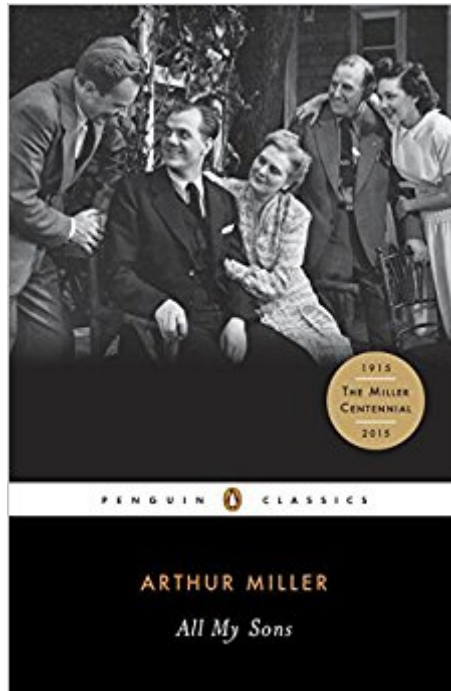




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All My Sons (Penguin Classics)



Synopsis

Joe Keller and Steve Deever, partners in a machine shop during World War II, turned out defective airplane parts, causing the deaths of many men. Deever was sent to prison while Keller escaped punishment and went back to business, making himself very wealthy in the ensuing years. In Miller's work of tremendous power, a love affair between Keller's son, Chris, and Ann Deever, Steve's daughter, the bitterness of George Keller, who returns from the war to find his father in prison and his father's partner free, and the reaction of a son to his father's guilt escalate toward a climax of electrifying intensity. Winner of the Drama Critics' Award for Best New Play in 1947, *All My Sons* established Arthur Miller as a leading voice in the American theater. *All My Sons* introduced themes that thread through Miller's work as a whole: the relationships between fathers and sons and the conflict between business and personal ethics. This edition features an introduction by Christopher Bigsby. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

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Customer Reviews

A capable cast supports Julie Harris, whose moving performance may arguably be the best of her

career. -- Booklist Also from LA Theatre Works is Arthur Miller's "All My Sons." Another Audie Award-winner, this production stars Julie Harris, James Farantino and Ayre Gross. Written and produced in 1947, this is a hard-hitting story, set shortly after World War II, about Joe Keller, who became rich as a manufacturer of substandard war materials in a conflict that took one of his sons and imprisoned a colleague. -- St. Louis Post Dispatch Audie Award Finalist -- Audio Publisher's Association -- Audio Publisher's Association, APA -- This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

World War II is over and a family, mourning a son missing in action, plants a memorial tree and tries to go on with their lives. A storm blows down the tree and a devastating family secret is uprooted, setting the characters on a terrifying journey towards truth. Based upon a true story, All My Son is a classic drama by one of America's greatest playwrights. At the heart of All My Sons lies a scathing criticism of the American Dream. After its publication Arthur Miller was called to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee, where he famously refused to give evidence against others. A Tony Award Winner for Best Author (1947). Includes an interview with historian Bill Yenne, author of "The American Aircraft Factory in World War Two," one of his many works that chronicle the history of wartime aviation and manufacturing. An L.A. Theatre Works full-cast performance featuring: Julie Harris as Kate Keller James Farentino as Joe Keller Ayre Gross as Chris Keller Mitchell Hebert as Dr. Bayliss Naomi Jacobson as Ann Barbara Klein as Lydia Paul Morella as George Michaelleen O'Neil as Sue Nathan Taylor as Bert Jerry Whiddon as Frank Directed by Nick Olcott. Recorded at Voice of America, Washington DC. -- This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

“All My Sons” is at its heart a play about how we deal with those who we love and / or greatly admire when they let us down. Are our expectations too high, or should people live up to the standard that others set for them? Arthur Miller does not give us an answer (of course) but there are moments in this drama that get us pretty close. Like a lot of Miller “All My Sons” deals with a father and son relationship that can never meet the burden of expectation BOTH father and son have put on it. In this manner it resembles “Death of a Salesman” quite a bit. The play is written in three acts. A simple structure: first act sets up the characters and relationships, second act lets us in on the dramatic issue of the play, third act shows us how the characters we have come to know deal with the issue revealed in Act 2. I don’t want to give away any plot points. I was lucky

enough to pick up this play knowing very little about it. I won't ruin that for others here. However, I will say that for an actor and reader the Keller family (the main protagonists of the play) come across as characters with dimension and depth. Mr. Miller has written some great roles here, with a lot of unspoken issues for actors to play with. This text is a quick read, but one that will creep up on you. Like the best of Miller, it deals with a situation that almost any human can relate to, disappointment in someone we love. It will last because that is a part of the human condition and Miller has captured it with all its love, pain, and consequences. I will be seeing a professional production of this piece next week and I imagine it will only enhance my appreciation for this text.

I bought and read this book because my grandson had to read it in school as part of a unit of 3 books supposed to examine "The American Dream" This was the only book that came close to the topic in my opinion. The real subject of the book is integrity and it does a good job of examining that. The father, with a business in manufacturing, allowed faulty parts to be supplied to the armed services and passed the blame to his business partner. Questions arise later in their children's lives and they must decide which they value more, wealth or truth. It's a good read.

If you haven't read this play, it's a must for Arthur Miller fans. The first half will have you laughing from beginning, almost to the end. the last half will have you in tears. If not, then the performers didn't do their jobs!! I saw this in Ringgold, GA and I don't believe I could have found a professional performance that was any better. Kudos, to the cast and director in Ringgold!!

This play helped me understand how to tighten up and ratchet up the tension from a few different directions in a play leading up to an abrupt denouement. Great story, good writing. I think I like this more than "The Death of a Salesman."

I read this play and it became my favorite. I can say it changed my life. I learned a lot about myself and my own limits. I recommend that everyone read this play.

Great read

This "realist" play is just awesome. The main characters are so deep and their relationships so compelling that it is almost impossible not to relate with some of them. It's a very good portrait of a family with big personal guilts and social complicity that emerges from love and fear. The detailed

introduction by Christopher Bigsby deserves a special mention because of its psychological analysis of the main characters and elements of the play.

I received the script in excellent condition, and of course the story itself is fantastic. I'm using it for my rehearsals and it's holding up great!

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