



# Monologues, Dialogues, and Scenes for acting practice and auditions

## A LIBRARY RESEARCH GUIDE

*Wilson Library, Bethany University, Reference Services Guide*

---

Use this guide as a starting point in your search for information in the field of theater. Ask at the reference desk for help in finding or using any of the items listed below.

---

### Encyclopedias and Dictionaries



Theater encyclopedias and dictionaries are a good place to start when you know little about a topic, when you need an overview of a subject, or when you want a quick summary of basic ideas. Encyclopedia articles are often followed by carefully selected bibliographies or lists of references to other works. The following are in the reference stacks.

McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of World Drama	Ref PN 1625 M3 1984
Oxford Companion to the Theatre	Ref PN 2035 O9 1983
Theatre and Stage	Ref PN 2035 D6 1978
Dictionary of the Performing Arts	Ref PN 1579 M66
Dictionary of the Black Theatre	Ref PN 2270 A35 W64 1983
Oxford Companion to American Theatre	Ref PN 2220 B6 1984
Great Stage Directors	Ref PN 2205 L44 1994

### Library of Congress Subject Headings

Wilson Library uses the “Library of Congress Subject Headings” (large red books at the Circulation Desk) to catalog material. These subject headings are slow to change but are extremely useful in locating books and articles. Subject Headings for this topic include these examples:

- Monologues
- Drama collections
- American drama women authors
- Dialogues
- Stage
- Performing Arts
- Acting Actors
- Theatrical producers and directors
- Theatrical publishing

## Books, Play scripts and Screenplays

The catalog for locating materials in the library is computerized. These online catalogs are powerful search tools, but to take full advantage of them you may need some help getting started. Stop by the Reference Desk for assistance. The catalog allows you to locate books, maps, music scores, videos and CDRoms. It does not, however, index journal contents or include full text articles. To search for full text periodical articles use EBSCOhost.



For a copy of a specific play look under its title or author. For example, search Death of a Salesman, or by Miller, Arthur

Or, The importance of being earnest, by Wilde, Oscar

---

## World Wide Web



The World Wide Web (WWW) provides a means of connecting to a vast amount of information via the Internet. The range of information is enormous, ever-changing and astonishingly varied. However, just because something comes packaged in a high tech format, doesn't mean it's well researched or accurate. One approach to researching the Web is to start your search using a site that is more likely to focus on scholarly resources and critically evaluate your WWW search results.

The New Deal State

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem//fedtp/fthome.html>

The Dramatic Exchange

<http://www.dramex.org>

Play and Monologue Collection from ELAC

<http://www.perspicacity.com/elactheatre/workshop/collect.htm>

The English Server Drama Collection

<Http://eserver.org/drama>

Yahoo:Screenplays

[http://dir.yahoo.com/Entertainment/Movies\\_and\\_Film/Screenplays/](http://dir.yahoo.com/Entertainment/Movies_and_Film/Screenplays/)