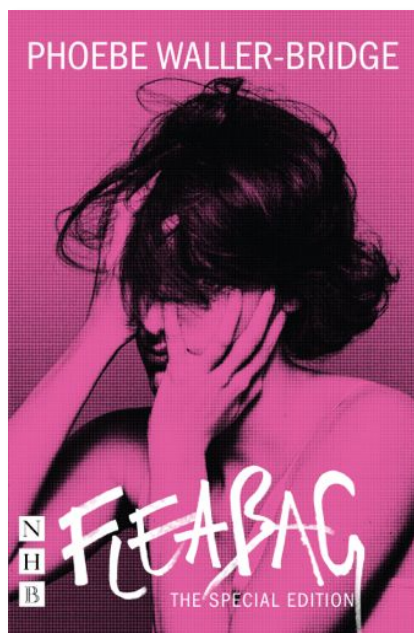


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# New edition of *Fleabag* original play, released alongside the West End run

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## Fleabag: The Special Edition

by Phoebe Waller-Bridge

A new edition of the play that inspired the international hit series, featuring never-before-seen colour photos, exclusive behind-the-scenes accounts and more

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including colour photos

Publication date: 29 August 2019

### NOW ON STAGE

Wyndham's Theatre, London, 20 Aug – 14 Sep

Celebrate the incredible journey of Phoebe Waller-Bridge's outrageously funny, blazingly forthright *Fleabag*, from fringe theatre hit to international cultural phenomenon, in this special edition – featuring the original playscript, never-before-seen colour photos, and exclusive bonus content by Phoebe, director Vicky Jones and key members of the creative team.

In 2013, *Fleabag* made its debut as a one-woman show in sixty-seater venue the Big Belly, at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe's Underbelly. It was an immediate hit, going on to enjoy two runs at London's Soho Theatre, national and international tours, whilst picking up prizes including Critics' Circle, The Stage, Fringe First and two Off West End Theatre Awards, plus an Olivier Award nomination.

The 2016 TV adaptation propelled *Fleabag* and Phoebe to worldwide fame, earning critical acclaim and further accolades including Writers' Guild, Royal Television Society and BAFTA Television Awards. A second series, nominated for eleven Emmys, followed in 2019, along with a sold-out run of the original play in New York.

This special edition of the play is released alongside *Fleabag*'s first West End run at Wyndham's Theatre, London. It is introduced by Deborah Frances-White, stand-up comedian, writer and host of *The Guilty Feminist* podcast.

### PRAISE FOR FLEABAG

**'Throbs with a concentrated, combustible vitality... *Fleabag* keeps all contradictory shards and shades of feeling in play at the same time. That's why it's so gloriously disruptive'** *The New York Times*

**'Never has being a modern woman seemed so painfully funny, brutal, and hopeless all at once'** *The Atlantic*

[CONTINUED OVERLEAF – PAGE 1 OF 2]

**'Filthily funny... the character is a fascinatingly complex creation'** *Guardian*

**'Sucker-punch funny... I've never seen a play quite like it'** *Scotsman*

**'It has the pinpoint observational comedy of great standup, the fearless honesty and shamelessness of a raw confessional and the subtlety to draw you in... both gut-bustingly funny and gut-wrenchingly sad'** *Hollywood Reporter*

**'Frank and sometimes brutally funny... devastatingly good'** *The Times*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Phoebe Waller-Bridge is a multi-award-winning creative, garnering praise for her work as an actor, writer, creator and showrunner. Following its smash debut at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2013, the London run of Waller-Bridge's one-woman show *Fleabag*, which she wrote and performed, earned her an Olivier Award nomination, a Special Commendation from the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize and the Critics' Circle Award for Most Promising Playwright, among other accolades. In 2019, *Fleabag* opened Off-Broadway at New York's SoHo Playhouse. The extended, sold-out run earned her a Drama League Award nomination for Distinguished Performance, a Lucille Lortel Award nomination for Outstanding Solo Show, and a Drama Desk Award nomination for Outstanding Solo Performance.

*Fleabag* was also adapted into a critically acclaimed television series, which earned Waller-Bridge a BAFTA Television Award for Best Female Performance in a Comedy Programme. The second season of *Fleabag* aired in the UK on BBC Three and on Amazon Prime in the US, receiving tremendous critical praise. The series received eleven Primetime Emmy Award nominations, including Best Comedy Series. Waller-Bridge was individually nominated in the categories of Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series and Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series.

Waller-Bridge also garnered acclaim as the writer and showrunner of the first season of the celebrated BBC America television series *Killing Eve*, starring Sandra Oh and Jodie Comer. The series earned Waller-Bridge a Golden Globe Award nomination for Best Drama Series, as well as an Emmy Award nomination for Outstanding Writing of a Drama Series. The first season recently won a Peabody Award in the Entertainment category, and was also nominated for fifteen BAFTA Television Awards, for which it won Best Drama. Waller-Bridge serves solely as an Executive Producer on the second season of *Killing Eve*, which received nine Primetime Emmy nominations, including Outstanding Drama Series. BBC America recently renewed the series for a third season, which Waller-Bridge will executive produce.

In March 2019, HBO gave a series order to the eOne romantic comedic thriller *Run*, starring Merritt Wever and Domhnall Gleeson, written by Vicky Jones. Waller-Bridge will executive produce the series alongside Jones under DryWrite. Additional notable television credits include *Crashing*, which was her screenwriting debut, and *Broadchurch*. On film, Waller-Bridge appeared as the first female droid in Ron Howard's *Solo: A Star Wars Story*.

Waller-Bridge's additional theatre credits include *The One* (Soho Theatre), *Mydidae* (Trafalgar Studios), *Hay Fever* (West End), *Tribes* (Royal Court), *Rope* (Almeida), *2nd May 1997* (Bush Theatre, Evening Standard Theatre Award nomination for Best Newcomer), *Like a Fishbone* (Bush Theatre), *Sixty-Six Books* (Bush Theatre) and *Roaring Trade* (Soho Theatre).

Waller-Bridge is also Co-Artistic Director of DryWrite Theatre Company, an award-winning and Olivier-nominated new-writing theatre company that challenges writers to work with specific briefs and goals to actively engage audiences. She is also a graduate of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

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