



2002

Moliere's Tartuffe

Lena Wagner

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Wagner, Lena (2002) "Moliere's Tartuffe," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 23 : Iss. 2 , Article 58.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol23/iss2/58>

This Play Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

Hischlak, Thomas. *Molière's Tartuffe*. Pioneer Drama Service Inc., 2001. Contact publisher regarding price. 38 pp.

Reviewer: Lena Wagner

Reading Level: All

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Plays; Humorous Plays; Historical Plays;

Subject: Molière, 1622-1673--Juvenile drama; Drama--Reviews; French drama (Comedy)--Juvenile drama;

Theme: Hypocrisy

Production Requirements: 1 set, period costumes

Acts: 1

Run Time: 40 min.

Characters: 6 female, 7 male

Cast: adults

Time Period: Neo-Classical France

Tartuffe is a hypocrite who has pulled the wool over Orgon's eyes, leading him to believe that Tartuffe is really a very holy man. Tartuffe manages to wiggle his way into all of the family affairs including Marianne's engagement, which he thwarts so that he can marry her. The play shows how Orgon's entire household pulls together in order to show what kind of person Tartuffe really is, in order to convince Orgon to get rid of him.

This play is a wonderful adaptation of Molière's original farce. The witty dialogue and constant scheming make the story very enjoyable for audiences of all ages. It would be especially useful to introduce younger audiences to French neo-classical theatre. The language has been changed to make it easier for a modern audience to understand. The message however remains the same. In general the play would be very simple to produce. All of the action takes place in the same place, and producers would only need to construct one simple set. The costuming should also be simple—each character really only needs one costume because everything happens within 24 hours. I highly recommend this text to anyone looking for a good solid play for all ages.