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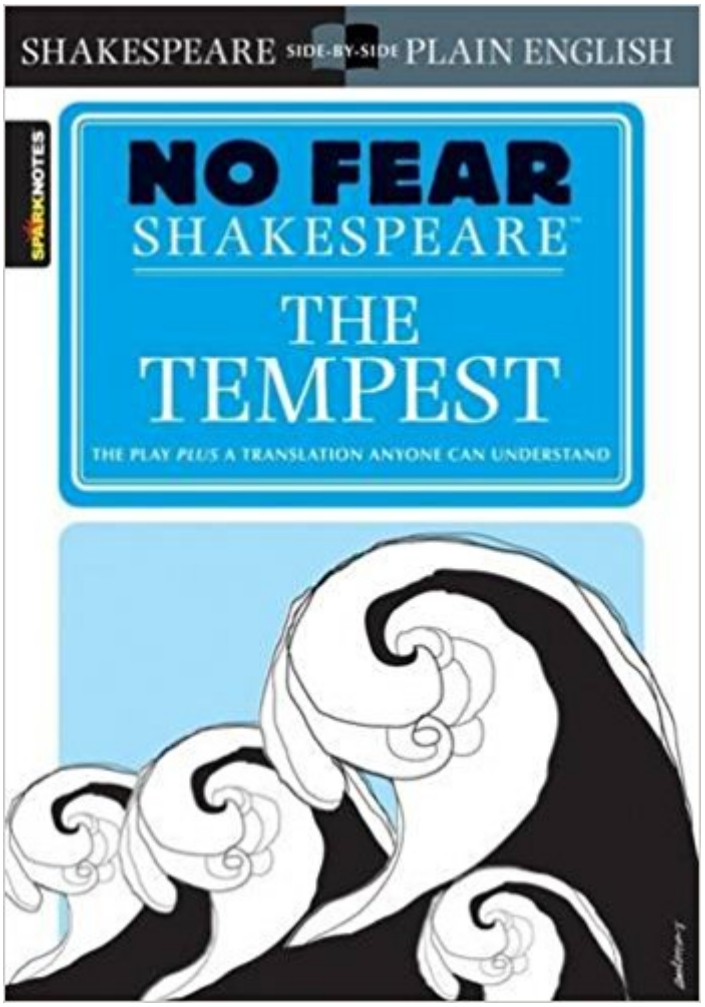
The Tempest (No Fear Shakespeare)



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Synopsis

No Fear Shakespeare gives you the complete text ofÂ The TempestÂ on the left-hand page, side-by-side with an easy-to-understand translation on the right.Each No Fear Shakespeare containsThe complete text of the original playA line-by-line translation that puts Shakespeare into everyday languageA complete list of characters with descriptions Plenty of helpful commentary

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a very simple review to write. The book does what it promises. Left hand page is the text of the play, to the right what each character says is given the literary equivalent of subtitles in colloquial english.For example, a character says about men in a shipwreck: "Not a hair perished. On their sustaining garments not a blemish, but fresher than before."Confused? Look to the translation on the opposing page: "Nobody was hurt in the slightest. Even their clothes were unstained, and look fresher than before the storm."Works better than a mere glossary because it puts the meaning of the characters' statements into 21st century English. And Shakespeare is much more enjoyable and comprehensible when you know what is going on.

First, let me say I'm a great fan of Shakespeare, and there's no reason to offer a review of The Tempest here. If you want to know what The Tempest is about, there's plenty of places to find that out. This is a review of the Kindle edition of this edition of The Tempest.I bought this edition, paying

$4.95 for the Kindle version, because I thought that it would be the Folger Shakespeare Library version of The Tempest. It’s not. The Folger editions of Shakespeare’s plays are handy study aids. Each right hand page of text is accompanied with a left hand page of annotations, including illustrations contemporary with Shakespeare. The spelling has been updated but the language has not been changed.This Kindle edition includes the memorial verses to Shakespeare found in the First Folio. These can be found in many places. It does not include the Folger’s introductions to Shakespeare, or to this play in particular, nor does it include the essays that accompany the Folger editions of the plays.I have already loaded my Kindle with the Complete Works, for which I paid, I believe, $0.99--a remarkable price for the greatest literature in the English language. There was no reason at all for me to pay $4.95 for something I already have available on my Kindle.Buyer beware! The Product Description for this edition of The Tempest DOES NOT apply to the Kindle edition. Too bad.

The Folger Shakespeare Library presents the optimal format for reading Shakespeare’s single plays. Each book provides the background and context of the play, a brief description of the theater as Shakespeare would have known it, and a brief bio of the writer himself. But the most useful feature is the notation on the page facing the text, explaining Shakespeare’s usage of words and phrases. There is a wealth of scholarship embedded in these brief notes. An experienced reader of Shakespeare may skip them, to maintain the momentum of the play, but even we may tarry to ascertain his ken.The Tempest is the birthplace of "there’s nothing ill can dwell in such a temple," "he receives comfort like cold porridge," "what’s past is prologue," "misery acquaints a man with strange bedfellows," "Oh, brave new world*," and "his complexion is perfect gallows." It is Shakespeare’s farewell to London, and it is imaginative and enlightening. It is also timeless, often giving rise to contemporary settings in its production.Prospero’s supernatural powers, permeating the action of the play, will take an additional effort at the "willing suspension of disbelief" which we always take to the theater. Yet we are not at all reluctant when, in his epilogue, he boldly asks us to applaud his players.* This phrase, "...brave new world..." was penned in 1611, and should not seem so "new" to our modern ears as it does.

The Tempest is rightly regarded as being one of the Bard’s greatest works, containing some of his deepest thoughts on the nature of power and the relationship between rational man as controller of nature, and the animal man always to be at the mercy of the passions both of himself, others, and the world around him. In fact, this play could be thought of as representing Shakespeare’s final and

definitive statement on topics that he had explored throughout his cannon. But profound as the philosophy is, and despite the beauty of the poetry and the many magical elements contained within the play, the fact is that as far as the average attention lacking teenager is concerned, not a lot happens. This is why this Cambridge schools edition scores over most others. It is almost entirely activity focused, the expressed aim being to 'bring the play to life'. With at least one suggested activity beside each page of Shakespeare's text (as well as a decent amount of background notes and interpretation), every teacher armed with this book should be able to enthuse his charges with the very real relevance of this play to the world which we have bequeathed them.

Book Review For The Tempest, by ShakespeareThe Tempest is a play like no other works of Shakespeare. The play starts out with an array of colorful characters, which are easy to loathe or become friendly with through out the play. Page after page of reading, you find out more about the characters lives and roles in the play. The play has, in the beginning, almost all of the characters trapped on a boat in the middle of a tempest (a storm)-hence the name of the play. This being Shakespeare's last play, he hid some messages in the speeches of Prospero. One of these speeches is in the epilogue. The other is in a speech that Prospero recites from a play which Shakespeare took from the famous Greek playwright, Ovid. Shakespeare shows this by saying that he will, "Drown his book" and, " Break his staff" as well as, " Let your indulgence set me free" to hint of Shakespeare's retirement as a playwright. Prospero was my favorite character in the play. He had shown a large display of trickery, genius, and brainpower, to be able to set up the whole scenario of placing the people on the island in such strategic places. I recommend this play because it is one of my favorites, of all the works of Shakespeare. The Tempest is a wonderful play for people of all ages to read, act out, or to just have some fun.By Andrew Katz, Grade 9

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