

Recessional by David Mamet: A Corporate Thriller that Exposes the Corrupting Power of Ambition

In the cutthroat world of high finance, loyalty is a rare commodity. David Mamet's riveting play "Recessional" offers a scathing critique of corporate greed and the lengths to which people will go to achieve success.

Summary of "Recessional"

The play revolves around Joe, a young and ambitious investment banker, who is desperate to climb the corporate ladder at his prestigious firm, Trans Global.



SUMMARY ON RECESSIONAL BY DAVID MAMET : The Death Of Free Speech And The Cost Of A Free Lunch

by Karl Marx

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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Print length : 9 pages
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Under the watchful eye of his ruthless mentor, Jim, Joe becomes entangled in a high-stakes deal that threatens to destroy the company. As the

situation spirals out of control, Joe must decide whether to prioritize his personal gain or the well-being of his colleagues and the firm itself.

With each passing scene, Mamet exposes the corrupting influence of unchecked ambition and the corrosive effects it has on human relationships. Loyalty, integrity, and even family bonds are sacrificed in the pursuit of power and financial gain.

Characters in "Recessional"

Joe: A young and ambitious investment banker who is determined to succeed at Trans Global, no matter the cost.

Jim: Joe's ruthless mentor who represents the corrupt and cutthroat culture of the firm.

Sayers: The CEO of Trans Global who becomes increasingly desperate to save the company from disaster.

Carol: Joe's wife who struggles to understand his obsession with his career.

Lois: Jim's wife who provides a glimpse into the personal sacrifices involved in achieving corporate success.

Themes in "Recessional"

The Corrupting Power of Ambition: Mamet explores how unchecked ambition can corrupt even the most well-intentioned individuals. Joe's relentless pursuit of success leads him down a dangerous path, compromising his morals and alienating those around him.

The Fragility of Loyalty: In the ruthless world of high finance, loyalty is a fleeting concept. Characters are constantly torn between their personal ambitions and the well-being of others. Betrayal and backstabbing become commonplace, highlighting the corrosive effects of greed and self-interest.

The Importance of Integrity: Throughout the play, Mamet emphasizes the importance of integrity and personal responsibility. Joe's choices have far-reaching consequences, not only for himself but for everyone around him. The play challenges the idea that success can be achieved without sacrificing one's values.

David Mamet's "Recessional" is a powerful and thought-provoking play that offers a critical examination of the corrupting influence of corporate greed. Through the experiences of its characters, the play highlights the dangers of unchecked ambition and the importance of maintaining integrity and loyalty in the face of adversity.

As the financial world continues to grapple with issues of corruption and ethical misconduct, Mamet's play remains relevant and serves as a reminder that the pursuit of success should never come at the expense of our humanity.



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