iraq; her reporter partner James had left weeks earlier, when the stress and horrors became too much for him. Now James writes online movie reviews while Sarah recovers, mourning for her Iraqi driver (and former lover) killed in the explosion, and itching to get back behind the camera. With this play coming to Broadway this winter Margulies revisits themes of being an artist, as characters ask: What does it mean to capture suffering on film, rather than stopping to intervene? Donald Margulies received the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for Dinner with Friends, which has been produced throughout the world. Other plays include Sight Unseen (OBIE Award), Brooklyn Boy, and Collected Stories, among many others.

About the Author Donald Margulies's other plays include "Collected Stories", "The Loman Family Picnic", "Sight Unseen" and "Dinner with Friends", for which he was awarded the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.