

BIG LOVE

by Charles Mee



Big Love by Charles L. Mee is an extremely loose adaptation of Aeschylus' tragedy, *The Suppliant Women*. A collage of the ancient and contemporary, the play presents a chaotic wedding party as 50 women are commanded to marry 50 brothers. The women seek refuge in an Italian villa, as they attempt to escape their marriages. This visceral battle between the sexes raises timely issues of gender politics and domestic violence.

In a 2003 interview with *Open Stages* newsletter, Mee said,

*"I wanted to go back to what some people thought was one of the earliest plays of the Western World, which is *The Suppliant Women*, and see how that would look today. See if it still spoke to the moment, and of course it does. It's all about refugees and gender wars and men and women trying to find what will get them through the rubble of dysfunctional relationships, and anger and rage and heartache. ...You know, unlike so much drama on television, where there's a small misunderstanding at the top of the hour that you know is going to be resolved before the final commercial break. The Greeks start with matricide, fratricide..."*