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Twelfth Night (2010 Edition): Oxford School Shakespeare (Oxford School Shakespeare Series)



Synopsis

This edition of Twelfth Night is especially designed for students, with accessible on-page notes and explanatory illustrations, clear background information, and rigorous but accessible scholarly credentials. This edition includes illustrations, preliminary notes, reading lists (including websites) and classroom notes, allowing students to master Shakespeare's work. About the Series: Newly redesigned and easier to read, each play in the Oxford School Shakespeare series includes the complete and unabridged text, detailed and clear explanations of difficult words and passages, a synopsis of the plot, summaries of individual scenes, and notes on the main characters. Also included is a wide range of questions and activities for work in class, together with the historical background to Shakespeare's England, a brief biography of Shakespeare, and a complete list of his plays.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

William Shakespeare (1564-1616) was an English poet and playwright widely regarded as the greatest writer of the English language, as well as one of the greatest in Western literature, and the world's pre-eminent dramatist.

Gill's introductory commentary in this edition of "Twelfth Night" is just right and, as "Book Addict" says in her review, the annotations are expertly done, particularly for young people reading the play for performance. For a long time I preferred Shakespeare's tragedies to his comedies, and to an

extent I still do; but I have found a new appreciation of his comedies, particularly in Twelfth Night. Economical yet unforced, hilarious yet humane, confined yet infinite, clever yet accessible -- such is "Twelfth Night". The play follows the shipwrecked twins, Viola (disguised as the boy Cesario) and Sebastian, in Illyria, where the hilarity of mistaken identity and unwanted love and unrequited love are all turned up on the head and brought to a comedic reveal and reversal. Viola loves Orsino loves Olivia loves Viola, then marries Sebastian, mistaking him for Viola, upsetting Orsino, offending Antonio, etc. The tangled web of comedy in the final two acts is masterfully done, and the side-plot trick on the proud Malvolio is a mis-justice sweetly served.

The Oxford School editions are in my opinion the best laid out annotated Shakespeare publications. Easy format to read since you are not constantly jumping around attempting to find notes, losing your spot and getting frustrated because the notes are distracting you from the content of the text. And if you don't need the notes it is easy and fast to read too.

Was disappointed with the writing inside the book. OK condition

The book was in good condition, and meets all the requirements.

This is a required reading book for my son for school.

It was good.

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