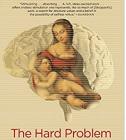
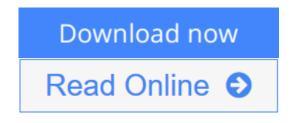
# The Hard Problem: A Play



Tom Stoppard

By Tom Stoppard



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Above all don't use the word good as though it meant something in evolutionary science.

*The Hard Problem* is a tour de force, exploring fundamental questions of how we experience the world, as well as telling the moving story of a young woman whose struggle for understanding her own life and the lives of others leads her to question the deeply held beliefs of those around her.

Hilary, a young psychology researcher at the Krohl Institute for Brain Science, is nursing a private sorrow and a troubling question. She and other researchers at the institute are grappling with what science calls the "hard problem"—if there is nothing but matter, what is consciousness? What Hilary discovers puts her fundamentally at odds with her colleagues, who include her first mentor and onetime lover, Spike; her boss, Leo; and the billionaire founder of the institute, Jerry. Hilary needs a miracle, and she is prepared to pray for one.

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#### The Hard Problem: A Play By Tom Stoppard Bibliography

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### **Editorial Review**

Review

#### Praise for *The Hard Problem*:

"Mr. Stoppard is, as always, an adept craftsman. . . . [He] has provided food for thought, and not just a tasting menu but a full, footnoted banquet."—**Ben Brantley**, *New York Times* 

"Tom Stoppard [is] the English-speaking world's brainiest playwright."-Wall Street Journal

"Oozes learning.... [Stoppard] proves that it is possible to construct a tight 100 minutes of drama around neuroscientific conceits.... He has succeeded... this is a play to admire."—*Economist* 

"[*The Hard Problem*] displays intact the dramatist's remarkable ability to synthesize complex knowledge into wittily metaphorical dialogue... Demand for this brainy, funny, and touching play will long outstrip supply."—*New Statesman* 

"Tom Stoppard's first play for nine years is typically witty—an intellectually charged piece that delights in the slippery nature of language and pulses with interesting ideas."—*London Evening Standard* 

"100 minutes of condensed brain-ache, marbled by wit and some camisoled sexiness. . . . Admirably highminded . . . It succeeds, in my view triumphantly."—*Daily Mail* 

"Stimulating . . . absorbing . . . A rich, ideas-packed work that . . . offers endless stimulation and represents, like so much of [Stoppard's] work, a search for absolute values and a belief in the possibility of selfless virtue."—*Guardian* 

"The dialogue is flashily impressive . . . it leaves one panting with admiration."—Spectator (UK)

#### About the Author

**Tom Stoppard** is the author of such seminal works as *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead*, *Jumpers*, *The Real Thing*, *Arcadia*, *The Invention of Love*, and the trilogy *The Coast of Utopia*. His screen credits include *Parade's End*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *Enigma*, *Empire of the Sun*, and *Anna Karenina*.

### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### **Stephen Conway:**

The book The Hard Problem: A Play make you feel enjoy for your spare time. You may use to make your capable a lot more increase. Book can being your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem with the subject. If you can make studying a book The Hard Problem: A Play to be your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You may know everything if you like open up and read a guide The Hard Problem: A Play. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science book or encyclopedia or some others. So , how do you think about

this guide?

#### **Paul Howard:**

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#### Virginia Boone:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love The Hard Problem: A Play, you could enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its named reading friends.

#### **Christian Fowler:**

Many people spending their time frame by playing outside with friends, fun activity with family or just watching TV all day every day. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by reading through a book. Ugh, do you think reading a book can really hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It all right you can have the e-book, having everywhere you want in your Mobile phone. Like The Hard Problem: A Play which is keeping the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's view.

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