One of the funniest and most inventive plays by Britain’s grandmaster of comedy, this romantic sci-fi satire is set in the foreseeable future when actors are replaced with convincingly lifelike robots known as “actoids.” Adam, an aspiring young writer, visits a TV studio to meet his idol, Chandler, the director of a hospital soap opera who was once a great movie director. On the set, Adam discovers the charming android Jacie Tripplethree (serial number JCF 31333) and realizes that the programming glitch that makes her laugh hysterically also makes her more human. They develop a new TV show with Jacie as its star but don’t understand why the studio executives keep shutting it down. Will Adam’s show get the green light? Will he lose his heart to a robot? Tune in to find out! In the age of today’s virtual online assistants, this wickedly funny satire from 1998 reads like a cautionary tale of the rise of artificial intelligence.

Strong coarse language. Appropriate for ages 14 +