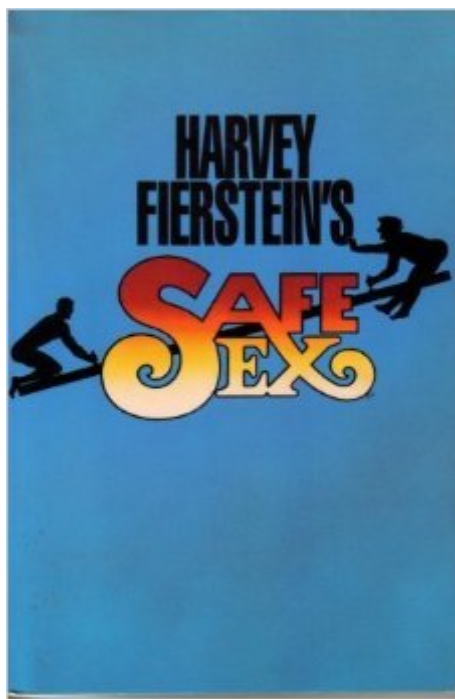


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Harvey Fierstein's Safe Sex



Synopsis

In these one-act plays, America's premier gay playwright offers variations on the theme of living with AIDS. His new musical, Legs Diamond, starring Peter Allen, opens on Broadway this fall.

Book Information

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Macmillan Pub Co (August 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689708025

ISBN-13: 978-0689708022

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.5 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,853,184 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #69 in [Books > Gay & Lesbian > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Gay](#) #152 in [Books > Gay & Lesbian > Literature & Fiction > Drama > Gay](#) #4319 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Dramas & Plays > Regional & Cultural > United States](#)

Customer Reviews

At first, I only knew Harvey Fierstein from the film "Torch Song Trilogy." Then, I've seen him on many TV shows where he plays the overly typecast, essentialist gay man. (Even though I loved his Carl character on "The Simpsons.") Finally, I read this book and it made me realize what an artist, activist, and pioneer he is. This book has two plays about gay men and couples dealing with their identities and loves years into the AIDS crisis. I think it would be a good idea for some producer to get these plays performed nationally. (Maybe someone, probably Harvey, already has and I just don't know it.) Despite his status as stereotype, he truly is a role model and a good guy. Allow me to mention a funny anecdote. I was a freshman in college when I bought this book. Everytime straight ppl saw the title "safe sex" on my bookshelf, they thought it was a manual and wanted to borrow it for information. I wonder if Harvey purposely titled his book in this way, just to grab the attention of ppl of all sexualities.

The last one act play in Harvey Fierstein's book SAFE SEX is called "On Tidy Endings". I think it is a wonderful play, and I plan to produce and direct it this fall because I feel it explores social acceptance -- or lack thereof -- of homosexuals, and this topic was thrust again into public debate

recently by the Supreme Court's recent decision. The play focuses on a man whose lover left his wife five years ago. The lover has now died, and the ex-wife comes over to his apartment with a sense of entitlement, a sense of ownership not just over her ex-husband's physical possessions but over his life as well. She fails to recognize or validate the gay relationship which leads to great dialogue that explores the basis of truly loving relationships and the social rejection of homosexuals. A wonderful play, I recommend it highly.

The copy I purchased was used, so I am not surprised that whoever owned it before scrawled their name at the top of the first page. Other than that, the copy is in very good condition. The binding and cover are solid and the pages, though slightly discolored, are in excellent shape.

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