



Becky Shaw

Gina Gionfriddo

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

Becky Shaw

Gina Gionfriddo

Becky Shaw Gina Gionfriddo

"I'm also going to give you some advice. Your husband is not the Red Cross. The last time he started consoling a cute, suicidal chick, he married her. "

"Becky Shaw" is an amusing and cleverly constructed comedy about ambition, the cost of being truthful, and the perils of a blind date. The fast and funny dialogue navigates between five distinctively perverse and disingenuously dysfunctional characters.

The plot is as follows: from the moment that Becky arrives overdressed for her blind date with straight-talking Max, it's clear the evening won't go to plan. In the immediate fallout, Becky becomes an object of devotion for her boss Andrew, who appears to have a fetish for vulnerable women. In turn Andrew's wife Suzanna turns to her step-brother Max for comfort, and their mutual desire begins to resurface.

Gina Gionfriddo's masterful play is a biting American comedy with sharp, witty dialogue and a carefully crafted yet unforced story arc. Character-driven, "Becky Shaw" is a comic tale of tangled love lives and a subtle but acerbic comedy of manners.

Becky Shaw Details

Date : Published January 1st 2010 by Dramatists Play Service

ISBN : 9780822224020

Author : Gina Gionfriddo

Format : Paperback 71 pages

Genre : Plays, Drama, Theatre

 [Download Becky Shaw ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Becky Shaw ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Becky Shaw Gina Gionfriddo

From Reader Review Becky Shaw for online ebook

Kyle Wilkinson says

An underwhelming ending IMO doesn't detract from what is a razor-sharp look into how some relationships can end up being dysfunctional

Lorma Doone says

Very dark comedy. I'm still thinking about it over a day later. Really sharp.

Dominic says

This play took a little while to simmer before it hit a rolling boil, but it finally did. In my opinion, it would make an excellent film or feature length movie and has that kind of sensibility. While it is easy to blame Becky Shaw, the title character, for all the conflict and strife, it is ultimately as the Giofriddo suggests in the preface not very fair. Truly, "every character in this play manipulates other people to get their own needs met," and watching they ways they own up to this fact is where this drama of manners really succeeds.

Sarah says

This play needs a different ending. MINI SPOILER: It sets itself up to be a tragedy, and everything kind of works out "meh-okay" in the end. A real let-down. And why is the play called Becky Shaw? She's just a catalyst for problems that already exist.

I wish the first 50-odd pages were the same, but the ending be different. It's almost awesome, but it's a letdown.

Mark Johnson says

Have you ever read a novel, and realized at some point (usually chapter 3) that what you are reading is a pilot for a movie? Reading 'Becky Shaw', I had the distinct impression that the playwright was auditioning for a gig writing for TV. Not schlock TV, mind you, but good, serious TV that you only get to watch if you can afford premium cable. The dialogue is wonderful: contemporary, sparkling with wit and insight (this play is worth the read for gems like Suzanna's definition of love when Max tells her that he never let's the girls he takes home for sex stay the night: "That's what loving someone is, Max. It's doing stuff you don't want to do. It's staying in bed all night. It's listening when you can't help.") The individual scenes are beautifully constructed, with clearly defined conflicts and ever escalating stakes. The cast consists of five people: Suzanna, her step brother Max, her mother Susan, her new husband Andrew, and the eponymous Ms. Shaw, a temp at Andrew's office who Andrew thinks would make an ideal girlfriend for Max. There is lots of

back story, which is dribbled out on a need-to-know basis via unobtrusive exposition. My only problem with the play is its overall structure. Whose story is this, anyway? The only character who actually makes a decision that indicates a change of heart and mind is Suzanna. I am not criticizing the choice of title. Shakespeare probably should have named 'Julius Caesar' 'Brutus' instead. I felt, rather, that this play was the first episode of a TV series. None of the possibilities that existed at curtain rise are eliminated by the time the curtain falls. The ending is, therefore, satisfying only as a teaser. You expect 'scenes from our next episode' to run after the play's conclusion. I recommend this play for all the good things I said about it earlier. I believe Ms. Gionfriddo is going to have an amazing career writing for AMC or HBO in the not-too-distant future. And I will be tuning in.

Cassie says

Another great piece of theatre from Gionfriddo. She's not afraid of the answers to the tough questions.

Juanita Johnson says

While the plot roams, this is a hilarious short listen about dysfunction at its best!

Michelle says

Some great lines in this one...sharp dialogue and a very vague ending

Adrian Collins says

This play is a delicious puzzle. With despicable and frustrating characters around every corner, the drama of this play is messy and thick. Histories are tested and questioned. Relationships blur lines between friends of equal status, savior and victim, manipulator and whatever else. This play keeps you guessing and trying to figure out if there is hope for any of these desperate characters.

Steven Brandt (Audiobook-Heaven) says

Dramatic plays are still relatively new to me. I've listened to a few that I really liked, and a few that just didn't do anything for me. *Becky Shaw* falls into the latter category.

Based on the publisher's summary, I was skeptical about *Becky Shaw* from the start. It kind of sounded like one of those romantic comedies that rarely appeal to me. It wasn't the story, however, that turned me off, it was the rough language and the loose morals of the characters. There were some funny moments in the play, I could tell because the audience was laughing, but really this just wasn't my kind of thing.

As far as the acting goes, I thought the performers did a decent job. They were convincing in their roles. I

was particularly glad to see the name of Mandy Siegfried whom I have heard on audiobooks before and enjoyed. The full cast is Emily Bergl, Matt Letscher, Marsha Mason, Mandy Siegfried, and Josh Stamberg

Steven Brandt @ Audiobook-Heaven

Erin says

Great modern manners play - hints of Vanity Fair. Can't wait to costume it!

Jenna Nov says

As I have mentioned before, I really stink at reading plays. However, I will give a review based upon what I was able to observe.

Basically, this is a play about awful people doing awful things while also trying to do good things (so they are all essentially human). This play is not for those looking for a feel-good performance. It is offensive, blunt, bittersweet and shocking. Tread carefully.

Nick Barakos says

Mind blowing. Had to read this one for Acting 2. Incredible characters and terrifyingly manipulative. It does what every great drama should do while staying innovative and magnetic. A bit upsetting and it's sometimes hard to choose who to root for (which is probably what makes it so wonderful).

Peter Orvetti says

I have read "Vanity Fair," but the title's allusion to Becky Sharp escaped me, nor did I really see the connection. This is a clever, rather dark play about five young city types and their woes -- and how they use each other's weaknesses to feed their own emotional needs. The most interesting character here is Andrew, whose seeming concern for the title character's vulnerabilities is really just a veneer for his own need to feel like a savior.

I have unfortunately not had the chance to see this play staged; such a character-driven piece really needs to be seen to be appreciated.

Michele Bolay says

Wickedly "gunny?" Please edit the description! :-/

