

# The Boy Who Kicked Pigs: A Play by David Watson

The Boy Who Kicked Pigs is a play by David Watson that was first performed at the Soho Theatre and Writers Centre on 11 October 2001. The play tells the story of a young boy who is bullied at school and who finds solace in kicking pigs. The play is a powerful and moving exploration of the themes of bullying, violence, and redemption.



**Behsharam (Shameless): First Performed at the Soho Theatre and Writers' Centre on 11 October 2001 and Then at Birmingham Repertory Theatre from 8 November 2001 (Oberon Modern Plays)** by Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 331 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 92 pages



## The Story

The play opens with the boy, Jimmy, being bullied by a group of older boys. Jimmy is small and weak, and the bullies torment him relentlessly. Jimmy is so desperate to escape the bullies that he begins to kick pigs. At first, Jimmy's violence is just a way to let off steam. But as he continues to kick

pigs, he begins to feel a sense of power and control. Jimmy's violence becomes more and more extreme, and he eventually kills a pig.

Jimmy's violence horrifies the adults in his life. His parents are disgusted by his behavior, and his teachers are concerned about his mental health. Jimmy is sent to a therapist, but he is unable to control his urges. Jimmy's violence continues to escalate, and he eventually attacks a human being.

The play ends with Jimmy being arrested for murder. He is sent to prison, where he will spend the rest of his life. Jimmy's story is a tragic one, but it is also a cautionary tale about the dangers of bullying and violence.

## **The Themes**

The Boy Who Kicked Pigs is a play that explores a number of important themes, including:

- **Bullying:** Bullying is a major problem in schools today. It can have a devastating impact on the victims, leading to depression, anxiety, and even suicide. The Boy Who Kicked Pigs shows the devastating effects of bullying, and it challenges us to do more to stop it.
- **Violence:** Violence is another major problem in our society. It can be physical, emotional, or sexual. Violence is never the answer, and it only leads to more violence. The Boy Who Kicked Pigs shows the destructive power of violence, and it challenges us to find better ways to resolve conflict.
- **Redemption:** Redemption is the act of being forgiven for one's sins. It is a difficult process, but it is possible. The Boy Who Kicked Pigs shows that even the most violent people can be redeemed. The play

offers a message of hope, and it challenges us to believe in the power of redemption.

## The Characters

The Boy Who Kicked Pigs features a number of memorable characters, including:

- **Jimmy:** Jimmy is the protagonist of the play. He is a young boy who is bullied at school and who finds solace in kicking pigs. Jimmy is a complex and troubled character, and he is both sympathetic and frightening.
- **The bullies:** The bullies are a group of older boys who torment Jimmy. They are cruel and heartless, and they take pleasure in making Jimmy suffer. The bullies represent the worst of humanity, and they are a reminder of the importance of standing up to bullies.
- **Jimmy's parents:** Jimmy's parents are loving and supportive, but they are also disgusted by Jimmy's behavior. They are unable to understand why Jimmy is so violent, and they are desperate to help him. Jimmy's parents represent the many parents who are struggling to help their children overcome violence.
- **Jimmy's therapist:** Jimmy's therapist is a kind and compassionate woman who is determined to help Jimmy. She is patient and understanding, but she is also realistic about Jimmy's chances of recovery. Jimmy's therapist represents the many therapists who are working to help people overcome violence.

## The Impact

The Boy Who Kicked Pigs has been praised by critics for its powerful storytelling and its important message. The play has been performed around the world, and it has helped to raise awareness of the problems of bullying and violence. The Boy Who Kicked Pigs is a play that will stay with you long after you have seen it. It is a powerful and moving exploration of the themes of bullying, violence, and redemption.

## About the Author

David Watson is a playwright, screenwriter, and novelist. He is the author of a number of plays, including The Boy Who Kicked Pigs, The Glass Menagerie, and A Doll's House. Watson's work has been praised for its realism, its compassion, and its powerful storytelling. He is one of the most important playwrights of his generation.

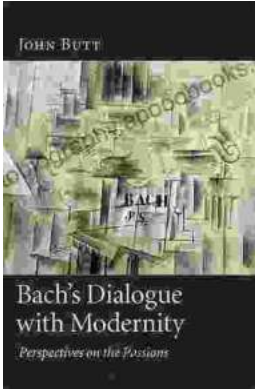


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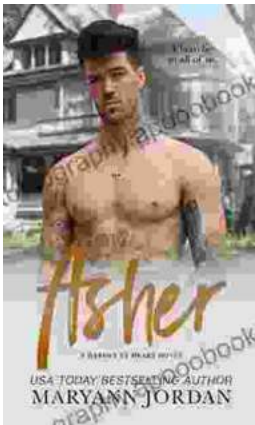
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