

# ADAPTATION: RE-CREATING THE NOVEL AS A STAGE PLAY

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## ABSTRACT

The critical introduction examines Linda Hutcheon's notion that the process of adaptation is worthy of observation, and that in analyzing a novelist adapting her own work for the stage, we begin to see how the interiority of characters can be externalized for the stage. First, I look at Norman Mailer's adaptation of his novel, *The Deer Park*, for the stage. Using Robert Breen's method of chamber theatre as a lens, I examine Mailer's stage directions and changes to dialogue. Next, I look at my own adaptation of my novel, *Three Cubic Feet*, into a stage play, *The Lad Sketches*. By adding a magical character and incorporating an object into the action of the play, among other changes and additions, I was able to externalize for the stage the inner lives of my novel's characters. I conclude that observing a novelist adapting her own work for the stage is particularly revealing of the process of adaptation and helpful to all adapters of fiction into stage plays.

The second section is the text of my novel, *Three Cubic Feet*, and the third section is the text of my stage play, *The Lad Sketches*.