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summaries of shakespeare's life and of his development as a dramatist, and the origins of the alexander text in the first folio and the 'good' and 'bad' quartos

line numbering which relates to the standard concordances

the alexander text was chosen by the bbc as the basis for its major cycle of the complete plays. --back cover

editor's introduction preliminary matter to the first folio (1623)

plays

the tempest

the two gentlemen of verona

the merry wives of windsor

measure for measure

the comedy of errors

much ado about nothing

love's labour's lost

a midsummer-night's dream

the merchant of venice

as you like it

the taming of the shrew

all's weix that ends well

twei.rrh night ; or, what you wii.l

the winter's tale

king john

king richard the second

the first part of king henry the fourth

the second part of king henry the fourth

king henry the fifth

the first part of king henry the sirra

the second part of king henry the simb

the third part of king henry the sixth

king richard the third

king henry the eighth

troilus and

coriolanus

titus andronicus

romeo and juliet

timon of athens

julius cesar

macbeth

hamlet, prince of denmark

king lear

othello, the moor of venice

antony and cleopatra

cymbeline

pericles, prince of tyre

poems

venus and adonis

the rape of lucre(z

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a lover's complaint

the passionate pilgrim

the phcnix and turtle

appendix: special transcript by sir walter greg of shakespeare's

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after finishing a blissful little re read of the tempest, i hopped over to goodreads to review it... and literally experienced an existential crisis.

why, you may ask? i realized -horror of horrors- i haven't shelved a single shakespeare play on here. and im walking around saying he's my favorite author!!!

so i compiled, firstly, a list of the shakespeare i've read, so i could shelve and review i *i didn't actually read this collection: this book is being used as "all shakespeare ever written."*

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so i compiled, firstly, a list of the shakespeare i've read, so i could shelve and review it. let's see.

1. the tempest
2. julius caesar
3. macbeth
4. the taming of the shrew
5. romeo and juliet

hm. it feels like i've read more than that. i guess because i've seen them performed or read abridged versions of them. ah.

and that's when i had a ?brilliant idea!? i could make this year *drumroll* **the year of the great shakespeare tbr!**

truly a great plan, considering i already have a huge tbr, am currently in a reading slump, and have school things to read, not to mention im in multiple plays and have a million other miscellaneous things to do right now. and god knows what this year is even going to look like anyways. but i decided to go for it.

here is my grand plan.

? read the original versions of ?

-as you like it
-much ado about nothing
-a midsummer nights dream
-the two noble kinsman
-a winter's tale
-hamlet
-othello
-antony and cleopatra
-henry viii
-the merry wives of windsor

? memorize a monologue from ?

- a midsummer nights dream or much ado about nothing
- the two noble kinsman (there's this great lesbian romance monologue from a bi character i loveeee and need to learn)
- hamlet or macbeth depending on what i find and like. then, what with my marc antony speech, i will have a comedic, romantic, historic, and tragic monologue!

theater nerd moment heh

anyways. on with the plan:

? read retellings of/acquire more knowledge of ?

-pericles, prince of tyre
-the two gentlemen of verona
-all's well that ends well
-titus andronicus
-the merchant of venice
-all the henrys (or henries? idk)
-king lear

? ignore ?

-king john
-coriolanus
-anything i forgot

and there you are. the grand will-use-up-valuable-time-until-i-forget-about-it-and-it-is-never-seen-again plan!! woohoo!

also, i have a feeling a lot of my "read the original versions of" books will transfer to the last list over time. just to prepare you for that.

tl;dr: im going to try (and fail) to read, memorize, and learn about more shakespeare. despite my busy schedule and already-huge tbr. this is a very bad idea. kids, dont try this at home.

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re-reading shakespeare is like playing a piece of music. the pleasure grows as you learn it, until you can watch it in your mind without looking at the words, like you can play the music without looking at the score and then can hear the music without playing it. i binge-read shakespeare as research for my novel shakespeare's twin sister. and this edition was particularly good for that.

re-reading shakespeare is like playing a piece of music. the pleasure grows as you learn it, until you can watch it in your mind without looking at the words, like you can play the music without looking at the score and then can hear the music without playing it. ...more flag 3 likes · like · see review jul 18, 2010 erin germain rated it really liked it · review of another edition shelves: historical-fiction, classics, fantasy, fiction, poetry, plays, four-stars finally finished reading this. i don't mean that in a "thank goodness that's over" way, just that it wasn't something i could really tear through. overall, i enjoyed it. shakespeare is one of those, like all mortals, who has his good moments and his not-so-good moments. when he is good, he is brilliant. when he is bad, he is terrible. and there were a few i can say i did not enjoy, at all.

i'm probably inviting the pitchfork and torches crowd, but i have to say that i have never enjoyed romeo and juliet finally finished reading this. i don't mean that in a "thank goodness that's over" way, just that it wasn't something i could really tear through. overall, i enjoyed it. shakespeare is one of those, like all mortals, who has his good moments and his not-so-good moments. when he is good, he is brilliant. when he is bad, he is terrible. and there were a few i can say i did not enjoy, at all.

i'm probably inviting the pitchfork and torches crowd, but i have to say that i have never enjoyed romeo and juliet. it isn't the star-crossed lovers theme, or the feuding families, or anything really specific, simply that i have, since the first time i read it in high school, wanted to reach in to shake juliet and smack romeo upside the head.

i wasn't overly fond of richard iii, but much of that stems from the fact that shakespeare and i are on opposite sides of the fence regarding the plantagenets and the tudors. richard iii is one of my favorites royals and he was writing plays during the reign of elizabeth i, henry vii's granddaughter. to some extent, politics must take precedence. still, it's a well-written play, and i can enjoy it for that, even if i disagree with the premise.

my favorite has to be the tempest, which i read in high school. i love the relationship between prospero and ariel. it just sets up a great tone and i never tire of reading it.

poems and sonnets, there were ones i enjoyed and those i wasn't quite as fond of. still, that's what is so great about a large body of work like this - there is something for everyone and we all can have our opinions about each and every play, poem, and sonnet. ...more flag 2 likes · like · see review oct 17, 2014 marius added it · review of another edition shelves: biblioth que-personnelle, obsession i abandoned this edition because of the annoying political agenda that permeated introductory articles and explanatory notes.

i want an edition that is free from today's ideologies and to enjoy solely the timeless art of shakespeare. i hope my new edition based on the first folio will be more equidistant.

5. as you like it (p. 401-437)

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13 feb 2015 - 16 feb 2015

1. a midsummer night's dream (p. 249-284)

17 nov 2014 - 21 nov 2014 ...more flag 2 likes · like · see review may 16, 2015 suzanne added it · review of another edition my beloved complete shakespeare from college into which i occasionally dip. i have only read certain plays and a few sonnets. have not nearly completed my education in the bard, but i like knowing it's there.

may 28, 2015: re-read hamlet. still not my favorite. i've always wished i liked or at least appreciated it more. this weekend will re-watch kenneth branaugh's "full-text" film, hoping for the "aha" moment. my beloved complete shakespeare from college into which i occasionally dip. i have only read certain plays and a few sonnets. have not nearly completed my education in the bard, but i like knowing it's there.

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for almost 10 years this book has sat on my currently reading list, a daunting task which i have slowly chipped away at overtime until today i close the book and can say i've read the complete works of william shakespeare. what a ride.

i find it difficult to turn around and rate shakespeare. there are honestly parts of this where i pulled myself through, zoned out, lost all track of what was happening, or just didn't feel anything. but shakespeare isn't really written to be read, and i know the same plays that i slowly worked through, sometimes enjoyfully, could very well have me on the edge of my seat in rapturous delight if i saw them performed. there is so much that is not said in this book that gets brought to life by an actor on stage. so much room for them to add feeling, or inflection, or action and reaction. it makes the book come across flat and the performance come alive. 50 different actors can all tackle hamlet and bring something new and interesting without compromising what's on the page. it's amazing.

and even in just reading shakespeare's incomparable wordplay is evident. his works are truly worthy of being the quintessential classics they are known to be.

2012 comments:

found a copy at goodwill, and since i'm constantly looking for new classics to add to my bookshelf picked it up. (besides, i'm in a shakespeare mood.) it's pages are so pretty and look aged. and the cover is hardcover and velvet <3 i might just stroke it occasionally. how awesome for 2 dollars! :d ...more flag 1 like · like · see review sep 21, 2015 nick marked it as never-finished · review of another edition [2015-2016] read to page 438.

in retrospect it was ridiculous to think that i could ever get through this whole thing, but damn if i didn't't try. i realized i wasn't going to finish halfway through as you like it, when i read like the fiftieth cuckold joke in that play and asked myself, "what am i really getting out of this?" true, i hadn't made it to the tragedies, i.e., the shakespeare plays people actually care about, but i was looking at 300 more pages of comedies and 450 of histories before i [2015-2016] read to page 438.

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someday i'll probably read the tragedies i never had to read in high school, but for now i'm all shakespeareed out. ...more flag 1 like · like · see review dec 25, 2009 sommer ann mccullough rated it it was amazing · review of another edition shelves: classics, plays-beyond-the-stage, denison-lit it's shakespeare, what more need i say? over my first semester i read, in brilliant british accents with ashley, the following plays from the anthology:

hamlet
king lear
romeo and juliet
midsummer night's dream
twelfth night
taming of the shrew
richard iii
henry iv (part 1 and 2)
othello
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Read PF Works 37 Plays 6 Poems

Sonnets

review of another edition recommends it for: anyone searching for truth and beauty in words shelves: poetry, read-more-than-once, reference, read-age-13-20, how-i-survived-high-school, favorites, favorite-authors sorry to be such a cliché, but i consider shakespeare to be the greatest writer and poet in the english language, and his is the standard to which i hold all writing.

shakespeare's gift is to exalt all aspects of the human experience, while also entertaining, amusing, and moving us. truth, beauty and humor - this stuff feeds your soul. sorry to be such a cliché, but i consider shakespeare to be the greatest writer and poet in the english language, and his is the standard to which i hold all writing.

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when i bought this it was under a dollar at the time. i always wanted to read the complete works of william shakespeare having encountered a couple of his plays in my literature class in high school. i only wish this edition had footnotes to help with the language and historical context. flag 1 like · like · see review nov 03, 2018 brent rated it it was amazing · review of another edition if my house burned and this was the only thing saved, i'd be.....well, i'd be pissed off. but at least i'd have the best book in my collection. flag 1 like · like · see review jan 11, 2022 chanel earl rated it it was amazing · review of another edition this is the year for shakespeare. i will be updating this review as i complete each play or poem. i may choose to read them, maybe listen to recordings, or maybe watch a movie. if i have the chance, i will go see live versions of the plays, which is the best way to experience these texts, but i can't imagine that will be an option for every play.

i will be writing some thoughts on each play as i find the time. and yes, i know that it is bad form to give a book five stars before you have finished this is the year for shakespeare. i will be updating this review as i complete each play or poem. i may choose to read them, maybe listen to recordings, or maybe watch a movie. if i have the chance, i will go see live versions of the plays, which is the best way to experience these texts, but i can't imagine that will be an option for every play.

i will be writing some thoughts on each play as i find the time. and yes, i know that it is bad form to give a book five stars before you have finished reading it, but seriously, i would give it ten if i could, just based on the plays i have read already.

let's start with the plays i have already read, seen, or studied before this year began:

romeo and juliet— i think this was the first shakespeare play i read. i think i was in eighth grade. i liked it. it is a wonderful and beautiful play. i remember being moved to tears at the end, and then loving both movies i have seen of it. i also read the text of west side story that same year as a comparison and found it similarly moving. romeo and juliet is not a play about love. it may be a fine distinction, but i read it as a play about the hope that love can overcome the greatest problems we face, and then sorrow that it doesn't always work out that way.

as you like it— i was on the tech crew for a production of this play, also in junior high. i found it very romantic, and just loved the idea of a woman disguising herself as a man in order to achieve her goals. (i did not know at the time that shakespeare played with that theme a lot). i can still picture the stage and the people that i was able to watch every night as the production went on. it is a nostalgic play for me, but i don't think that is the only reason i love it. i love it because it is clever and i wanted to be rosalind.

king lear— i read this play in high school. i didn't find it as memorable as romeo and juliet, but i would remember thinking it was interesting and meaningful. i would like to revisit this as an adult and look again at the way the tragedy plays out. i seem to recall that i didn't find king lear as villainous as others seemed to imply i should.

love's labour's lost—this is another fun one. not a favorite. there are a lot of characters, which makes it hard to follow. but at least they make some decisions that lead to good comedy, and everything works out in the end. if you want a really strange experience watch the movie starring kenneth branagh and alicia silverstone. it combines the original text with some classic jazz songs, which is both fun and destabilizing.

midsummer night's dream—i'm not sure i can communicate just how much i love this play. apparently, it is the most performed shakespeare play of our time. i can understand why. when my kids and i listened to an audio recording of this play, they saw the joy of it after only a few scenes. all of these characters—the lovers, the fairies, and the theater troupe—end up in the woods together on the same night and hilarity ensues. but this play isn't just funny. it is witty and wise and heartwarming all while being silly and joyous and unexpected. i couldn't love hermia (or bottom) more. this is a true masterpiece.

taming of the shrew—this is one of the first plays i studied, i think in the same year as romeo and juliet. i both read the script and watched the play. i was young enough that i wasn't very critical and just accepted the idea that petruchio was a hero and kate needed him. now i am more critical about the whole premise of the play and find myself bristling at it a little bit. it is still fun, but watching kate suffer doesn't seem quite right.

much ado about nothing—another one of my favorites, i was even able to perform a monologue from this play once. i love the romance between beatrice and benedict. beatrice is one of my favorite characters shakespeare has written, and probably one of the main reasons i named one of my daughters beatrice. there are so many tender and meaningful scenes in this play. a wonderful comedy with drama and a happy ending!

macbeth—this play has been everywhere. i have seen it on stage, seen movies of it, read it in school, read the graphic novel. it is a good play. i love the supernatural elements, which take it from a story about murder for gain and the inevitable insanity that flows into a more interesting story (to me) that is still about those things but adds in a philosophical questions about greater power than man, and what it would do to us to know our own futures. i don't have anything really deep to say about this play, but i enjoy it, and enjoy thinking about it.

pericles—i was able to watch this play at the utah shakespeare festival in cedar city utah. unfortunately, even though i read it before i went so that i would be prepared, i can remember very little of it now. i remember loving the production. i thought it was magical and enjoyable. i can't remember much about the plot. i may have to revisit this one when i finish with the other plays.

king henry v
hamlet

newly encountered in 2022:

merry wives of windsor—i was able to see this play performed by our local grassroots shakespeare company. it was so fun. i took two of my kids (ages 8 and 11), and they were laughing the whole time. i can't imagine a better introduction to shakespeare. they think his plays are the best plays in history (and they may be right). this is not one of my favorites. it is frivolous without some of the weight that many of shakespeare's plays have. i wait waiting for some important monologue to teach me what love means or why honesty matters or something, but it really felt like it was all for laughs.

two gentlemen of verona—i listened to a production of this play recorded by the marlowe society. i was surprised by how much i enjoyed the sections with launce and his dog, and it turns out the play was over i did some research, and it came out i am not the only one that loves launce's monologue. it may be one of the funniest bits of writing shakespeare has done. i also really liked the way it ended. the ending was so fast, but felt complete.

future plays to read or see:

all's well that ends well
comedy of errors
merchant of venice
twelfth night
measure for measure
winter's tale
tempest
king john
king richard ii
king henry iv. part 1
king henry iv. part 2
king henry v1. part 1
king henry v1. part 2
king henry v1. part 3
king richard iii
king henry viii
cymbeline
othello
timon of athens
troilus and cressida
coriolanus
julius caesar
antony and cleopatra
titus andronicus
venus and adonis
rape of lucrece
sonnets
lover's complaint
passionate pilgrim
verses among the additional poems to chester's love's martyr ...more flag like · see review mar 10, 2022 sathya rated it it was amazing · review of another edition shelves: literature-romance-historical shakespeare requires no introduction -- he is "the bard," the most imposing playwright and storyteller in the english language. and "the complete works of shakespeare" brings together every one of his plays, ranging from harrowing tragedies to airy little puffs of comedy -- and even the lesser plays are still brilliant.

the plays basically are divided into comedies, histories and tragedies. the tragedies are pretty much... tragic, the comedies are not always funny but end semi-happily, and the hi shakespeare requires no introduction -- he is "the bard," the most imposing playwright and storyteller in the english language. and "the complete works of shakespeare" brings together every one of his plays, ranging from harrowing tragedies to airy little puffs of comedy -- and even the lesser plays are still brilliant.

the plays basically are divided into comedies, histories and tragedies. the tragedies are pretty much... tragic, the comedies are not always funny but end semi-happily, and the histories... well, dramatizations of history, which usually make a great deal more sense after some historical research.

and everybody has heard of the greats here -- the scottish lord who murders his way to kingship, young lovers divided by a feud, a moorish general who is driven mad with jealousy, an elderly king whose arrogance rips his life apart, a very advanced version of henry viii's split from his first wife, the goofy prince hal and his growth into a great king. there are feuding fairies, bickering lovers, romantic duke/magician on his island, and gender-bending, an exiled duke/magician on his island, and the infamous "pound of flesh" bargain.

but shakespeare also wrote a bunch of lesser-known plays that often can't be so neatly categorized -- a rotten love affair during the siege of troy, a roman general attacking his own city, an athenian gentleman embittered by humanity, richard iii's machiavellian plot to become king, two sets of twins separated at birth, a corrupt judge obsessed with a lovely nun, falstaff's doomed efforts to make money, and so on. some of these ("troilus and cressida") aren't nearly as good as his "main" body of work, but they're still excellent.

for all shakespeare's plays, it's best to read them after you've seen a good performance. otherwise, it's like reading a movie script to a movie you haven't seen -- easy to get lost, and the dramatic effects aren't easy to connect to. but if you've seen performances of any/all of shakespeare's plays, then his vibrant stories and poetry leap off the page.

there are long eloquent speeches, puns, clever linguistic twists, and evocative language that soaks the play in atmosphere ("with sweet musk-roses and with eglantine/there sleeps titania sometime of the night/lull'd in these flowers with dances and delight..."). in fact, his plays are diamond mines of quotations -- some are infamous ("to be or not to be") and some of which have floated into public knowledge without labels ("cowards die many times before their deaths/the valiant never taste of death but once").

and while some of his plays are basically fluff, he manages to weave in moral questions, criticism and explorations of the human soul. and his characters range as far as his plots -- kings and princes, teenage lovers, proud but doomed warriors, clever young ladies in drag, bratty queens, the witty but combative beatrice and benedick, and even the puppet-master mage prospero.

shakespeare's "complete works" is a must-have for anyone who loves the english language -- his writing was unparalleled, and even his lesser plays are a cut above the rest. ...more flag like · see review aug 04, 2020 william rated it it was amazing · review of another edition obviously, i didn't read all of shakespeare's writings. in fact, i only read julius caesar. i had never read shakespeare before now, and it was a real treat. julius caesar was incredibly interesting and historically educating. i had not thought much of it before, but this particular moment of the death of julius and the rise of octavius, and the death of cicero and marcus brutus - this whole account and unrest was the time in which jesus was born into, though several hundred miles to the east. on obviously, i didn't read all of shakespeare's writings. in fact, i only read julius caesar. i had never read shakespeare before now, and it was a real treat. julius caesar was incredibly interesting and historically educating. i had not thought much of it before, but this particular moment of the death of julius and the rise of octavius, and the death of cicero and marcus brutus - this whole account and unrest was the time in which jesus was born into, though several hundred miles to the east. one of the fascinating things about this event was the official failing of rome's mixed constitution by becoming too monarchical with cult of personality leaders. this translation read very well, and i look forward to future shakespeare reads. ...more flag like · see review jan 16, 2022 eilene rated it it was amazing · review of another edition this is the definitive collection of shakespeare. i say that because the english professors for years required this version. i own it even though i majored in engineering. i think that speaks for itself. flag like · see review jun 26, 2021 h. thompson rated it it was amazing · review of another edition shelves: studying a standard on my studying list, a good start if you're a writer who wants to study the classics a standard on my studying list, a good start if you're a writer who wants to study the classics ...more flag like · see review nov 09, 2021 r.s green rated it really liked it · review of another edition incredible. stunning. inventive. hard work at times but obviously amazing. flag like · see review jan 17, 2022 jessica fiedorowicz added it · review of another edition how do you rate every work of william shakespeare? flag like · see review apr 18, 2022 sirral47 rated it liked it · review of another edition i used this nook for class and ended up reading the rest of the book. it was a easy read. flag like · see review mar 01, 2021 ph. d. rated it it was amazing · review of another edition shelves: fiction, 5-freds took me the entire pandemic, but i read it all. i had to reward myself with one of the good ones to get myself through the histories and a few dogs (sacrilege, i know, but the bard did write a few dogs). my final tally:

5 willies (3): hamlet, macbeth, julius caesar
4 willies (8): the tempest, othello, king lear, romeo & juliet, a midsummer night's dream, the merry wives of windsor, the merchant of venice, henry v
3 willies (16): as you like it, the comedy of errors, the taming of the shrew, anto took me the entire pandemic, but i read it all. i had to reward myself with one of the good ones to get myself through the histories and a few dogs (sacrilege, i know, but the bard did write a few dogs). my final tally:

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3 willies (16): as you like it, the comedy of errors, the taming of the shrew, antony & cleopatra, richard iii, much ado about nothing, henry iv, pts.1 and 2, coriolanus, all's well that ends well, twelfth night, two gentlemen of verona, troilus and cressida, the winter's tale, sonnets and other poems
2 willies (7): henry iv pt. 2, henry viii, measure for measure, love's labour's lost, the two noble kinsmen, venus & adonis, the rape of lucrece
1 willie (7): king john, cymbeline, pericles, henry iv pts. 1 and 3, timon of athens, titus andronicus

if you have indulged me thus far, gentle reader, herewith i present a bonus track: a shakespearean ode from the bard of hamilton:

when i consider where my life has been,
the things that i have gained, and what was lost:
what i was sure was mine to go and win,
but in the winning, failed to count the cost —
my every action issued from a choice
that moved me toward or farther from the truth.
i've learned that everyone deserves a voice;
the price i paid for wisdom was my youth.
the only gifts that last are those we give,
and what we give is what we get to keep.
"do unto others" is the way to live;
god's grace is free, but very far from cheap.
my legacy (and all that i'm sure of):
the only thing is faith expressed through love.

...more flag like · see review jun 03, 2014 sarah rated it it was amazing · review of another edition shelves: nice-design, recommended, favorites, beautiful-words, for-a-class, great-characters, poetry-verse-and-drama, shakespeare-interest so the way this is going to work is this: starting now (1/9/19) i&apost;ll make a note of which plays i read each year. i like to read at least two, usually in the summer, to keep my hand in. i&apost;ve done my best to list below the dates on which i think i read the plays before this year, but no guarantees. someday i&apost;m really going to have to read the poetry instead of just the plays...

Read P1F Works 37 Plays 6 Poems

Sonnets

have read:

a midsummer night's dream (2003, 2009, 2013)
the merchant of venice (2008, 2009)
the merry wives of windsor (2017 so the way this is going to work is this: starting now (1/9/19) i'll make a note of which plays i read each year. i like to read at least two, usually in the summer, to keep my hand in. i've done my best to list below the dates on which i think i read the plays before this year, but no guarantees. someday i'm really going to have to read the poetry instead of just the plays...

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the winter's tale (2017)
the tempest (2009, 2018)
henry vi part i (2016, 2018)
henry vi part ii (2016, 2018)
henry vi part iii (2016, 2019)
richard iii (2016, 2019)
richard ii (2015, 2018)
henry iv part i (2009, 2015, 2018)
henry iv part ii (2015, 2018)
henry v (2015, 2018)
titus andronicus (2013)
romeo and juliet (2004, 2009)
hamlet (2007, 2009, 2011)
othello (2009, 2014)
king lear, 1608 quarto & 1623 folio (2018)
macbeth (2006, 2007, 2009, 2013, 2017) ...more flag like - see review oct 02, 2016 ? . ?????? rated it it was amazing · review of another edition this is a very quick 'review' of the complete pelican edition.

(1) great value. everything in one volume.

(2) quality of annotations pretty good for the most part. there will be moments of frustration (unnecessary annotation, annotations missing or unclear, etc.). various professors have annotated the different plays, so it depends. but penguin strikes just about the right balance between too much and too little annotation, i think, for the person who simply wants to read and enjoy shakespeare. i' this is a very quick 'review' of the complete pelican edition.

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(3) choice of typeface (adobe minion): a-. paper quality: b+.

(4) distance from text to annotation (which affects reading speed): b+. but this is because it's a huge volume, and you wouldn't get such a great value if it wasn't a big volume.

(5) quality of introductions, etc.: generally okay. i don't spend much time with them.

...more flag like · see review jul 19, 2018 sch rated it it was amazing · review of another edition shelves: csl-letters, in-pieces, shkspr 2021 jul. notes on introductory essays:

* the pelican introduction to measure for measure is worlds apart from the parallel essay in the riverside edition (1997): sane, wise, less self-involved. think i'll stick with this older text.

* the pericles introduction by james g. mcmanaway is suitably text-critical.

* the cymbeline introduction by robert b. heilman is bloated (too much general discussion of genre) but contains a good point about the subtle or relative complexity of characters, both major 2021 jul. notes on introductory essays:

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* the winter's tale introduction by baldwin maxwell combines a charming invitation to the play with a concise explanation of shakespeare's sources and a brief historical survey of criticism, ending with e.m.w. tillyard's interpretation.

2018 jul. reading select introductions to plays and the general essays at the beginning of the volume. ...more flag like · see review nov 27, 2007 fostergrants rated it it was amazing · review of another edition recommends it for: shakespeare fans i am not comfortable enough to do a critique of shakespeare so i will review the book itself...this was my first ever "fancy book". a shiny green leather-ish cover with gold letters and big swan printed on the front. the edges of the page are gilded and there was a rich green ribbon bookmark - i thought all these things were so expensive at the time and it made me think the words within had to be very important. i have used this book as a table, a plant stand, a weapon, a leaf press and just dec i am not comfortable enough to do a critique of shakespeare so i will review the book itself...this was my first ever "fancy book". a shiny green leather-ish cover with gold letters and big swan printed on the front. the edges of the page are gilded and there was a rich green ribbon bookmark - i thought all these things were so expensive at the time and it made me think the words within had to be very important. i have used this book as a table, a plant stand, a weapon, a leaf press and just decor. a boyfriend gave it to me when i was 16 - i'm 40 now so the gilding is faded and the ribbon is pea soup colored, but i still love it - and i've actually read quite a bit of it. thank you ms - i have not forgotten. ...more flag like · see review oct 01, 2009 h added it · review of another edition shelves: shakespeare favorite play read: julius caesar

favorite play performed: twelfth night

favorite character: actors playing the wall & moon in midsummer night's dream

favorite line: from two gents of verona
speed: how then? shall he marry her?
launce: no, neither.

speed: what, are they broken?
launce: no, they are both as whole as a fish.

favorite adaptation/modernization: rosenkrantz & guildenstern are dead

skipped most of the 150 sonnets. have now read or seen, in historical order:

richard iii
taming of the shrew
titus a favorite play read: julius caesar

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1 henry iv
henry v
twelfth night
as you like it
julius caesar
hamlet
othello
measure for measure
macbeth
antony and cleopatra
the tempest ...more flag like · see review view all 5 comments jun 06, 2007 jordan rated it it was amazing · review of another edition shelves: théâtre, shakespeare on 5 may 2012, i finished shakespeare. the thirty-seven canonical plays, plus *two noble kinsmen* and *edward iii*, and the poetry included in the *complete pelican shakespeare*. * this is to say i have read it all, not that i have unpacked it all. i am far more familiar with some plays than others, and i am far more interested in working further with some plays than others.

*i don't actually have a specific memory of reading much ado about nothing, but i've seen it twice on stage (plus once on film) an on 5 may 2012, i finished shakespeare. the thirty-seven canonical plays, plus *two noble kinsmen* and *edward iii*, and the poetry included in the *complete pelican shakespeare*. * this is to say i have read it all, not that i have unpacked it all. i am far more familiar with some plays than others, and i am far more interested in working further with some plays than others.

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shakespeare was born and raised in stratford-upon-avon. scholars believe that he died on his fifty-second birthday, coinciding with st george's day.

at the age of 18 he married anne hathaway, who bore him three children: susanna, and twins hamnet and judith. between 1585 and 1592 he began a successful career in london as an actor, writer, and part owner of the playing company the lord chamberlain's men, later known as the king's men. he appears to have retired to stratford around 1613, where he died three years later. few records of shakespeare's private life survive, and there has been considerable speculation about such matters as his sexuality, religious beliefs, and whether the works attributed to him were written by others.

shakespeare produced most of his known work between 1590 and 1613. his early plays were mainly comedies and histories, genres he raised to the peak of sophistication and artistry by the end of the sixteenth century. next he wrote mainly tragedies until about 1608, including *hamlet*, *king lear*, and *macbeth*, considered some of the finest examples in the english language. in his last phase, he wrote tragicomedies, also known as romances, and collaborated with other playwrights. many of his plays were published in editions of varying quality and accuracy during his lifetime, and in 1623, two of his former theatrical colleagues published the *first folio*, a collected edition of his dramatic works that included all but two of the plays now recognised as shakespeare's.

shakespeare was a respected poet and playwright in his own day, but his reputation did not rise to its present heights until the nineteenth century. the romantics, in particular, acclaimed shakespeare's genius, and the victorians hero-worshipped shakespeare with a reverence that george bernard shaw called "bardolatry". in the twentieth century, his work was repeatedly adopted and rediscovered by new movements in scholarship and performance. his plays remain highly popular today and are consistently performed and reinterpreted in diverse cultural and political contexts throughout the world.

according to historians, shakespeare wrote 37 plays and 154 sonnets throughout the span of his life. shakespeare's writing average was 1.5 plays a year since he first started writing in 1589. there have been plays and sonnets attributed to shakespeare that were not authentically written by the great master of language and literature.

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i hear voices
they aren't in my head
they'r in my basemant
the voices scream and beg for me to let them go
but i will not do that
they know that i will make them pay
but they don't wanna to understand that
so today i will go and play~

kazumi kahari monday, march 20, 2017 **topic(s) of this poem:** sad poem poems screams scream downlodi image of this poem. report this poem poems kazumi kahari i see happiness everywhere me play~ 'friend' see all poems by kazumi kahari comments of the poem see all comments 4 / 4 previous poem kazumi kahari kazumi kahari poet's page poems more activity quotes following followers statistics my profile add new poem add new quote 4 / 4 previous poem best poems 1. stopping by woods on a snowy evening robert frost 2. annabel lee edgar allan poe 3. if rudyard kipling 4. do not stand at my grave and weep mary elizabeth frye 5. phenomenal woman maya angelou 6. dreams langston hughes 7. the road not taken robert frost 8. still i rise maya angelou 9. if you forget me pablo neruda 10. caged bird maya angelou all poems best poets 1. pablo neruda 2. maya angelou 3. derek walcott 4. robert frost 5. rabindranath tagore 6. langston hughes 7. william shakespeare 8. shel silverstein 9. emily dickinson 10. william wordsworth all poets read this poem in other languages

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