



Shakespeare After All

By Marjorie Garber



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Shakespeare After All By Marjorie Garber

A brilliant and companionable tour through all thirty-eight plays, *Shakespeare After All* is the perfect introduction to the bard by one of the country's foremost authorities on his life and work.

Drawing on her hugely popular lecture courses at Yale and Harvard over the past thirty years, Marjorie Garber offers passionate and revealing readings of the plays in chronological sequence, from *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* to *The Two Noble Kinsmen*. Supremely readable and engaging, and complete with a comprehensive introduction to Shakespeare's life and times and an extensive bibliography, this magisterial work is an ever-replenishing fount of insight on the most celebrated writer of all time.



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Editorial Review

From [The New Yorker](#)

In recent years, Garber, a professor at Harvard, has attracted notice with offbeat work about such subjects as dogs and cross-dressing, but this book—a collection of her lectures on each of Shakespeare's plays—marks a return to the core curriculum. Garber is appealingly undogmatic, deploying insights from textual scholarship, post-colonial theory, and Elizabethan stage history, without being beholden to any single approach. Although she has no blockbuster Bard thesis to prove, her introduction is an exemplary account of what is known about Shakespeare and how his work has been read and regarded through the centuries, while the individual essays display scrupulous and subtle close reading. It is well known that Romeo and Juliet's first lines to each other form a sonnet, but Garber adds that it reverses the Petrarchan tradition of unrequited love: it is "a sonnet that works. It results in a kiss."

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Remember the last time you read a work of literary criticism and actually understood it? The tide has changed with *Shakespeare After All*. Forgoing cultural studies jargon for an eclectic approach that draws from gender studies, post-colonial theory, and Elizabethan stage history, Garber focuses on close, erudite readings of the Bard's work. Comparing her tome to Harold Bloom's *Shakespeare: The Invention of the Human* (1998), critics agree that Garber is more readable and enjoyable; Stephen Greenblatt's *Will in the World* (**** Nov/Dec 2004) will give her a run for the money, however. A few reviewers wondered why Garber omitted discussion of Shakespeare's sonnets and poems; others criticized the book's significant length. Yet, until "somebody even smarter than Garber comes along with a 1,200-pager, this is the indispensable introduction to the indispensable writer" (*Newsweek*). Copyright © 2004 Phillips & Nelson Media, Inc.

Review

"The indispensable introduction to the indispensable writer. . . . Garber's is the most exhilarating seminar room you'll ever enter." —*Newsweek*

"The best one-volume critical guide to the plays. . . . Stimulating and informative." —*San Jose Mercury News*

"An enraptured ceremony of adoration. . . . Ambitious and thorough. . . . This is a useful book [and] a source of elucidation." —*Newsday*

"[Garber's] introduction is an exemplary account of what is known about Shakespeare and how his work has been read and regarded through the centuries, while the individual essays display scrupulous and subtle close reading." —*The New Yorker*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

David Sweet:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading behavior give you lot of advantages. Advantages you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the

book in which improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of book you read, if you want get more knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want sense happy read one having theme for entertaining for instance comic or novel. The Shakespeare After All is kind of e-book which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

Jose German:

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