

## Men's overdone monologues

**10 industry professionals and theater educators were asked to score 116 frequently done pieces as**

**1** – I have not seen this monologue

**2** – I have seen it but am fine seeing it again

**3** – I have seen it so often, it doesn't matter how well an actor does it, I'm completely sick of it!

Several of the participants spontaneously created a fourth category, either by actually putting a "4" after some of the monologues, or by putting ten 3's, or by putting many exclamation marks after some of their 3's. These pieces were allowed to have scores of 4, which is why some of the averaged scores are higher than 3.

### Average score/Playwright/Year first produced/Char/Identifying line or topic

3.0 ALBEE/Zoo Story/1959/JERRY/Jerry and the dog

2.4 BAITZ/Substance of Fire/1992/MARTIN/I spent most of my 16th year getting chemotherapy

2.4 BAITZ/Substance of Fire/1992/MARTIN/Publish Hustler or publish Proust

2.8 BOGOSIAN/Suburbia/1994/JEFF/about moving to New York City

2.8 CRISTOFER/Shadow Box/1977/MARK/We're dying here lady...

2.9 CRISTOFER/Shadow Box/1977/MARK/When I met Brian...

2.9 CRISTOFER/Lady and the Clarinet/1989/JACK/Saw himself swimming in the toilet bowl in the commercial

2.9 DURANG/The Actor's Nightmare/1981/GEORGE SPELVIN/Any of it

2.8 DURANG/1983/Baby with the Bathwater/DAISY/...realized I looked more like a boy than a girl, mother gasses herself

**3.3 DURANG/Laughing Wild/1987/MAN/Tunafish monologue THE WINNER!**

2.3 GREENBERG/The American Plan/1990/NICK/I'm a rambling wreck from Georgia tech and a heck of an engineer

2.9 GUARE/House of Blue Leaves/1986/Ronnie/My Father tell you about me? Pope Ronnie?

2.6 GUARE/Six Degrees of Separation/1990/RICK/ Rainbow Room night

2.3 HOROVITZ/It's Called the Sugar Plum/1968/ZUCKERMAN/Strudel-dee Strudel-dough

2.6 HOROWITZ/It's Called the Sugarplum/1968/ZUCKERMAN/You know what the most beautiful word (cellar door)

2.4 JOHNSON/Brilliant Traces/1988/HENRY HARRY/You came in here...wearing paper shoes

3.2 KORDER/Boys' Life/1988/PHIL/I would have destroyed myself for this woman

3.0 KORDER/Search and Destroy/1992/RON/ Baseball bat night at Shea stadium

2.6 LONERGAN/This is Our Youth/1996/DENNIS/Yeah and I always smoke pot with you guys

2.6 LONERGAN/This is Our Youth/1996/ALL OTHERS

- 2.6 LONERGAN/Lobby Hero/2001/ALL
- 2.3 MAMET/Lakeboat/1970/ALL
- 2.6 MAMET/Sexual Perversity in Chicago/1974/BERNIE/Girl in the flak suit speech
- 2.6 MAMET/American Buffalo/1992/TEACH/ALL
- 2.6 MAMET/Glengarry Glen Ross/1983/ROMA/ALL
- 2.7 MARTIN/Jack and Jill/1996/JACK/Nice, right?
- 2.2 McCLURE/Lone Star/1980/ROY/Grand Canyon speech
- 2.5 PAPE/Say Goodnight Gracie/JERRY/Chunky turkey soup speech
- 2.6 RABE/Hurlyburly/1984/ALL
- 2.1 RIDLEY/The Pitchfork Disney/1991/PRESLEY/Speech about frying the little green snake alive
- 3.0 RUDNICK/I Hate Hamlet/1991/ANDREW/Acting the 'To be or not to be' speech, kid in the front row
- 2.7 SHAFFER/Equus/1973/ALAN/ALL
- 2.9 SHANLEY/Danny and the Deep Blue Sea/1983/DANNY/Speech about beating up all the guys
- 2.6 SHANLEY/Italian-American Reconciliation/1989/ALL
- 2.4 SHANLEY/Beggars in the House of Plenty/1991/JOHN/Though it personally shames me to say it, I still have love for you
- 2.4 SHEPARD/A Lie of the mind/1985/JAKE/She was going to these goddamn rehearsals every day
- 2.5 SHERMAN/Women and Wallace/1996/WALLACE/My Mother's Turtlenecks
- 2.5 SHERMAN/Women and Wallace/1996/WALLACE/ALL OTHERS
- 2.8 SILVER/Free Will and Wanton Lust/1994/PHILIP/I don't find my sex organs attractive
- 2.6 SILVER/Raised in Captivity/1995/SEBASTIAN/Mr. Giggles the Clown
- 2.7 SIMON/Biloxi Blues/1984/EUGENE/I was in the latrine...
- 2.6 SONDEIM/Assassins/1990/SAM BYCK/Speech to Leonard Bernstein about hijacking airplane
- 2.8 STOPPARD/Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead/1966/ROSENCRANTZ/Did you ever imagine yourself lying in a box...
- 2.6 WELLER/Loose Ends/1979/PAUL/Happy Birthday. Do you like it? (abortion speech)
- 2.5 WILSON/Fifth of July/1980/ALL

### **MORE OVERDONE MONOLOGUES**

There have already been more suggestions for the overdone lists, and additions will be put up periodically. To be notified of these updates, [join the newsletter list](#). If you see a lot of monologue auditions, and want to suggest overdone monologues, please [send them in](#).

Go to

- [Overdone Monologues](#) – how the survey was done and what it reveals
- [More survey results](#) – more opinions and preferences on material choice
- [Overdone Shakespeare](#)

## Women's overdone monologues

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