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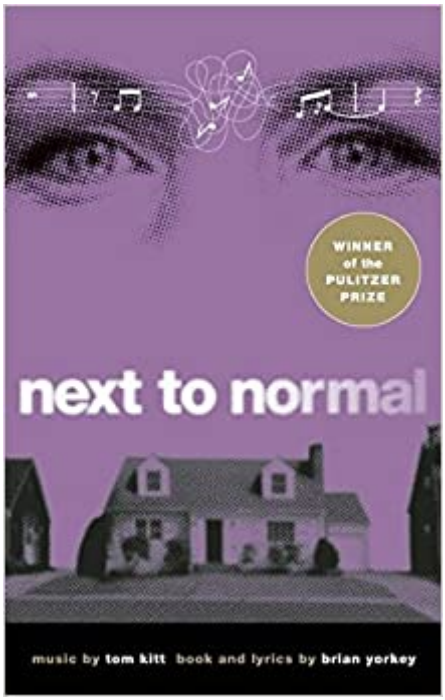

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Synopsis

"A brave and breathtaking musical."--The New York Times

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Customer Reviews

Brian Yorkey received the 2009 Tony Award for Best Original Score for his work on Next to Normal and was also nominated for Best Book of a Musical. His other credits include Making Tracks and Time After Time.Tom Kitt received two 2009 Tony Awards for Best Original Score and Best Orchestrations for Next to Normal. He also composed the music for High Fidelity and From Up Here. His string arrangements appear on the new Green Day album 21st Century Breakdown, and he is the leader of the Tom Kitt Band.

I ordered six copies as gifts to give my cast mates on closing night of our two week run of Next to Normal. I will say that playing Diana was a huge challenge and a gift since my real life daughter played Natalie.Now, with that out of the way, let me say this is EXACTLY what it says it is. It is a script which includes all of the lyrics to the songs in the play along with the dialog. It also includes the stage directions. If you’re looking for a novelization, this is not what you’re looking for. If you think that reading poetry (which is essentially what lyrics without music to accompany them are) is boring, this is not what you’re looking for. But if you’ve ever seen Next to Normal, you also know that the show is about 90% music, so a script of only the dialog would be about 10 pages long. Yorkey and Kitt have perfectly interwoven the music with the dialog in masterful storytelling for this

wonderful script. There's a reason it won a Drama Desk Award and a Pulitzer Prize along with multiple Tony Awards.

This play captures the essence of living with the memory of a dead child, and then pain of an emotionally disturbed family member. As a psychologist, I have seem this played out many times. But the loss of a child does not cause mental illness, and bipolar illness often has genetic roots, sometimes triggered by stressors, and sometimes just occurring on its own.My DILs own mother has bipolar. There is no known stressor other than genetics. Natalie and her share the same pain of growing up.

I saw this show on Christmas Eve 2010 in Los Angeles with no expectations. Mostly, I was curious about what made it a Pulitzer prize winner. It's been four months now and I'm still haunted by its courage, raw beauty, and the seamless performances of this cast. For the first two months, there were songs that would pop into my head at random. Tom Kitt's music and Brian Yorkey's lyrics are as brilliant and insightful as anything Sondheim has ever given us and despite its electric and modern rock sounds, so much of it feels as if its all been with us before when I know it hasn't. Although Alice Ripley is at the core and the star of the piece, it is about as beautiful an ensemble as I've ever seen. Not since, A Chorus Line, have songs been so well balanced in their story narrative and character revelations. The song, My Psycho-pharmacoligist and I, had me in convulsions of laughter and yet when the song was over, I sat motionless in my seat stone cold with fear. It's that rare piece that penetrates your consciousness without assaulting you months after you've seen it. More than anything, I feel blessed to have witnessed such a masterful and compassionate piece of American musical theater. Without being snobbish, I don't think anyone but American composers could have tackled such a monumental feat so brilliantly.

Next to Normal is a groundbreaking show that helped shape a new genre of the American Musical. (Rent being the fist of its kind). Stunning depth and exploration of the human condition and an honest, raw look into the lives of those who struggle with PTSD every day. Next to Normal won the Pulitzer Prize in Drama. I saw the original Broadway production in New York and was equally as touched, if not more so now as I revisit the script.Next to Normal is a very important piece of theater. I highly recommend reading it while listening to the recording.

I bought this script because I had already purchased the album and I was interested in the entire

musical. This came very quickly in the mail and was packaged correctly and securely. I loved being able to read the show and get a new perspective on it, especially because it's not a show you get to see everyday. What really pushed me to buy it is that I was going to be auditioning for the show shortly and I wanted to have some better insight on the characters. I was not disappointed by this purchase and I'm looking at buying more of these scripts!

I adored this musical, and so I decided to use it for Speech Team. I needed the script, and was ecstatic when I found this!It didn't fail to please me, and a quality about it that I found really cool was that for all the songs, the margins are smaller (so they look like poems).I wasn't actually expecting them to include the songs, so that was really great! I give it, Alice Ripley, Aaron Tveit, Jennifer Damiano, and J Robert Spenser 5/5 stars. Fantastic show, moved me to tears.

if you have not seen, read or heard this musical and you are a theatre enthusiast, this pulizter prize winning play is a must! one of the most ingeniously written pieces in decades. full of wit, humor, drama, and heart wrenching sadness. it's an emotional journey everyone should experience!

The play arrived in perfect order, not a page was folded and the spine was unbroken. The story itself was confusing at first, but tied itself together nicely and made for very good analytical conversations with professors and friends. A great buy!

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