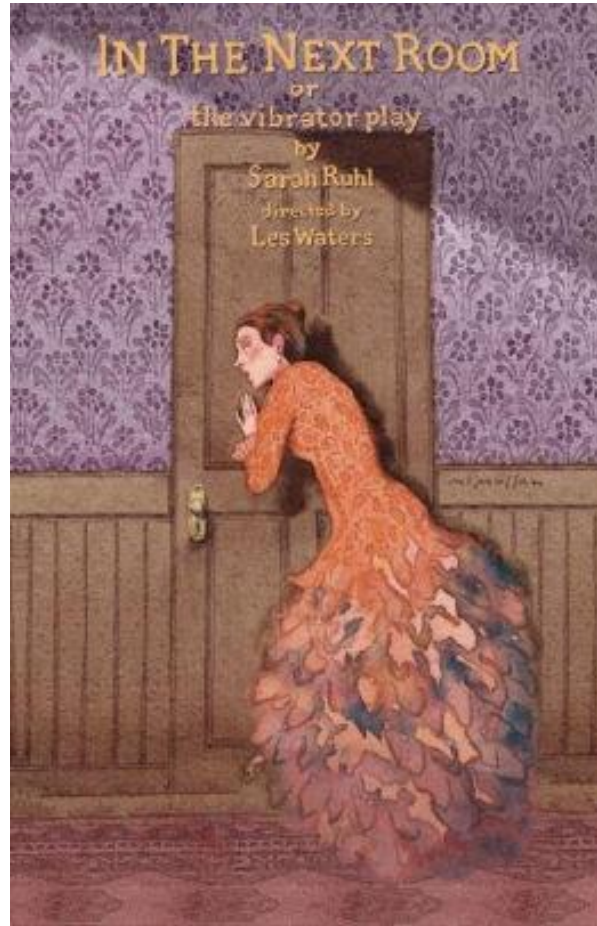


In the Next Room, or The Vibrator Play

by Sarah Ruhl



Hedgerow Theatre Company

June 1 - June 19, 2022

Directed by Harriet Power


Dramaturgy Packet Compiled By
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Contents


1. **Health and Medicine in the 19th Century**
Jan Marsh, Victoria and Albert Museum
2. **Excerpts from *A Social History of Wet Nursing in America: From Breast to Bottle***
Janet Golden, 1996
3. **“Victorian-Era Orgasms and the Crisis of Peer Review”**
Robinson Meyer and Ashley Fetters, *The Atlantic*, 2018
4. **Excerpt from “Selling Sex Toys: Marketing and the Meaning of Vibrators in Early Twentieth-Century America”**
Hallie Lieberman, Cambridge University Press, 2016
5. **Excerpts from *Nerve-Vibration and Excitation as Agents in the Treatment of Functional Disorder and Disease***
J. Mortimer Granville, 1883
6. **Sample Medical Fees: Brooklyn 1882, Chicago 1889**
[Prices and Wages by Decade: 1880-1889, University of Missouri](#)
7. **Excerpts from “American Victorianism as a Culture”**
Daniel Walker Howe, *American Quarterly*, 1975
8. **Excerpts from “Black Ideals of Womanhood in the Late Victorian Era”**
Shirley J. Carlson, *Journal of Negro History*, 1992
9. **Excerpts from “For the Good of the Family and Race: Gender, Work, and Domestic Roles in the Black Community, 1880-1930”**
Sharon Harley, 1990
10. **Saratoga Springs: Evolution of a Resort**
Field Horne, New York State Archives
11. **Maps of Saratoga Springs: 1850, 1879, 1888**
12. **Excerpts from *AC/DC: The Savage Tale of the First Standards War*** Tom McNichol, 2006
13. **Excerpt from *HOME: A Short History of an Idea***
Witold Rybczynski, 1986

GLOSSARY

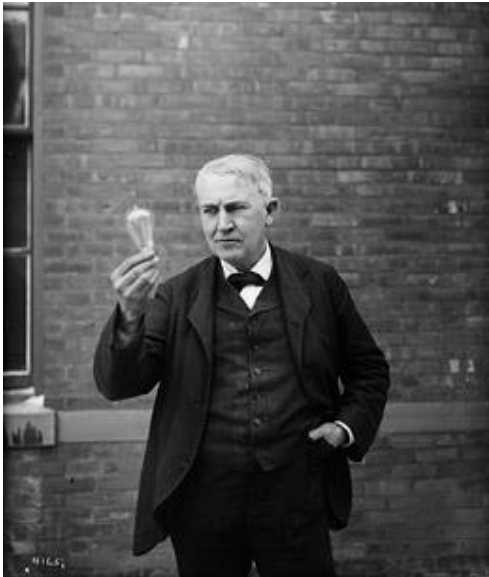
In the Next Room – Glossary

PAGE#	TERM / MEANING	CONTEXT
10	<p>operating theater</p> <p>This term technically refers to an large room where surgeries and other medical procedures are performed <i>and observed</i> (for example, by medical students).</p>	<p><i>ANNIE: This way, let me show you to the operating theater—</i></p>
11	<p>grape arbor</p> <p>A form of “edible landscaping,” grape vines organized across a trellis or standing arch, usually placed along a walkway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to Plant a Grape Vine for a Grape Arbor 	<p><i>MRS. DALDRY: There was a beautiful view of a grape arbor and when the curtains were cleaned you could see right through to the grapes, you could almost watch them growing, they got so plump in the autumn.</i></p>

In the Next Room – Glossary

PAGE#	TERM / MEANING	CONTEXT
12	<p>rest cure</p> <p>Developed by Dr. Silas Weir Mitchell in the latter half of the 19th Century, the rest cure was a regimen of several weeks of enforced bed rest and isolation, prescribed nearly exclusively to women suffering from neurasthenia and “hysteria.” Author Charlotte Perkins Gilman famously drew on her experiences with the rest cure in her short story “The Yellow Wallpaper.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ‘Father of American Neurology’ Prescribed Women Months of Motionless Milk-Drinking “The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman 	<p><i>DR. GIVINGS: And you have tried the usual remedies, rest and relaxation?</i></p> <p><i>MRS. DALDRY: I do nothing but rest! Nothing but rest!</i></p>
12	<p>hysteria; womb congestion</p> <p>A condition affecting only women, characterized by emotional excitability. Believed to be caused by the uterus “wandering” from its rightful place in the body, causing “hysterical suffocation.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The History of Hysteria Of Womb-Furie, Hysteria, and Other Misnomers of the Female Condition 	<p><i>DR. GIVINGS: Mr. Daldry, your wife is suffering from hysteria. It is a very clear case. I recommend therapeutic electrical massage—weekly—possibly daily, we shall see—sessions. We need to relieve the pressure of her nerves.</i></p>
17	<p>paroxysm</p> <p>Literally defined as: “a fit, attack, or sudden increase or recurrence of symptoms (as of a disease) : CONVULSION” or “a sudden violent emotion or action : OUTBURST” In this context, Dr. Givings refers to “hysterical paroxysm,” an orgasm brought on by genital stimulation, as treatment for hysteria.</p>	<p><i>DR. GIVINGS: Mrs. Daldry, we are going to produce in you what is called a paroxysm. The congestion in your womb is causing your hysterical symptoms and if we can release some of that congestion and invite the juices downward your health will be restored.</i></p>

In the Next Room – Glossary

PAGE#	TERM / MEANING	CONTEXT
17	<p>Thomas Edison</p> <p>Thomas Alva Edison (Feb 11, 1847 - Oct 18, 1931); American inventor and businessman. During his life, he registered 1,093 patents, including the phonograph, the incandescent light bulb, and an electronic vote-recorder.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thomas Edison @ History.com 	<p><i>DR. GIVINGS: Thanks to the dawn of electricity—yes, thank you Mr. Edison, I always tip my hat to Mr. Edison—a great American—I have a new instrument which I will use.</i></p>
17	<p>Ben Franklin and the electrified turkey</p> <p>Benjamin Franklin (Jan 17, 1706 - Apr 17, 1790); American polymath who was active as a writer, scientist, inventor, statesman, diplomat, printer, publisher, and political philosopher. Franklin devoted six years to the study of electricity, culminating in his famous “kite and key” experiment. He developed much of the terminology that is still used to this day, including the terms “battery,” “conductor,” and “charge,” as well as the concepts of “positive” and “negative” charge.</p> <p>He also once accidentally electrocuted himself with a turkey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When Benjamin Franklin Shocked Himself While Attempting to Electrocute a Turkey 	<p><i>DR. GIVINGS: I will tell you an amusing story. Dr. Benjamin Franklin once decided to electrocute a bird for his turkey dinner on Christmas Eve. But, by mistake, he held onto the chain, completing the circuit, and couldn't let go. He described violently convulsing until he was able by sheer force of will to let go of the chain. He was perfectly fine! Do you feel calmer?</i></p>