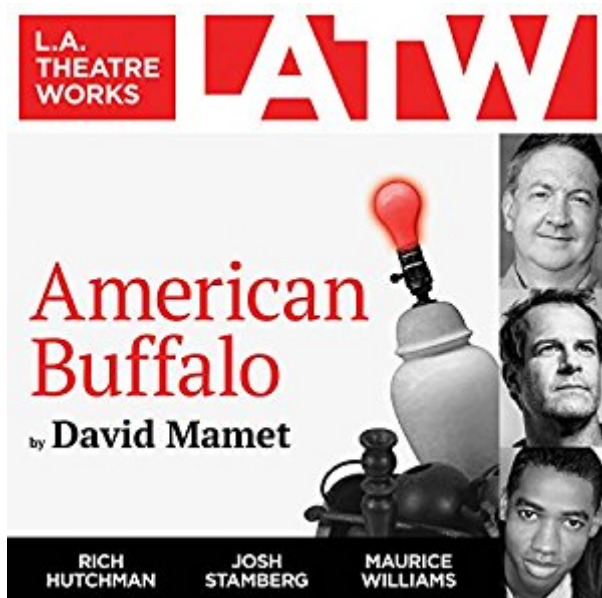


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# American Buffalo



## Synopsis

David Mamet's gift for storytelling and forging poetry from both the plain-spoken and profane turns an ill-conceived scheme to steal a rare coin into a triumph of dramatic art. In a junk shop, three men of different generations plan their heist. But their fates, like the nickel's worn image of the beleaguered buffalo, may have been sealed long ago. An L.A. Theatre Works full-cast production starring Rich Hutchman as Donny DuBrow, Josh Stamberg as Walter Cole (Teacher), and Maurice Williams as Bobby. Directed by Brian Kite and recorded before an audience by L.A. Theatre Works.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

3.5 stars This was David Mamet's 5th play. It was first staged in 1975, but he came up with this final version in 1976. A number of famous actors have played one of the plays only three characters, including Dustin Hoffman, Al Pacino, Robert Duvall, William H Macy, Dennis Franz and JT Walsh. It is set in a less-than-ideal part of an anonymous American city and is a brief glimpse into one day in the life of three minor criminals, none of whom are very bright and two (if not all three) are less than honest. There is not much of a plot. They argue about doing a very minor job. They all often speak around their topics, instead of coming out and actually commit. They lie, get offended easily, curse, and interrupt each other often. This isn't for the faint of heart, easily irritated or fans of a well crafted plot. You can see Mamet's style and language here, even very early in his career. A movie version with Dustin Hoffman and Denis Franz was made in 1996, and is well regarded by Mamet fans. As almost anyone who has read this far knows, he won the Pulitzer Prize for *Glenngary Glen Ross* in 1984. It was made into an excellent movie a few years later.

One of the best American plays.

Good overall!

The book itself was a little different, but it is still in great condition and even has notes from the playwright! Thank you!!

delivery was fine. sure glad, however, I didn't spend a lot of money to go see it.

Superb play, written by one of the masters of our time (though not the most important person on Broadway - George Lane takes that win in my estimate). Book in great condition. Something I'd recommend to anyone.

I am an actress, playwright, and constant theatergoer, so I'd like to think I know when a play is good...and believe me, this play is excellent. It is stark, realistic, and yet has a fantastic quality all its own. The story follows three small time crooks: Donny, the calm vet, Teach, daring and aching for adventure, and Bobby, the slow, amiable kid. Their plot to steal a valuable coin collection is the center of the play, but so much more goes into it. Honor among thieves, the busted American dream, and masculinity are at the core of this piece, and Mamet, with his honest style, pulls off what could very easily be a dumb crook spoof. It's a little hard to read at first, as all Mamet is, but if you envision the story, you'll get through it. I recently saw the play in New York at mamet's Atlantic company with Philip Baker Hall, William H. Macy, and Mark Webber, and it was truly great. I suggest owning the play and getting to a local performance asap.

Three male characters, none of whom are likely candidates for admission to MENSA anytime soon. A customerless junkshop is the play's only set. David Mamet exposes insights into the human condition through the pedestrian, though paradoxically engaging, dialogue of American Buffalo's characters. Men of limited intelligence and unlimited guilelessness. A classic drama that cuts to the emotional core without extraneous fuss or muss. Minimalist entertainment.

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