

**THE CURIOUS
INCIDENT OF
THE DOG IN
THE NIGHT-TIME**

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY
MARK HADDON

ADAPTED BY
SIMON STEPHENS



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DRAMATISTS
PLAY SERVICE
INC.

THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME
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THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME was first presented by the National Theatre in London at the Cottesloe Theatre on August 2, 2012, and transferred to the Gielgud Theatre, West End, on March 12, 2013. It was directed by Marianne Elliott; the set design was by Bunny Christie; the lighting design was by Paul Constable; the video design was by Finn Ross; the music was by Adrian Sutton; and the sound design was by Ian Dickinson. The cast was as follows:

CHRISTOPHER Luke Treadaway
SIOBHAN Niamh Cusack
ED Paul Ritter
JUDY Nicola Walker
VOICE ONE/MRS. SHEARS (and others) Sophie Duval
VOICE TWO/ROGER SHEARS (and others) Nick Sidi
VOICE THREE/POLICEMAN (and others) Matthew Barker
VOICE FOUR/REV. PETERS (and others) Howard Ward
VOICE FIVE/NO. 40 (and others) Rhiannon Harper-Rafferty
VOICE SIX/MRS. ALEXANDER (and others) Una Stubbs

The National Theatre production of THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME opened on Broadway at the Ethel Barrymore Theatre on October 5, 2014, with the same creative team. The cast was as follows:

CHRISTOPHER Alex Sharp (Taylor Trensch, alternate)
SIOBHAN Francesca Faridany
ED Ian Barford
JUDY Enid Graham
VOICE ONE/MRS. SHEARS (and others) Mercedes Herrero
VOICE TWO/ROGER SHEARS (and others) Richard Hollis
VOICE THREE/POLICEMAN (and others) Ben Horner
VOICE FOUR/REV. PETERS (and others) David Manis
VOICE FIVE/NO. 40 (and others) Jocelyn Bioh
VOICE SIX/MRS. ALEXANDER (and others) Helen Carey

CHARACTERS

CHRISTOPHER

SIOBHAN

ED

JUDY

COMPANY DOUBLING

VOICE ONE, MRS. SHEARS, MRS. GASCOYNE, WOMAN ON TRAIN, SHOPKEEPER

VOICE TWO, ROGER (MR. SHEARS), DUTY SERGEANT, MR. WISE, MAN BEHIND COUNTER, DRUNK ONE

VOICE THREE, POLICEMAN, MR. THOMPSON, DRUNK TWO, MAN WITH SOCKS, LONDON POLICEMAN

VOICE FOUR, REVEREND PETERS, UNCLE TERRY, STATION POLICEMAN, STATION GUARD

VOICE FIVE, NO. 40, LADY IN STREET, INFORMATION, PUNK GIRL

VOICE SIX, MRS. ALEXANDER, POSH WOMAN

NOTES

All actors remain onstage unless prescribed otherwise.

There is also a dead dog. With a garden fork sticking out of it.

Scenes run into one another without interruption regardless of alterations in space or time or chronology.

THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME

PART ONE

1. GARDEN

A dead dog lies in the middle of the stage. A large garden fork is sticking out of its side.

Christopher Boone, 15 years old, stands on one side of it. His 42-year-old neighbour Mrs. Shears stands on the other.

They stand for a while without saying anything. The rest of the company watch, waiting to see who is going to dare to speak first.

MRS. SHEARS. Holy fuck. What have you done?

Christopher is frozen to the spot.

Oh no. Oh my fucking Christ.

Christopher's teacher, Siobhan, opens Christopher's book. She reads from it.

SIOBHAN. "It was 7 minutes after midnight. The dog was lying on the grass in the middle of the lawn in front of Mrs. Shears' house.

Its eyes were closed. It looked as if it was running on its side, the way dogs run when they think they are chasing a cat in a dream. But the dog was not running or asleep. The dog was dead."

MRS. SHEARS. Get away from my dog.

SIOBHAN. "There was a garden fork sticking out of the dog. The dog was called Wellington. It belonged to Mrs. Shears who was

our friend. She lived on the opposite side of the road, 2 houses to the left.”

MRS. SHEARS. Get away from my dog.

Christopher takes two steps away from the dog.

SIQBHAN. “My name is Christopher John Francis Boone. I live at 36 Randolph Street, Swindon, Wiltshire. I know all the countries of the world and capital cities. And every prime number up to 7,507.”

MRS. SHEARS. Get away from my dog for Christ’s sake.

Christopher puts his hands over his ears. He closes his eyes. He rolls forward. He presses his forehead onto the grass. He starts groaning.

SIQBHAN. “After 12 and a half minutes a policeman arrived. He had a big orange leaf stuck to the bottom of his shoe which was poking out from one side.” This is good Christopher. It’s quite exciting. I like the details. They make it more realistic.

A policeman enters. He has a big orange leaf stuck to the bottom of his shoe, which is poking out to one side. He squats next to Christopher.

“He squatted down next to me. He said to me:”

Christopher stops groaning.

POLICEMAN. Would you like to tell me what’s going on here, young man?

Christopher lifts his head from the ground.

There is some time.

Christopher looks at the policeman.

There is some time.

SIQBHAN. “I do not tell lies. Mother used to say that this was because I was a good person. But it is not because I am a good person. It is because I can’t tell lies.”

CHRISTOPHER. The dog is dead.

POLICEMAN. I’d got that far.

CHRISTOPHER. I think someone killed the dog.

POLICEMAN. How old are you?

CHRISTOPHER. I’m 15 years and 3 months and 2 days.

POLICEMAN. And what precisely are you doing in the garden?

CHRISTOPHER. I’m talking to you.

POLICEMAN. OK, why were you in the garden in the first place?

CHRISTOPHER. I was holding the dog.

POLICEMAN. Why were you holding the dog?

CHRISTOPHER. I like dogs.

POLICEMAN. Did you kill the dog?

THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME

based on the novel by Mark Haddon
adapted by Simon Stephens

WINNER OF THE 2015 TONY AWARD FOR BEST PLAY

5M, 5W (doubling)

15-year-old Christopher has an extraordinary brain: He is exceptional at mathematics but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. He has never ventured alone beyond the end of his road, he detests being touched, and he distrusts strangers. Now it is 7 minutes after midnight, and Christopher stands beside his neighbor's dead dog, Wellington, who has been speared with a garden fork. Finding himself under suspicion, Christopher is determined to solve the mystery of who murdered Wellington, and he carefully records each fact of the crime. But his detective work, forbidden by his father, takes him on a thrilling journey that upturns his world.

"This adaptation by the acclaimed playwright Simon Stephens is intensely, innately theatrical; it is also funny and extremely moving ... resonates with quality."

—The Telegraph (London)

"... just terrific ... a profoundly moving play about adolescence, fractured families, mathematics, colours and lights ... dazzling."

—The Independent (London)

"A beautiful, eloquent, dazzlingly inventive show about the wonders of life."

—The Evening Standard (London)

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