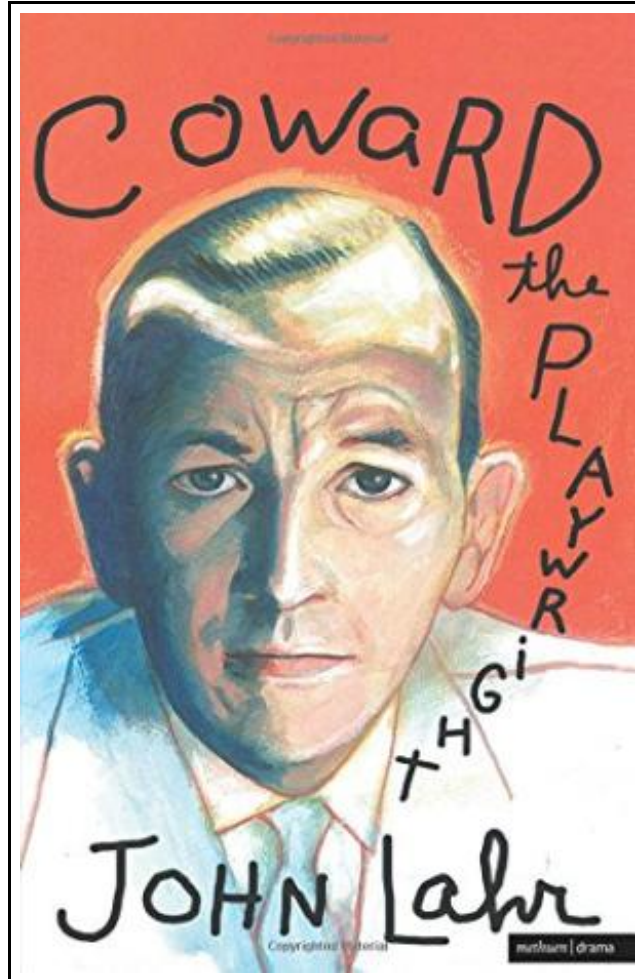


Coward: The Playwright (Paperback)



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Bloomsbury Publishing PLC, United Kingdom, 1988. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 198 x 126 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.A reissue in hardback of critic John Lahr s famous 1982 study of Noel Coward s plays Noel Coward, said Terence Rattigan, is simply a phenomenon, and one that is unlikely to occur ever again in theatre history. A phenomenon he certainly was, and it is part of John Lahr s purpose in this book to show how that phenomenon called Noel Coward was largely Coward s own careful creation. Lahr s penetrating critical study of Coward s drama investigates all the major and minor plays of The Master . Private Lives, Design for Living and Hay Fever make a fascinating group of Comedies of Bad Manners . Blithe Spirit and Relative Values raise the Ghost in the Fun Machine . Lahr then goes on to explore the politics of charm oozing through The Vortex, Easy Virtue and Present Laughter. In all Coward s plays Lahr uncovers a coherent philosophy in which charm is both the subject of Coward s comedies and the trap which made his very public life a perpetual performance. A smashing, thoughtful and very good guide to Coward s plays (Sheridan Morley).



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