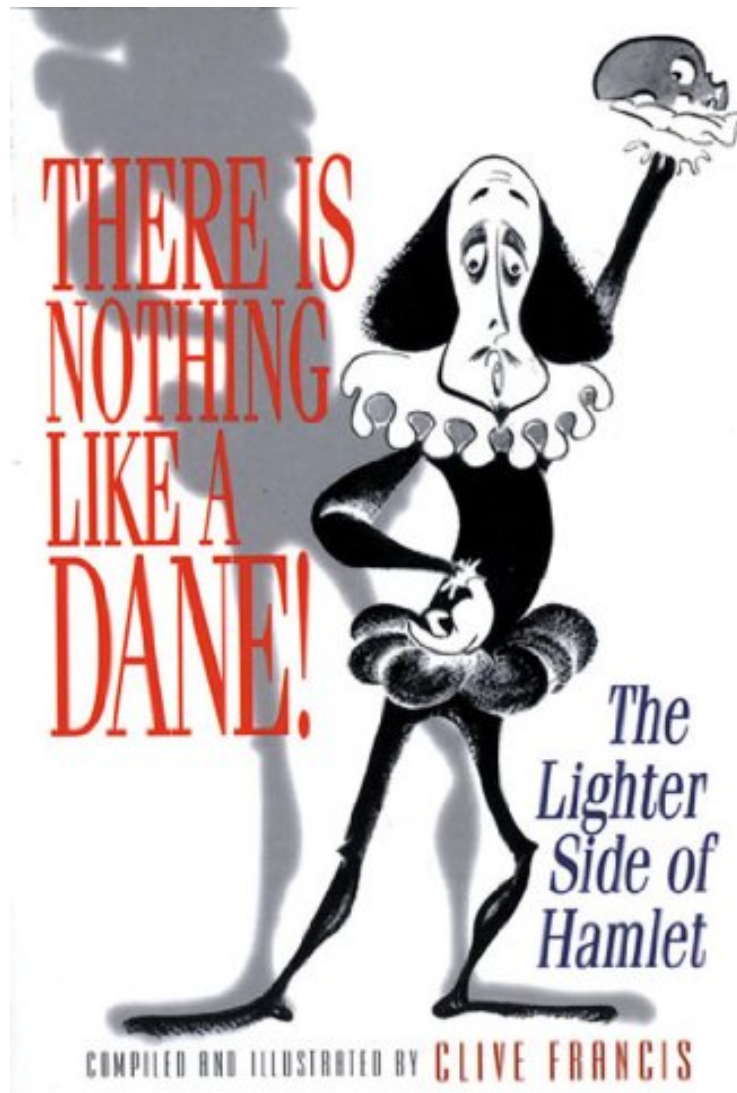


(Ebook free) There Is Nothing Like a Dane!: The Lighter Side of Hamlet

There Is Nothing Like a Dane!: The Lighter Side of Hamlet

Clive Francis

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Clive Francis : There Is Nothing Like a Dane!: The Lighter Side of Hamlet before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised There Is Nothing Like a Dane!: The Lighter Side of Hamlet:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. an intriguing book by the excellent caricaturist Clive FrancisBy pjtan intriguing book by the excellent caricaturist Clive Francis. A pity more of his work is not more readily available.As well as the impressive art work, Clive Francis's theatrical experience is used to good advantage.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy cyFor me a super book thankyou so much for your usual efficiency

There is Nothing Like a Dane is an affectionate compilation of mostly funny (but sometimes serious) bits and pieces about Hamlet - interwoven with Clive Francis's delectable caricatures of various members of the theatrical profession strutting their stuff. The great hall of fame is duly visited, though its inhabitants are not always as dignified as they would like to seem. Here are glimpses in word and pictures of the likes of Donald Wolfit, Kenneth Branagh, John Gielgud, Henry Irving, Jonathan Pryce, John Barrymore, Alec Guinness, Richard Burton and of course, Laurence Olivier. The tone is also elevated now and then by contributions from great writers such as Mark Twain, Charles Dickens, Henry Fielding and P.G. Wodehouse. But the chief delight is in the unexpected: a stubbornly mustachioed Ophelia in Poona, India, an inadvertently horn-rimmed Hamlet on London's Waterloo Road - and would you believe Tony Hancock, Tommy Cooper and even June Whitfield as the Prince of Denmark? This is a book for actors and audiences - and Shakespeare buffs on their day off."A charming bit of fluff for Shakespeare enthusiasts."--Publishers Weekly

From Publishers WeeklyHamlet "is, without a doubt, the most famous play ever written; certainly the most quoted and certainly the most talked about which is amazing when you consider that there are no jokes in it." So says actor and caricaturist Francis, and for those who prefer their Shakespeare with a bit of humor, he obliges with this anthology of poems, musings and reminiscences that make light of the dark Dane. Peter O'Toole called it "the worst play ever written." The "duke" in Huckleberry Finn mangles Hamlet's soliloquy as he recites it from memory ("To be or not to be; that is the bare bodkin/That makes calamity of so long life"). And director Tony Richardson recalls his casting of Nicol Williamson as the prince in 1969-lauded at first, Williamson became a erratic after awhile: he "walked off or interrupted the show several times...to the titillation of audiences," and began overacting recklessly. This is a charming bit of fluff for Shakespeare enthusiasts. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.About the AuthorClive Francis is well-known as an actor as well as a caricaturist. He has made over a hundred television appearances, while his London stage career began in 1966 with There's a Girl in My Soup. He performed in a large number of shows in London's West End, including Graham Greene's The Return of AJ Raffles, Somerset Maugham's The Circle, Simon Gray's The Rear Column, Sheridan's The School of Scandal, Noel Coward's Look after Lulu, Michael Frayn's Benefactors, Joe Orton's What the Butler Saw and Alan Bennett's Single Spies. He joined Alan Ayckbourn's company at London's National Theatre in 1986 and was Scrooge for two years running in the Royal Shakespeare Company's A Christmas Carol.Clive Francis has been caricaturing professionally since 1983 and has had seven solo exhibitions including three at the National Theatre. He has designed a number of posters and book covers, including two for Alec Guinness and two for John Gielgud.