

# ENTERTAINMEN

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Compiled by entertainments editor **Andrew White**

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## On Stage

### TONIGHT

**Dick Turpin** - Otterbourne Village Hall.  
Tel: 023 8036 6263. Ends tonight.

**Jack & The Beanstalk** - Bishopstoke Memorial Hall. Ends tonight. Tel: 023 8069 3032.

**Cinders** - The Point, Eastleigh 7.30pm.  
Tel: 023 8065 2333. Ends tonight.

**Jongleurs Comedy Club** (Andrew Pipe, Tony Burgess, Wil, Harry Denford) - High Street, Southampton, 8.15pm.

**Marnie** - Haymarket Theatre, Basingstoke 7.45pm. Until February 3.

**Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs** - Mayflower Theatre, Southampton. Ends tomorrow.

**Andy Williams** - BIC, Bournemouth 8pm. Tel: 01202 456456.

**Pantomime Challenge** - Pavilion Ballroom, Bournemouth 7.30pm.

**Jack & The Beanstalk** - Nuffield Theatre, Southampton 11am & 2pm. Tel: 023 8067 1771.

**Show Stoppers Dance School: Rhythm Of The Dance** - Ferneham Hall, Fareham, 2pm & 7.30pm. Tel: 01329 231942. Ends tomorrow.

**Sleeping Beauty** - Regent Centre, Christchurch. Until January 27.

# Masterful play full of tension

Misery, Maskers Theatre Company, Nuffield Theatre

**STORYTELLERS don't come more gruesome, or frightening, than Stephen King.**

And Misery, with its lovingly described scenes of bodily mutilation and psychological torture, stands out as the most horrific of his novels.

It has also been adapted as a critically acclaimed film and West End play - so Maskers Theatre Company certainly had their work cut out when

## Review

they decided to stage it as the 11th hour replacement for the rather more conventional Arsenic and Old Lace.

It's a testament to the skills of everyone involved, then, that they make such a splendid job of it.

A tense two-hander, it stars experienced Maskers' players Steve Clark and Maria Head as best-selling author Paul Sheldon and his devoted/deranged "Number One Fan" Annie Wilkes.

When Sheldon awakes after a horrific car crash in the wintry depths of Colorado, he finds himself being tended by Wilkes, a former nurse with a sinister past and a very bad temper.

As French and Saunders proved, Misery has the potential for being out-and-out comedy. Clark and Head, though, turn in two masterfully controlled performances that, with the help of just a few sound and lighting effects, create a wonderfully tense and menacing atmosphere.

**ANDREW WHITE**