



Improvisation for the Theater

Viola Spolin , Paul Sills (Editor)

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Here is the thoroughly revised third edition of the bible of improvisational theater.

Viola Spolin's improvisational techniques changed the very nature and practice of modern theater. The first two editions of *Improvisation for the Theater* sold more than 100,000 copies and inspired actors, directors, teachers, and writers in theater, television, film. These techniques have also influenced the fields of education, mental health, social work, and psychology.

Also available: Spolin's *Theater Game File*

Improvisation for the Theater Details

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Author : Viola Spolin , Paul Sills (Editor)

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From Reader Review Improvisation for the Theater for online ebook

Marie Umerkajeff says

A wonderful basic as well as complicated book totally necessary for me as a drama teacher and also for me as a human being.

Dave says

A valuable resource for my teaching.

Valerie says

The Classic

Bo says

She's Brilliant

Gabriel says

For an Activity Course I will be teaching next year.

After it was stolen, I never got it back, however I got enough information out of it to know that this is for a very intense and serious improvisation class. Not exactly what I needed it for. Some of the ideas were great and translated to other games that I knew, but most of these are too focus-driven for my purposes. Read only if you are looking to teach serious actors serious Improv.

Patrick says

Reading this is like reading some of the books in the old testament. This guy begat him who begat that fella who begat a group of dudes. It's more of a reference book, and it's very '60s touchie feelie but still has some great stuff.

Robyn Sayles says

My improv training has helped me more in my life and my career than most of my formal training. Spolin is the master.

WhizKid says

For CTAR 323 Improvising and Role Play class reading

Viola Spolin dedicated this book to her drama teacher, Neva Boyd (Handbook of Recreational Games) I appreciate the appendixes on definition of key terms, side-coaching phrases, new exercises and traditional games. It's very useful for ESL class.

Bruce Snyder says

I used this to devise my own theater class back in the early 80's. I still use it today when I do workshops for the music camp and Pied Piper summer camps. The first edition was useful; I haven't seen the 1999 version.

Maddsurgeon says

An amazing resource, essential for any teacher of theatre or director of amateur theatre. Spolin has a system, perfected from years of experience, for taking actors of any age and polishing the rough qualities from performance. The idea is to present problems that directly challenge the actor to come up with organic solutions, therefore teaching by experience rather than through lecture or rote repetition of dogmatic ideas. The focus is on improvisational theatre, but these improvisational activities are great for actors in scripted plays as well.

If you've ever had the feeling that your class just doesn't get it no matter what you say, pick up this book. It was a huge paradigm shift for me and I'm excited to try some of these exercises.

Alex Gordon says

this is a must read on the subject. So many exercises in here. Wow! just thinking about it makes me want to start up an improv group to try them all!!! :)

Mary Louise says

Viola really knows her stuff. Her 96-page list of Reminders and Pointers should be memorized by heart, or better, copied and distributed to everyone, art directors and bosses of every stripe.

Kerry says

This is one of my reference books, which I keep on hand when I feel I need a refresher. Definitely is a great companion to the Second City training program.

Jane says

I learned so much from this book. As a teacher and director its a must have on your bookshelf.

Brian says

The "bible" of improv and learning the ways of the greats.
