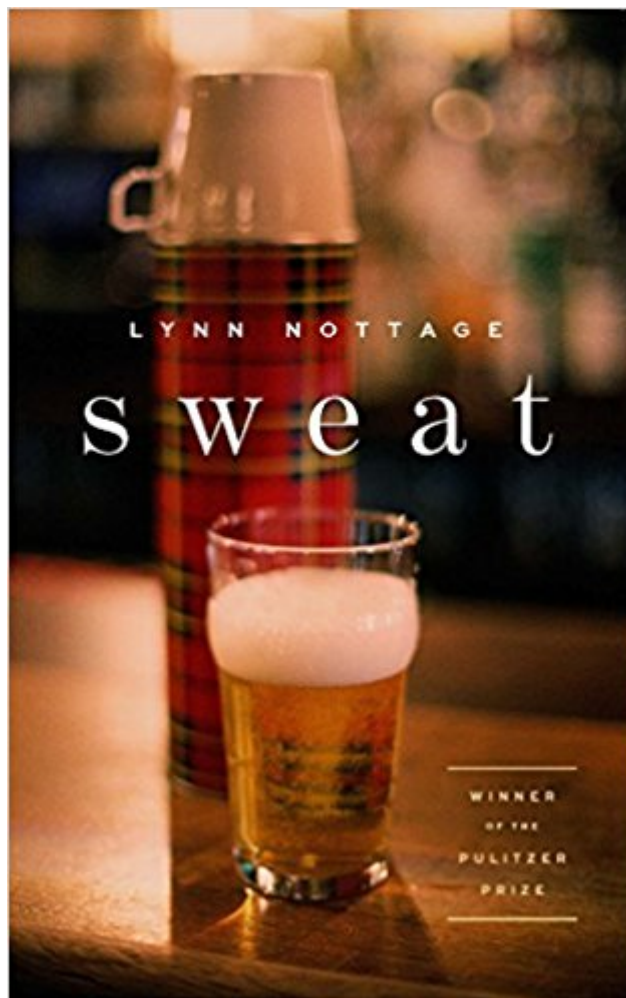


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## Sweat (TCG Edition)



## Synopsis

Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for Drama Winner of the 2016 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize "From first moments to last, this compassionate but clear-eyed play throbs with heartfelt life, with characters as complicated as any you'll encounter at the theater today, and with a nifty ticking time bomb of a plot. That the people onstage are middle-class or lower-middle-class folks &#151; too rarely given ample time on American stages &#151; makes the play all the more vital a contribution to contemporary drama. . . . If I had pompoms, I'd be waving them now."&#151;Charles Isherwood, The New York Times No stranger to dramas both heartfelt and heart-rending, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lynn Nottage has written one of her most exquisitely devastating tragedies to date. In one of the poorest cities in America, Reading, Pennsylvania, a group of down-and-out factory workers struggles to keep their present lives in balance, ignorant of the financial devastation looming in their near futures. Set in 2008, the powerful crux of this new play is knowing the fate of the characters long before it's even in their sights. Based on Nottage's extensive research and interviews with real residents of Reading, Sweat is a topical reflection of the present and poignant outcome of America's economic decline. Lynn Nottage's plays include the Pulitzer Prize&#150;winning Ruined; Intimate Apparel, the most widely produced play of the 2005&#150;2006 theater season in America, By the Way, Meet Vera Stark, Fabulation, or the Re-Education of Undine; Crumbs from the Table of Joy; Las Meninas; Mud, River, Stone; Por'knockers, and POOF!

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## Customer Reviews

“From first moments to last, this compassionate but clear-eyed play throbs with heartfelt life, with characters as complicated as any you’ll encounter at the theater today, and with a nifty ticking time bomb of a plot. That the people onstage are middle-class or lower-middle-class folks — too rarely given ample time on American stages — makes the play all the more vital a contribution to contemporary drama... If I had pompoms, I’d be waving them now.” — Charles Isherwood, The New York Times

Lynn Nottage’s plays include the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Ruined*; *Intimate Apparel*, *Fabulation*, or the *Re-Education of Undine*; *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*; *Las Meninas*; *Mud, River, Stone*; *Por’Knockers*; and *POOF!* Nottage is an Associate Professor at Columbia University.

This is a play in the tradition of social realism and it’s terrific

Thank you

Lynn Nottage won her second Pulitzer Prize for this play in 2017 (her first was for *Ruined* in 2009). This play is set in 2008 in Reading, PA, and tells the stories of several individuals (black, white, and Hispanic -- all born in Reading). Most of the action takes place in several flashback scenes to 2000, where life has become increasingly difficult due to mills and factories closing down without new work coming in. The decline in jobs, wages and benefits hits the community hard, and workers turn against each other. Other problems ensue. Ms. Nottage has a deep understanding of human struggles and a strong ear for dialogue. There are several plot surprises. As in many of her other plays, she wants the audience to think, rather than to feel good.

Fabulous work, painfully true to life. I recently saw the play on Broadway and I wanted to get the text so I could review Lynn Nottage’s excellent dialog.

A good play. Some of the dialogue not quite appropriate for the time and place, but shows the fight for life to remain the same no matter the markets or technology.

A great play. I found the characters, setting, language and plot to be very realistic and the story to be gripping. I would pair this play with "Hillbilly Elegy" (also a great book) to get a good understanding of what is going on in rural / post factory America today. Although the plot is saddening, the ending is hopeful. I'm not sure real life would be so hopeful and forgiving to these characters, but it makes for good reading.

So amazing!!!

It is a really amazing and important contemporary play.

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