

Shakespeare: Poet and Citizen Victor Kiernan
Introduction by Michael Wood



Shakespeare Poet And Citizen

RC Schank



Shakespeare Poet And Citizen:

Shakespeare Victor Gordon Kiernan,1993-02-17 Shakespeare's phase of dramatic activity coincides with the first challenges to the institution of monarchy Kiernan analyses the cycle of History plays in the light of the demise of feudal allegiances and the emergence of the modern state apparatus He shows how the far reaching transformations in social hierarchy which simultaneously began to take place are crucial to an understanding of the Comedies in which confusion of identity disguise and cross dressing are central

Shakespeare Victor Kiernan,2016-02-15 This book rests on a lifetime's thinking about history It helps us see Shakespeare in a more realistic light Times Literary Supplement Although Shakespeare is rightly celebrated for the continued relevancy of his plays and poetry today we too often lose sight of the wider historical context which shaped his work In Shakespeare Poet and Citizen Victor Kiernan shows that Shakespeare was profoundly sensitive to the great social and political upheavals of his age Shakespeare's life coincided with the first challenges to the institution of monarchy as well as far reaching transformations in the social hierarchy By placing the plays within this context of an emerging modernity Kiernan upends our perception of Shakespeare's writings He shows that these social transformations and especially the changing roles of women are crucial to our understanding of the Comedies in which the confusion of identity disguise and cross dressing play a central role while the Histories similarly reflect the demise of feudal allegiances and the development of the modern state Featuring a new introduction by Michael Wood Shakespeare Poet and Citizen provides a rich resource for both students of literature and for the general reader looking for new insight into the life of our greatest dramatist

Poor Naked Wretches Stephen Unwin,2022-09-26 Disputing the notion that William Shakespeare scorned the rabble an illuminating look at the complex working people of his plays Was Shakespeare a snob Poor Naked Wretches challenges the idea that one of the greatest writers of the English language despised working people showing that he portrayed them with as much insight compassion and purpose as the rich and powerful Moreover working people play an important role in his dramatic method Stephen Unwin reads Shakespeare anew exploring the astonishing variety of working people in his plays as well as the vast range of cultural sources from which they were drawn Unwin argues that the robust realism of these characters their independence of mind and their engagement in the great issues of the day make them much more than mere comic relief Compassionate cogent and wry Poor Naked Wretches grants these often overlooked figures the dignity and respect they deserve

Shakespeare's Works William Shakespeare,1884

Thinkers, Activists, and Politics R. G. Williams,2025-06-27 This book is a collection of critical essays that examines the lives politics and ideas of several radical activists writers and revolutionaries over the past two centuries individuals who fought for human freedom Spanning figures from Karl Marx to Che Guevara the essays delve into the challenges these revolutionaries faced and how their bold ideas reshaped political thought They also highlight how the legacy of their actions continues to fuel debates about freedom humanity and the role of the individual in modern society People often interpret the world real

revolutionaries attempt to change it Shakespeare's Richard II, Julius Caesar and Macbeth William Shakespeare,1909

Shakespeare's Politic Histories John H. Cameron,2023-12-22 This book posits that Shakespeare's First Tetralogy draws inspiration from the Italian politic histories of the early modern period These works of history influenced by the Roman historian Tacitus delve into the exploration of the machinations of power politics in governance and the shaping of historical events The argument is that closely analysing these Italian politic histories can significantly enhance our understanding of the politic aspects dramatized in Shakespeare's early English History plays Specifically the writings of Niccolo Machiavelli are highlighted as contributing to this understanding These politic histories were accessible in a variety of forms to many English early modern writers including Shakespeare Thus they serve as foundation for political and strategic analogies enriching our interpretation of Shakespeare's politic histories While delving into the Italian politic historians can illuminate Shakespeare's achievement it is suggested that we should regard the English History plays as politic histories in their own right In essence they are dramatized versions of precisely the same kinds of politic historical writing with its emphasis on *ragion di Stato* or *raison d'état* This emphasis on what the Elizabethans called stratagems introduces new approaches to interpreting the plays Considering the motivation and action of its characters entails novel approaches that challenge the established reading of the plays Machiavellian characters particularly Richard III and shed light on previously overlooked characters particularly Buckingham and Stanley revealing their considerably greater strategic acumen This exploration provides fresh avenues for reading the Shakespeare's politic histories and better appreciate their Italian connection

Eight Tragedies of Shakespeare Victor Kiernan,2016-02-15 This book rests on a lifetime's thinking about history It helps us see Shakespeare in a more realistic light Times Literary Supplement The seventeenth century saw the brief flowering of tragic drama across Western Europe And in the plays of William Shakespeare this form of drama found its greatest exponent These Tragedies Kiernan argues represented the artistic expression of a new social and political consciousness which permeated every aspect of life in this period In this book Kiernan sets out to rescue the Tragedies from the reductionist interpretations of mainstream literary criticism by uncovering the wider historical context which shaped Shakespeare's writings Opening with an overview of contemporary England the development of the theatre and a portrait of Shakespeare as a writer Kiernan goes on to provide an in depth analysis of eight of his Tragedies from Julius Caesar to Coriolanus drawing out their contrasts and recurring themes and exploring their attitudes to monarchy war religion philosophy and changing relations between men and women Featuring a new introduction by Terry Eagleton this is an invaluable resource for those looking for a new perspective on Shakespeare's writings **Shakespeare's Tragedies** William Shakespeare,2013-07-18 A collection containing Antony Cleopatra Coriolanus Cymbeline Julius Caesar King Lear Macbeth Othello Romeo and Juliet The Life of Timon of Athens The tragedy of Titus Andronicus and The History of Troilus and Cressida Shakespeare's Tragedy of Julius Caesar William Shakespeare,1900 **The Complete Works of**

Shakespeare WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE,2021-01-01 A compandium of works of the dramatist and playwright of all times
William Shakespeare **Shakespeare and Tourism** Robert Ormsby, Valerie Clayman Pye,2022-08-19 Shakespeare and Tourism provides a dialogical mapping of Shakespeare studies and touristic theory through a collection of essays by scholars on a wide range of material This volume examines how Shakespeare tourism has evolved since its inception and how the phenomenon has been influenced and redefined by performance studies the prevalence of the World Wide Web developments in technology and the globalization of Shakespearean performance Current scholarship recognizes Shakespearean tourism as a thriving international industry the result of centuries of efforts to attribute meanings associated with the playwright's biography and literary prestige to sites for artistic pilgrimage and the consumption of cultural heritage Through bringing Shakespeare and tourism studies into more explicit contact this collection provides readers with a broad base for comparisons across time and location and thereby encourages a thorough reconsideration of how we understand both fields

Shakespeare's Tragedy of Julius Cæsar William Shakespeare,1881 **Shakespeare's Sonnets** , *Shakespeare's Julius Cæsar, with intr. and notes* William Shakespeare,1880 **Shakespeare's Julius Caesar** William Shakespeare,1898
Rare Book copy part of the Ogle Family Papers *Rethinking Shakespeare's Political Philosophy* Alex Schulman,2014-07-21 What were Shakespeare's politics As this study demonstrates contained in Shakespeare's plays is an astonishingly powerful reckoning with the tradition of Western political thought one whose depth and scope places Shakespeare alongside Plato Aristotle Machiavelli Hobbes and others This book is the first attempt by a political theorist to read Shakespeare within the trajectory of political thought as one of the authors of modernity From Shakespeare's interpretation of ancient and medieval politics to his wrestling with issues of legitimacy religious toleration family conflict and economic change Alex Schulman shows how Shakespeare produces a fascinating map of modern politics at its crisis-filled birth As a result there are brand new readings of Troilus and Cressida Coriolanus Julius Caesar Antony and Cleopatra King Lear Richard II and Henry IV parts I and II The Merchant of Venice and Measure for Measure *Citizen Shakespeare* J. Archer,2005-08-19 Shakespeare was not a citizen of London But the language of his plays is shot through with the concerns of London freemen and their wives the diverse commercial class that nevertheless excluded adult immigrants from country towns and northern Europe alike This book combines London historiography close reading and recent theories of citizen subjectivity to demonstrate for the first time that Shakespeare's plays embody citizen and alien identities despite their aristocratic settings Through three chapters the book points out where the city shadows the country scenes of the major comedies shows how London's trades animate the civil butchery of the history plays and explains why England's metropolis becomes the fractured Rome of tragedy **Writers, Writing, and Revolution** R. G. Williams,2022-07-13 This book is a study of the role of writers in social revolutions It explores how writing and writers have shaped revolutions and how they continue to do so It also investigates the connection between writers and radicals outlining some of the historical political

social and intellectual connections between writers and revolution Overall this is a book of political theory literary theory and political action it is a call for writers to work towards Socialism The Duel in European History Victor Kiernan, 2016-07-15

For centuries duelling played an integral role in the preservation of the aristocratic order in Europe defying attempts by both church and state to ban the practice Moreover the romance and drama of the duel has made it an enduring fixture in films literature and the theatre In The Duel in European History renowned historian Victor Kiernan writes with his characteristic wit and insight of duelling's evolution from its medieval origins when it was regarded as a badge of rank to the early twentieth century by which time it was seen as an irrational anachronism In doing so he shows how the duelling tradition was something unique to Europe and its colonies and in its contribution to the development of the officer corps played a key part in shaping European military power Drawing on a vast range of historical and cultural sources this is the definitive account of a violent ritual that continues to fascinate even today

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