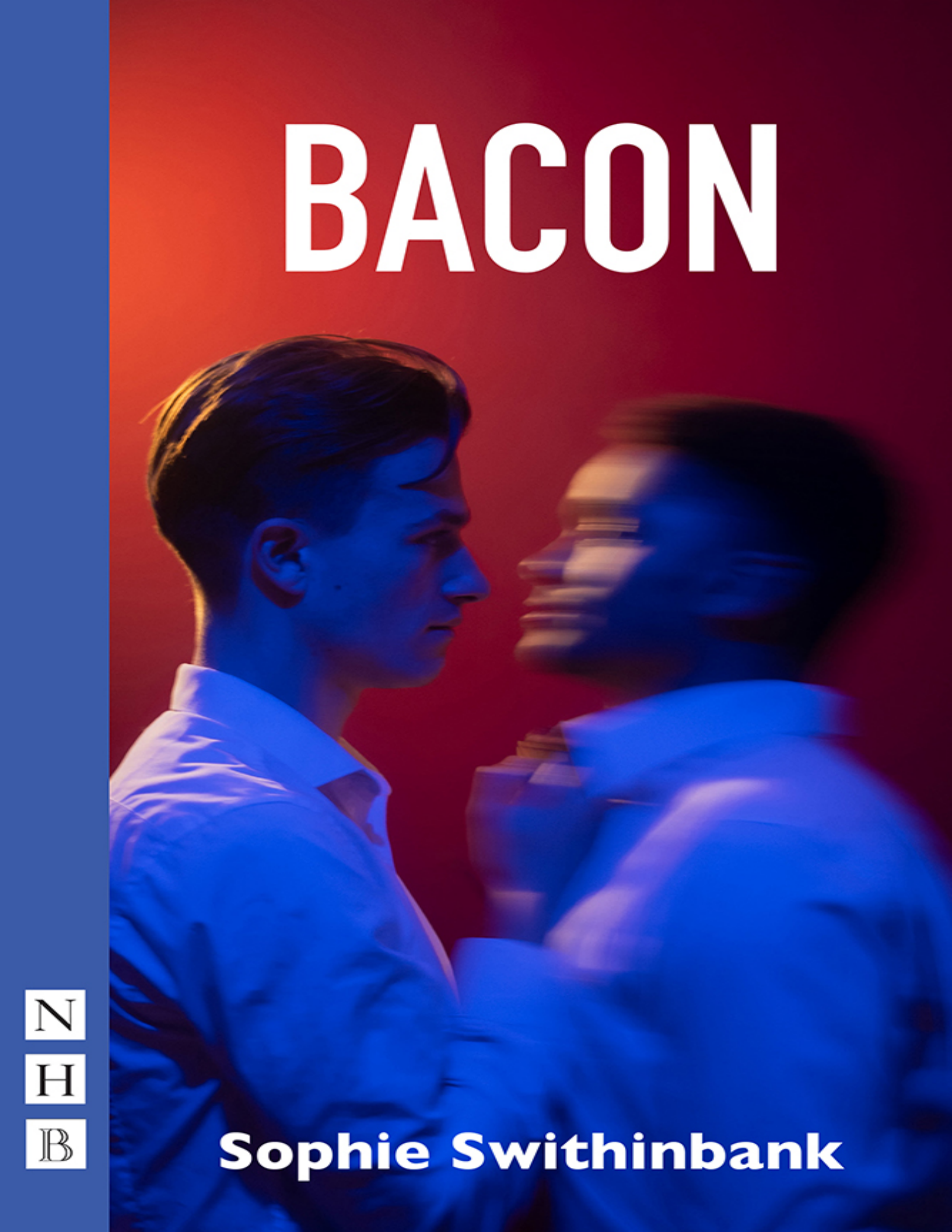


BACON



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Sophie Swithinbank

Sophie Swithinbank

Bacon



NICK HERN BOOKS

London

www.nickhernbooks.co.uk

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Bacon was first performed at the Finborough Theatre, London, on 1 March 2022, with the following cast and creative team:

MARK
DARREN

Corey Montague-Sholay
William Robinson

Director

Matthew Iliffe

Set and Costume Designer

Natalie Johnson

Lighting Designer

Ryan Joseph Stafford

Sound Designer

Mwen

Intimacy Director

Jess Tucker Boyd

Casting Consultant

Nadine Rennie

Stage Manager

Jessica McGarry

Producer

Izzy Hayden

Associate Producer

Alan Mackintosh

Assistant Producer

Iona Bremner

Characters

MARK

DARREN

Characters played by Mark and Darren:

TEACHER

BLAIZE

RYAN

McDONALD'S EMPLOYEE

MARK'S MUM

DARREN'S DAD

HEADTEACHER

Design

The stage is reminiscent of a sad playground. This apparatus should take up most of the space and be used in every scene.

Note on the Text

(/) Indicates an interruption. (,) Indicates a beat.

Words in columns indicate a split scene.

They cannot see or hear each other, but their thoughts may sometimes connect.

This ebook was created before the end of rehearsals and so may differ slightly from the play as performed.

One

Now.

MARK. This is my story

And I've never told anyone before so. Don't interrupt. If that's okay. And don't ask questions because I don't have any answers so I might just stop telling it.

And you won't want that. (*Little smile.*) You won't want me to stop once I've started.

The reason I'm telling you now yeah, is because he's here.

A bell tinkles, and a light reveals that DARREN has been there since the beginning, sitting at the highest point of the climbing frame.

He's here now. In the café. And, well, it's not just my story.

It's his story too.

Two

Four years earlier.

St Michael's School, Isleworth, London. Break time. MARK is in the canteen. DARREN is behind the sports hall. They are in Year 10.

MARK. It's the first day of term and I think he sees

me before I see him. In fact, he definitely sees me before I see him. Because in form time, when I look up, he's looking right at me. I / swear.

Can't quite figure it out. He's looking at me and it's like he knows me. Do you ever get that?

MARK *takes a slurp of juice.*

I can feel his eyes on me. And that side of my face feels hot like the heat after a slap.

It's my first day here. My mum moved me to this school because... at my old school I... yeah...

DARREN. Swear down my form group this year are shit man and the teacher's a massive -

DARREN *looks around to check the coast is clear, then lights a cigarette.*

Finks she can control me innit, this new teacher, man.

She's trying to get us all to fill out these fucking forms. These Good Behaviour Contracts and I'm like, I'm not signing anything. I want my