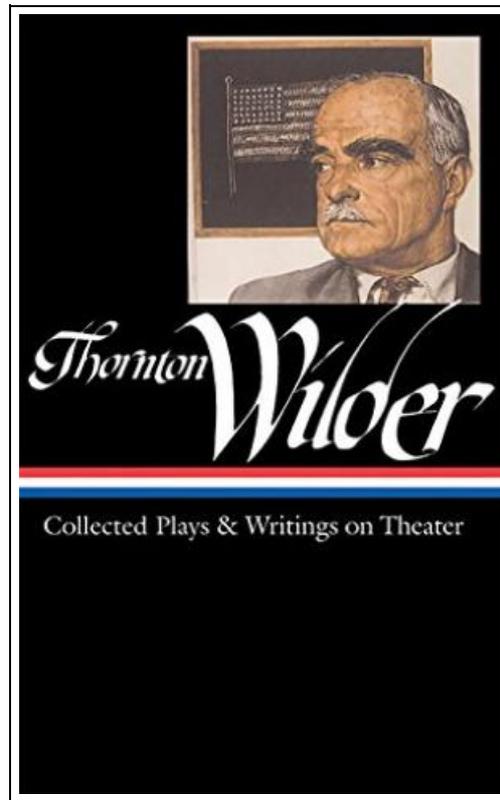


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COLLECTED PLAYS AND WRITINGS ON THEATER (HARDBACK)



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The Library of America, United States, 2008. Hardback. Condition: New. New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Tender, beguiling, suffused with feeling and wit, the remarkable plays of Thornton Wilder occupy a unique place in American culture. His most celebrated play, *Our Town*, has achieved iconic status as an expression of the spirit and pathos of small-town American life; adapted for the movies and the operatic stage, it continues to resonate with audiences responding to its formal elegance, plainspoken poetry, and moving evocation of the inevitability of loss. *Collected Plays and Writings on Theater*, the most comprehensive one-volume edition of Thornton Wilder's work ever published, takes the measure of his extraordinary career as a dramatist by presenting the complete span of his achievement, beginning with his early expressionist experiments and daring one-act plays, such as *The Long Christmas Dinner* and *The Happy Journey to Trenton and Camden* (one of Wilder's personal favorites), ranging through the full flowering of *Our Town*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, and *The Matchmaker*, and encompassing the intriguing dramatic projects of his later years, such as his adaptation of the ancient story of *Alcestis (The Alcestiad)* and plays written for dramatic cycles based on the *Seven Deadly Sins* and the varied ages of an individual's life. Complementing the selection of plays is an illuminating group of essays that captures Wilder's reflections on his plays and contains a revealing epistolary account of the film adaptation of *Our Town*, as well as evaluations of dramatists such as Sophocles, George Bernard Shaw, and the Austrian satirist Johann Nestroy (whose farce *Einen Jux will er sich machen* Wilder brilliantly transformed into *The Matchmaker*). This volume also includes material never before published: scenes from *The Emporium*, an ambitious unfinished play that, emerging out of Wilder's intense...



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