



theater

SLEUTH

New Recommended At his book-lined countryside manor, mystery writer Andrew Wyke (Mark Capri) is admiring his own genius for plot twists when the doorbell rings. Andrew has invited his wife's young lover, Milo Tindle (Elijah Alexander), to have a drink and discuss a business proposition. Andrew readily admits that he'd be glad to be rid of his wife, but since she has extravagant tastes and Milo has little money, Andrew proposes that Milo break into the house and steal his jewelry — Andrew can make a claim to the insurance company, and Milo live abroad with the wife in the style to which she's become accustomed. Despite his initial doubts, Milo dons a disguise to complete his part of the bargain, and what ensues is a cat-and-mouse game between the effete, snobbish writer and the working-class stud. Capri and Alexander are both first-rate, under Michael Michetti's flawless direction of Anthony Shaffer's well-written 1970 Tony Award-winning thriller that's familiar to many by now. The production also benefits from Tom Buderwitz's detailed set, which the actors enthusiastically demolish during the fight scenes (choreographed by Ken Merckx). Falcon Theater, 4252 Riverside Dr., Burbank; Wed.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 4 p.m.; thru April 24. (818) 955-8101. **Written 04/21/2005** (Sandra Ross)