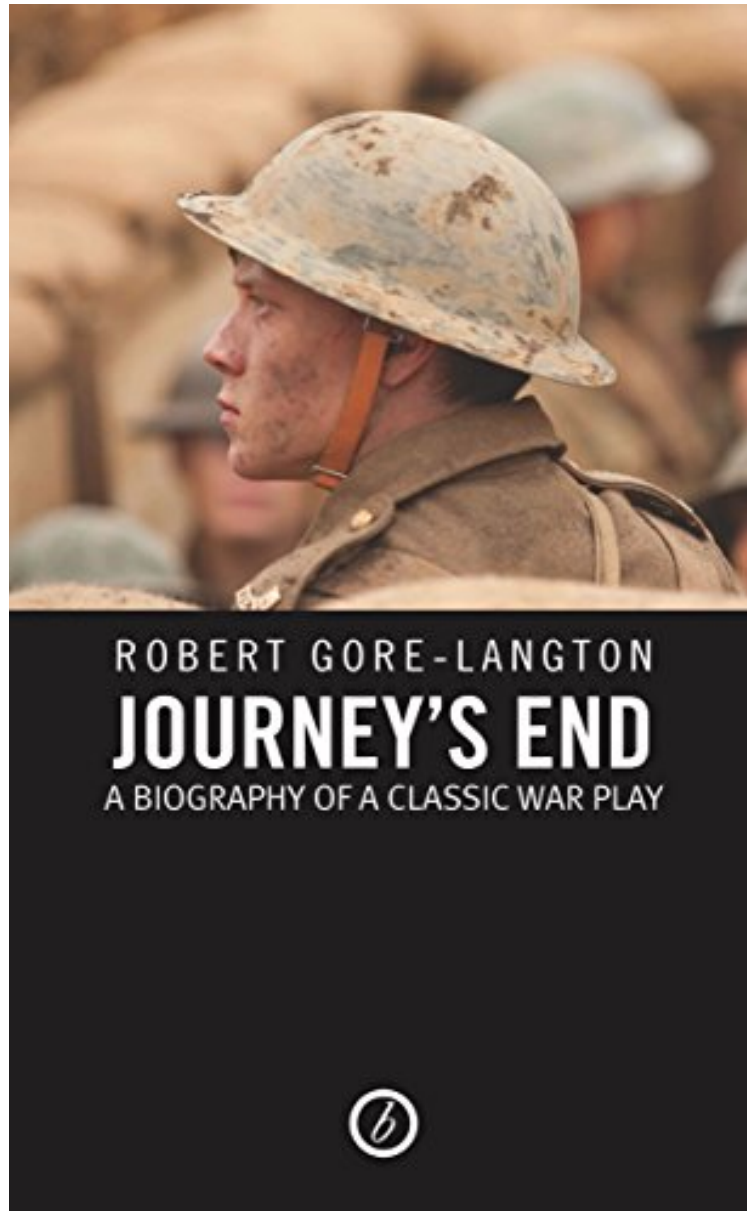


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Journey's End: The Classic War Play Explored

Robert Gore-Langton

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Robert Gore-Langton : Journey's End: The Classic War Play Explored before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Journey's End: The Classic War Play Explored:

R C Sherriffs *Journeys End* is a syllabus text and the most famous play about World War One. First staged in 1928, this book tells the story of what went into the making of this extraordinary and powerful trench drama. It outlines Sherriffs career from humble insurance clerk to infantry officer and his unforgettable 10 months on the western front before he was invalided home, lucky to be alive. Sherriff poured into his first professional play his personal experience of living in a front-line dug-out. Using his diary and letters home, the book charts his emotional life under fire and relates it directly to the play, its events and its characters. It also tells the story of *Journeys End*'s incredible box office success across the world, a triumph which made its shy young author famous overnight. Taking in the history of the show right up to the most recent productions, *Journeys End: The Classic War Play Explored* is a meditation on *Journeys End*'s achievement as a war document, its fascination for audiences when it was first staged and its continuing grip on theatregoers and students today.

"The research is comprehensive and detailed, to the extent that this publication might appeal as much to those interested in the Great War as Sherriff's depiction of it. For theatre lovers, the story of how an unknown playwright managed first to get an initial production and then transform one of several plays in an almost identical genre that appeared practically at the same time into the most popular straight play of its era will fascinate." - British Theatre Guide "Thoughtful and perceptive... This is a book for anyone interested in the First World War narrative and, as the centenary of the wars outbreak approaches in 2014, for students of theatre history and practitioners wanting to know more about interpretation. The book is also a good read." - The Stage