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The Melting-Pot (Paperback)

By Author Israel Zangwill

Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The Melting Pot is a play by Israel Zangwill, first staged in 1908. It depicts the life of a Russian-Jewish immigrant family, the Quixanos. David Quixano has survived a pogrom, which killed his mother and sister, and he wishes to forget this horrible event. He composes an American Symphony and wants to look forward to a society free of ethnic divisions and hatred, rather than backward at his traumatic past. The hero of the play proclaims: America is God's Crucible, the great Melting-Pot where all the races of Europe are melting and reforming. Germans and Frenchmen, Irishmen and Englishmen, Jews and Russians - into the Crucible with you all! God is making the American. [1] Some critics of the play have taken issue with David's apparent willingness to give up his ties to Judaism in order to become American. Although the idea of melting as a metaphor for ethnic assimilation had been used before, Zangwill's play popularized the term melting pot as a symbol for this occurrence in American society.[citation needed] The Melting Pot opened at the Comedy Theatre in...


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