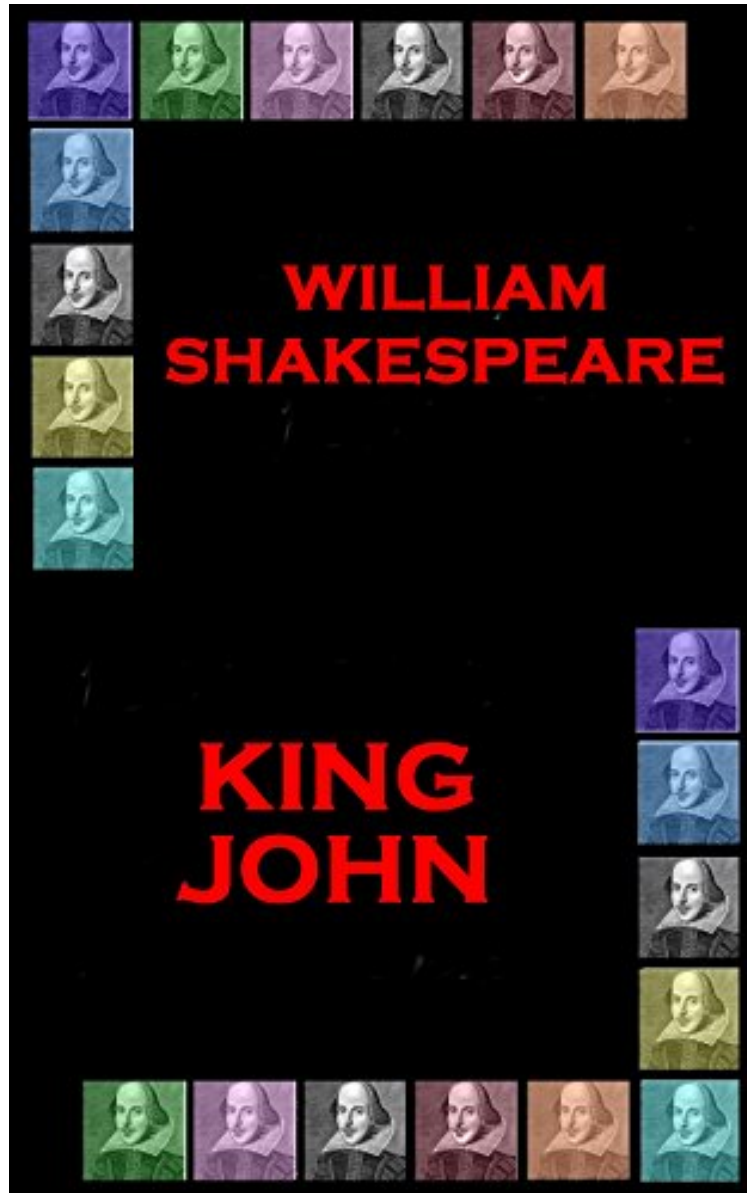


[PDF] King John

King John

Wiliam Shakespeare

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Wiliam Shakespeare : King John before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised King John:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Barely readable Kindle edition By ewaffle Kindle edition--not really unreadable but nearly so. Poor formatting by publisher with line numbers below the lines they refer to which spaces out the text in an ungainly way. I returned the Kindle edition for a refund and ordered the printed WSP paperback.

Because of the significant front matter the sample I ordered didn't show the text of the play so the odd formatting wasn't evident. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "I am amazed...and lose my way among the thorns and dangers of this world." (3.5 stars) By B. Wilfong "King John" is often overlooked when one reads Shakespeare, and it should not be, as it has some great things to add to the canon. By the way, I give "King John" a 3.5 star rating compared to other Shakespeare, not to literature as a whole. The Bard is in a class of his own. The Pelican series edition of this play has a very nice introduction by Claire McEachern in which she gives an informative discourse on the character of Philip the Bastard. Although Philip usually gets all the critical attention in this piece my favorite character is Constance, sister in law to King John and the mother of John's rival for the English throne. Act III:1 give Constance a chance to really show her stuff. She has some blistering moments, and Act III as a whole is by far the most engaging and strongest in the play. Constance's exit from the piece is her best scene and Shakespeare writes a grieving mother's storm of emotions as strongly as in any of his other works. At its core "King John" is really a play about the medieval issues brought about by "Pope v. Princes" and how secular and religious power used each other for gain. You can almost feel Shakespeare's Protestant Elizabethan audience hissing at the machinations of the Catholic villain Cardinal Pandolph as he manipulates the French and English royal powers in some of the plays most intriguing scenes. Another fine moment is Act III:3 when King John and Hubert share a conversation that is delicious in its duplicity, and all of it achieved with minimal words. Despite a weak Act V (the only reason I feel this is not a 4 star effort by Shakespeare) the play ends on a patriotic note, sounding a clarion call for Englishmen to always unite in common cause. One can see how "King John" was an early indication of Shakespeare's skill and why it still endures. As for the Pelican Shakespeare series, they are my favorite editions as the scholarly research is usually top notch and the editions themselves look good as an aesthetic unit. It looks and feels like a play and this compliments the text's contents admirably. The Pelican series was recently reedited and has the latest scholarship on Shakespeare and his time period. Well priced and well worth it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. King John has good antitheist quotes By Dylan Bray KING JOHN Though you and all the kings of Christendom Are [mis] led so grossly by this meddling priest (the Pope), Dreading the curse that money (purchase of an "indulgence") may buy out (excuse), And, by the merit of vile gold, dross, dust, Purchase corrupted pardon of a man (purchase an "indulgence" from a man), Who in that sale sells pardon from himself, (who by selling "indulgences" supposedly pardons his own sins but actually damns himself) Though you - and all the rest so grossly [mis]led - This juggling witchcraft with revenue cherish, (cherish this juggling of revenue by means of witchcraft) Yet, I, alone, alone do me oppose Against the Pope and count his friends my foes.

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon in late April 1565 and baptised there on 26th April. He was one of eight children. Little is known about his life but what is evident is the enormous contribution he has made to world literature. His writing was progressive, magnificent in scope and breathtaking in execution. His plays and sonnets helped enable the English language to speak with a voice unmatched by any other. William Shakespeare died on April 23rd 1616, survived by his wife and two daughters. He was buried two days after his death in the chancel of the Holy Trinity Church. The epitaph on the slab which covers his grave includes the following passage, Good friend, for Jesus's sake forbear, To dig the dust enclosed here. Blessed be the man that spares these stones, And cursed be he that moves my bones. Here we publish his historical play from 1596 'King John'.

From the Publisher Designed for school districts, educators, and students seeking to maximize performance on standardized tests, Webster's paperbacks take advantage of the fact that classics are frequently assigned readings in English courses. By using a running thesaurus at the bottom of each page, this edition of King John by William Shakespeare was edited for students who are actively building their vocabularies in anticipation of taking PSAT, SAT, AP (Advanced Placement), GRE, LSAT, GMAT or similar examinations. PSAT is a registered trademark of the College Entrance Examination Board and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation neither of which sponsors or endorses this book; SAT is a registered trademark of the College Board which neither sponsors nor endorses this book; GRE, AP and Advanced Placement are registered trademarks of the Educational Testing Service which neither sponsors nor endorses this book, GMAT is a registered trademark of the Graduate Management Admissions Council which is neither affiliated with this book nor endorses this book, LSAT is a registered trademark of the Law School Admissions Council which neither sponsors nor endorses this product. All rights reserved. From the Back Cover Amid a backdrop of war, conspiracy, and murder, this historical play depicts the troubled reign of King John, who ruled England from 1199 to 1216. Shakespeare's most enigmatic king struggles with the shifting loyalties of his nobles as well as threats from his covetous heirs and the burdens of his own conscience. The play, which abounds in battles and betrayals, explores issues of politics, inheritance, and legitimacy. John's problems are threefold: he has usurped the throne from the rightful heir, his nephew Arthur; his relationship with the Vatican is troubled; and he is highly unpopular with his own subjects. Shakespeare's portrayal of the despised monarch finds a more heroic figure in Sir Richard Plantagenet, an illegitimate son of Richard I. The

Bastard, as John's loyal nephew is known, forms the moral center of the play as well as a source of irreverent humor and honesty. A cynical play about power struggles, King John offers a remarkably contemporary mix of history and ironic commentary, balanced in equal measures by elements of tragedy and satire. Dover (2015) republication of the edition originally published by the Caxton Publishing Company, London, n.d. See every Dover book in print at www.doverpublications.com