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SF PERUSALS

The Donahue Sisters

A Play in One Act

Geraldine Aron

A Samuel French Acting Edition



SAMUEL FRENCH
FOUNDED 1830

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ISBN 978-0-573-13234-6

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Minor revisions to the text of this play were made when it was reprinted in 1994, 2006 and again in 2009.

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The attic of the family home in Ireland, once the sisters' playroom, is the setting for this sinister play. United because of their father's illness, the three women talk of their lives long into the night, until the time comes for the ritual re-enactment of a violent and disturbing incident from their childhood. Departing from the hitherto naturalistic style of the play, the author imaginatively uses the sisters themselves, speaking and acting in unison, to create the persona of the fourth character, the young boy, Dominic. When the ritual is complete things once more return to normal — only now the women would appear to have found an answer to their problems, with the uneasy prospect of the past repeating itself … Inventive and mysterious, this play is a challenge to both actors and director.

THE DONAHUE SISTERS

This play was first staged by the Druid Theatre Company in 1990 with Ingrid Craigie, Marion O'Dwyer and Katherine O'Toole. The production was directed by Garry Hynes.

This edition is dedicated to my good friend
Sholto Williams

CHARACTERS

Dunya
Rosie
Annie

The action of the play takes place in an attic

Time: the present

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