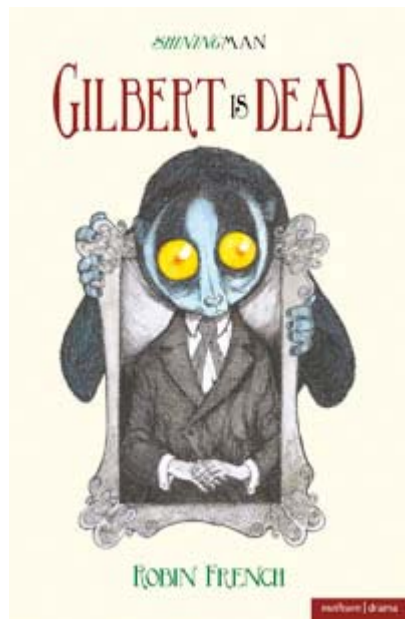


## [Gilbert is Dead](#) by Robin French



*Gilbert Is Dead* is a Victorian scientific mystery play: a clever, funny and moving portrait of grief, faith and science. The plot follows Lucius Trickett, London's most celebrated taxidermist, who finds himself in cahoots with Queen Victoria and our hero Gilbert Shirley, to disprove Darwin's theory of evolution with a stuffed specimen of the mysterious ghost loris. But what happens when the missing link goes missing?

*Gilbert is Dead* was given its world premiere at Hoxton Music Hall, London, in December 2009 produced by the theatre company Shining Man.

**'fun with life's absurdities, but beneath the whimsy lie serious and substantial questions about the nature of existence'** *The Times*

**'fantastical flavour of Victoriana'** *The Times*

<b>Genre:</b>	Historical comedy drama	<b>Fee:</b>	£56 plus VAT, per performance
<b>Cast:</b>	m 5 f 3	<b>Length:</b>	Nine scenes
<b>Set:</b>	Museum	<b>Scripts:</b>	ISBN 9781408127780 £8.99
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:amateur-rights@bloomsbury.com">amateur-rights@bloomsbury.com</a>		

### EXTRACT

**Queen Victoria** We are impressed.

**Gilbert** Thank you, ma'am.

**Queen Victoria** You got here with no difficulty.

**Gilbert** No. I rowed.

**Queen Victoria** You rowed here?

**Gilbert** It was always a fancy of mine to cross the Solent by canoe.

**Queen Victoria** Smooth crossing?

**Gilbert** There was a storm. I conquered it.

**Queen Victoria** Impressive. Have a cake.

*They start to eat. They are clearly nice cakes.*

**Gilbert** Mmm. Delicious.

#### If you enjoyed this, you might like:

- *A Christmas Carol* adapted for the stage by Gary Owen
- *Peter Pan* by J M Barrie, adapted for the stage by John Caird and Trevor Nunn
- *Edward Gant's Amazing Feats of Loneliness* by Antony Nielson