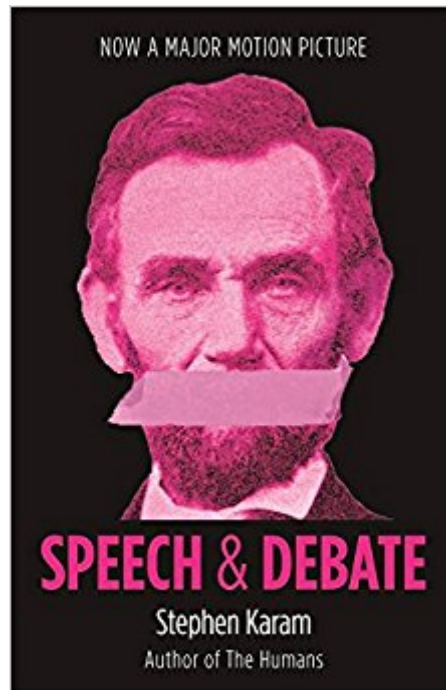




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# **Speech & Debate (TCG Edition)**



## Synopsis

“The play’s real accomplishment is its picture of the borderland between late adolescence and adulthood, where grown-up ideas and ambition coexist with childish will and bravado.” • New York Times  
“You might not expect to encounter a piece of theater as ingenious and cannily plotted as Stephen Karam’s *Speech & Debate*.” • Washington Post  
In this unconventional dark comedy, three misfit high school students in Salem, Oregon form an unusual debate club, complete with a musical version of *The Crucible*, an unusual podcast, and a plot to take down their corrupt drama teacher. With his signature wit, Karam traces the cohort’s attempts to fend off the menace of encroaching adulthood with caustic humor and subversive antics. Driven by a combination of confidence and angst, the small debate club transforms into an arena for friendships to develop and secrets to unfold. Together, Diwata, Solomon, and Howie uncover real truths amid fantasy in this incisive play about sexuality, loneliness, and identity. Stephen Karam is the author of two plays that were named finalists for the Pulitzer Prize for Drama: *The Humans* in 2016 and *Sons of Prophet* in 2012. *The Humans* won the 2016 Tony Award for Best Play, and earned Karam the 2016 Obie Award for Playwriting. His other plays include *Columbinus*, *Girl on Girl*, and *Emma*. He wrote the libretto for *Dark Sisters*, an original chamber opera with composer Nico Muhly. A dark comedy from the Tony Award-winning playwright of *The Humans*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“The play’s real accomplishment is its picture of the borderland between late adolescence and

adulthood, where grown-up ideas and ambition coexist with childish will and bravado.? ? New York Times?You might not expect to encounter a piece of theater as ingenious and cannily plotted as Stephen Karam?s Speech & Debate.? ? Washington Post

Stephen Karamâ™s play The Humans won the 2016 Tony Award for Best Play and was a finalist for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize. Other plays include Sons of the Prophet, a finalist for the 2012 Pulitzer Prize and the winner of the 2012 Drama Critics Circle, Outer Critics Circle, Lucille Lortel and Hull-Warriner awards for Best Play. Born and raised in Scranton, PA, he lives in New York City.

While this will most certainly not go down into the pantheon of great dramatic works of the 21st century, it's definitely worth paying attention to. Able to mix the most slapstick of comedy with a whole lot of heart, the story of a teacher "preying" on young students quickly takes a back seat to the more important issue, that of growing up. Great characters and a fun script, DEFINITELY worth a read.

SUCH A GOOD PLAY.

Bought this on a recommendation from a director. Smart, funny play. My teen daughter enjoyed it as much as I did.

great

A poignant look at corruption, sex and social taboos in our society. And how three unusual teenagers find each other while trying to navigate through some complicated issues.

The description of this play led me to believe it was going to be a comedy, not a dramedy. It's a lot darker than the description lets on. The play itself isn't awful, but I wasn't blown away by it.

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