



Shakespeares Women

Paige Martin Reynolds



Shakespeare's Women:

Women of Will Tina Packer, 2015-04-07 From one of the country's foremost experts on Shakespeare and theatre arts actor director and master teacher Tina Packer offers an exploration fierce funny fearless of the women of Shakespeare's plays A profound and profoundly illuminating book that gives us the playwright's changing understanding of the feminine and reveals some of his deepest insights Packer with expert grasp and perception constructs a radically different understanding of power sexuality and redemption Beginning with the early comedies *The Taming of the Shrew* *Two Gentlemen of Verona* *The Comedy of Errors* Packer shows that Shakespeare wrote the women of these plays as shrews to be tamed or as sweet little things with no definable independent thought virgins on the pedestal The women of the histories the three parts of *Henry VI* *Richard III* are Packer shows much more interesting beginning with Joan of Arc possibly the first woman character Shakespeare ever created In her opening scene she's wonderfully alive a virgin true sent from heaven a country girl going to lead men bravely into battle the kind of girl Shakespeare could have known and loved in Stratford Her independent resolution collapses within a few scenes as Shakespeare himself suddenly turns against her and she yields to the common caricature of his culture and becomes Joan the Enemy the Warrior Woman the witch a woman to be feared and destroyed As Packer turns her attention to the extraordinary Juliet the author perceives a large shift Suddenly Shakespeare's women have depth of character motivation understanding of life more than equal to that of the men once Juliet has led the way the plays are never the same again As Shakespeare ceases to write about women as predictable caricatures and starts writing them from the inside embodying their voices his women become as dimensional spirited spiritual active and sexual as any of his male characters Juliet is just as passionately in love as Romeo risking everything initiating marriage getting into bed fighting courageously when her parents threaten to disown her and just as brave in facing death when she discovers Romeo is dead And wondering if Shakespeare himself fell in love Packer considers with whom and what she may have been like the author observes that from Juliet on Shakespeare writes the women as if he were a woman giving them desires needs ambition insight *Women of Will* follows Shakespeare's development as a human being from youth to enlightened maturity exploring the spiritual journey he undertook Packer shows that Shakespeare's imagination mirrored and revealed in his female characters develops and deepens until finally the women his creative knowledge and a sense of a larger spiritual good come together in the late plays making clear that when women and men are equal in status and sexual passion they can and do change the world Part master class part brilliant analysis *Women of Will* is all inspiring discovery **Shakespeare's**

Women and the Fin de Siècle Sophie Duncan, 2016-12-01 Shakespeare's *Women and the Fin de Siècle* illuminates the most iconoclastic performances of Shakespeare's heroines in late Victorian theatre through the celebrity commentary and wider careers of the actresses who played them By bringing together fin de siècle performances of Shakespeare and contemporary Victorian drama for the first time this book illuminates the vital ways in which fin de siècle Shakespeare and contemporary

Victorian theatre culture conditioned each other Actresses movements between Shakespeare and fin de si cle roles reveal the collisions and unexpected consonances between apparently independent areas of the fin de si cle repertory Performances including Ellen Terry s Lady Macbeth Madge Kendal s Rosalind and Lillie Langtry s Cleopatra illuminate fin de si cle Shakespeare s lively intersections with cultural phenomena including the Jack the Ripper killings Aestheticism the suicide craze and the rise of metropolitan department stores If as previous studies have shown Shakespeare was everywhere in Victorian culture Sophie Duncan explores the surprising ways in which late Victorian culture from Dracula to pornography and from Ruskin to the suffragettes inflected Shakespeare Via a wealth of unpublished archival material Duncan reveals women s creative networks at the fin de si cle and how Shakespearean performance traditions moved between actresses via little studied performance genealogies At the same time controversial new stage business made fin de si cle Shakespeare as much a crucible for debates over gender roles and sexuality as plays by Ibsen and Shaw Increasingly actresses creative networks encompassed suffragist activists who took personal inspiration from star Shakespearean actresses From a Salome esque Juliet to a feminist Paulina fin de si cle actresses created cultural legacies which Shakespeare in performance still negotiates today

Shakespeare's Women Angela Pitt,1981 Historical setting for Shakespeare s women Shakespeare s tragic women Women in comedies and last plays Women in histories Shakespeare s women on stage *Shakespeare's Heroines* Anna Murphy Jameson,2005-09-26 First published in 1832 Shakespeare s Heroines is a unique hybrid of Shakespeare criticism women s rights activism and conduct literature Jameson s collection of readings of female characters includes praise for unexpected role models as varied as Portia Cleopatra and Lady Macbeth her interpretations of these and other characters portray intellect passion political ambition and eroticism as acceptable aspects of women s behaviour This inventive work of literary criticism addresses the problems of women s education and participation in public life while also providing insightful original and entertaining readings of Shakespeare s women This Broadview Edition includes a critical introduction that places Shakespeare s Heroines in the context of Jameson s literary career and political life Appendices include personal correspondence and other literary and political writings by Jameson examples of eighteenth and nineteenth century Shakespeare criticism and selections from Victorian conduct books

Women in the Age of Shakespeare Theresa D. Kemp,2009-12-14 This book offers a look at the lives of Elizabethan era women in the context of the great female characters in the works of William Shakespeare Like the other entries in this fascinating series Women in the Age of Shakespeare shows the influence of the world William Shakespeare lived in on the worlds he created for the stage this time by focusing on women in the Elizabethan and Jacobean eras in general and in Shakespeare s works in particular Women in the Age of Shakespeare explores the ancient and medieval ideas that Shakespeare drew upon in creating his great comedic and tragic heroines It then looks at how these ideas intersected with the lived experiences of women of Shakespeare s time followed by a close look at the major female characters in Shakespeare s plays and poems Later chapters consider how these characters

have been enacted on stage and in film interpreted by critics and scholars and re imagined by writers in our own time

The Shades of Shakespeare's Women A. Laurie West, 1896 **Performing Shakespeare's Women** Paige Martin Reynolds, 2018-12-13 Shakespeare's women rarely reach the end of the play alive Whether by murder or by suicide onstage or off female actors in Shakespeare's works often find themselves playing dead But what does it mean to play dead particularly for women actors whose bodies become scrutinized and anatomized by audiences and fellow actors who grossly gape on In what ways does playing Shakespeare's women when they are dead emblemize the difficulties of playing them while they are still alive Ultimately what is at stake for the female actor who embodies Shakespeare's women today dead or alive Situated at the intersection of the creative and the critical **Performing Shakespeare's Women Playing Dead** engages performance history current scholarship and the practical problems facing the female actor of Shakespeare's plays when it comes to playing dead on the contemporary stage and in a post feminist world This book explores the consequences of corpsing Shakespeare's women considering important ethical questions that matter to practitioners students and critics of Shakespeare today **The Loves of Shakespeare's Women** Susannah York, William Shakespeare, 2001 From a well known actress comes this fascinating anthology of Shakespeare's multifarious female characters **Shakespeare and Women** Phyllis Rackin, 2005-05-26 Shakespeare and Women situates Shakespeare's female characters in multiple historical contexts ranging from the early modern England in which they originated to the contemporary Western world in which our own encounters with them are staged In so doing this book seeks to challenge currently prevalent views of Shakespeare's women both the women he depicted in his plays and the women he encountered in the world he inhabited Chapter 1 A Usable History analyses the implications and consequences of the emphasis on patriarchal power male misogyny and women's oppression that has dominated recent feminist Shakespeare scholarship while subsequent chapters propose alternative models for feminist analysis Chapter 2 The Place's of Women in Shakespeare's World emphasizes the frequently overlooked kinds of social political and economic agency exercised by the women Shakespeare would have known in both Stratford and London Chapter 3 Our Canon Ourselves addresses the implications of the modern popularity of plays such as *The Taming of the Shrew* which seem to endorse women's subjugation arguing that the plays and the aspects of those plays that we have chosen to emphasize tell us more about our own assumptions than about the beliefs that informed the responses of Shakespeare's first audiences Chapter 4 Boys will be Girls explores the consequences for women of the use of male actors to play women's roles Chapter 5 The Lady's Reeking Breath turns to the sonnets the texts that seem most resistant to feminist appropriation to argue that Shakespeare's rewriting of the idealized Petrarchan lady anticipates modern feminist critiques of the essential misogyny of the Petrarchan tradition The final chapter Shakespeare's Timeless Women surveys the implication of Shakespeare's female characters in the process of historical change as they have been repeatedly updated to conform to changing conceptions of women's nature and women's social roles serving in ever changing guises as models of an

unchanging universal female nature *The Women of Shakespeare* Louis Lewes,1895 *Women in the Age of Shakespeare* Theresa D. Kemp,2009-12-14 This book offers a look at the lives of Elizabethan era women in the context of the great female characters in the works of William Shakespeare Like the other entries in this fascinating series *Women in the Age of Shakespeare* shows the influence of the world William Shakespeare lived in on the worlds he created for the stage this time by focusing on women in the Elizabethan and Jacobean eras in general and in Shakespeare's works in particular *Women in the Age of Shakespeare* explores the ancient and medieval ideas that Shakespeare drew upon in creating his great comedic and tragic heroines It then looks at how these ideas intersected with the lived experiences of women of Shakespeare's time followed by a close look at the major female characters in Shakespeare's plays and poems Later chapters consider how these characters have been enacted on stage and in film interpreted by critics and scholars and re imagined by writers in our own time *Women in Shakespeare* Alison Findlay,2010-05-27 An A Z of over 350 entries which explores the role of women within Shakespearean drama how women were represented on the Shakespearean stage And The role of women in Shakespeare's personal and professional lives **Women in Shakespeare** Alison Findlay,2014-02-27 This is a comprehensive reference guide examining the language employed by Shakespeare to represent women in the full range of his poetry and plays Including over 350 entries Alison Findlay shows the role of women within Shakespearean drama their representations on the Shakespearean stage and their place in Shakespeare's personal and professional lives **Women's Re-visions of Shakespeare** Marianne Novy,1990 **On Some of Shakespeare's Female Characters** Helena Faucit Martin,1904 *On Some of Shakespeare's Female Characters* Lady Helena Saville Faucit Martin,1888 **Imagining Shakespeare's Wife** Katherine West Scheil,2018-06-28 What has been the appeal of Anne Hathaway both globally and temporally over the past four hundred years Why does she continue to be reinterpreted and reshaped *Imagining Shakespeare's Wife* examines representations of Hathaway from the earliest depictions and details in the eighteenth century to contemporary portrayals in theatre biographies and novels Residing in the nexus between Shakespeare's life and works Hathaway has been constructed to explain the women in the plays but also composed from the material in the plays Presenting the very first cultural history of Hathaway Katherine Scheil offers a richly original study that uncovers how the material circumstances of history affect the later reconstruction of lives *Fantasies of Female Evil* Cristina León Alfar,2003 Focuses on Romeo and Juliet King Lear Macbeth Antony and Cleopatra and The winter's tale UkBU

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life while also providing insightful original and entertaining readings of Shakespeare's women This Broadview Edition includes a critical introduction that places Shakespeare's Heroines in the context of Jameson's literary career and political life Appendices include personal correspondence and other literary and political writings by Jameson examples of eighteenth and nineteenth century Shakespeare criticism and selections from Victorian conduct books **Shakespeare's Scholar**
Richard Grant White, 1854

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