

Title: The Merchant of

Venice

Author: William Shakespeare

Imprint: Modern Library
Publisher: Random House

Publishing Group

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BOOK RESUME: THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

BOOK SYNOPSIS

As the citizens of Venice compete for advantageous marriages, wealth, and status, a moneylender is intent on deadly revenge. Mistrust and resentment thrive in Shakespeare's dark comedy.

Under the editorial supervision of Jonathan Bate and Eric Rasmussen, two of today's most accomplished Shakespearean scholars, this Modern Library series incorporates definitive texts and authoritative notes from *William Shakespeare: Complete Works*. Each play includes an Introduction as well as an overview of Shakespeare's theatrical career; commentary on past and current productions based on interviews with leading directors, actors, and designers; scene-by-scene analysis; key facts about the work; a chronology of Shakespeare's life and times; and black-and-white illustrations.

Ideal for students, theater professionals, and general readers, these modern and accessible editions from the Royal Shakespeare Company set a new standard in Shakespearean literature for the twenty-first century.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

- The Shakespearean Student, "Why Everyone Should Read (or Teach) 'The Merchant of Venice'" (2017): ". . . the study of Shakespeare can help people, (especially young people), learn about the world, examine new points of view, and try to improve the world."
- Entertainment Weekly, "The Merchant of Venice" (2010)
- Chicago Review, "Shylock after Auschwitz" (1994)

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- American Repertory Theater, <u>"The Jew in the Spotlight"</u> (1998)
- Ca'Foscari University of Venice, <u>"Shakespeare in the Ghetto, the Ghetto in Shakespeare"</u> (2021)
- Folger Shakespeare Library, "The Merchant of Venice" (includes introduction to the play, essays and resources, related blog posts and podcasts, teaching materials, and early printed texts)

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- Folger Shakespeare Library, <u>"A Modern Perspective: The</u>
 Merchant of Venice" by Alexander Leggatt
- The Online Books Page, University of Pennsylvania Libraries (includes bibliographic notes, related titles, see also, student editions, early source editions, historic staged versions, juvenile adaptations, other online editions and versions, and editions in libraries)
- Smithsonian Magazine, "Four Hundred Years Later, Scholars Still
 Debate Whether Shakespeare's 'Merchant of Venice' Is Anti-Semitic" (2016)

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