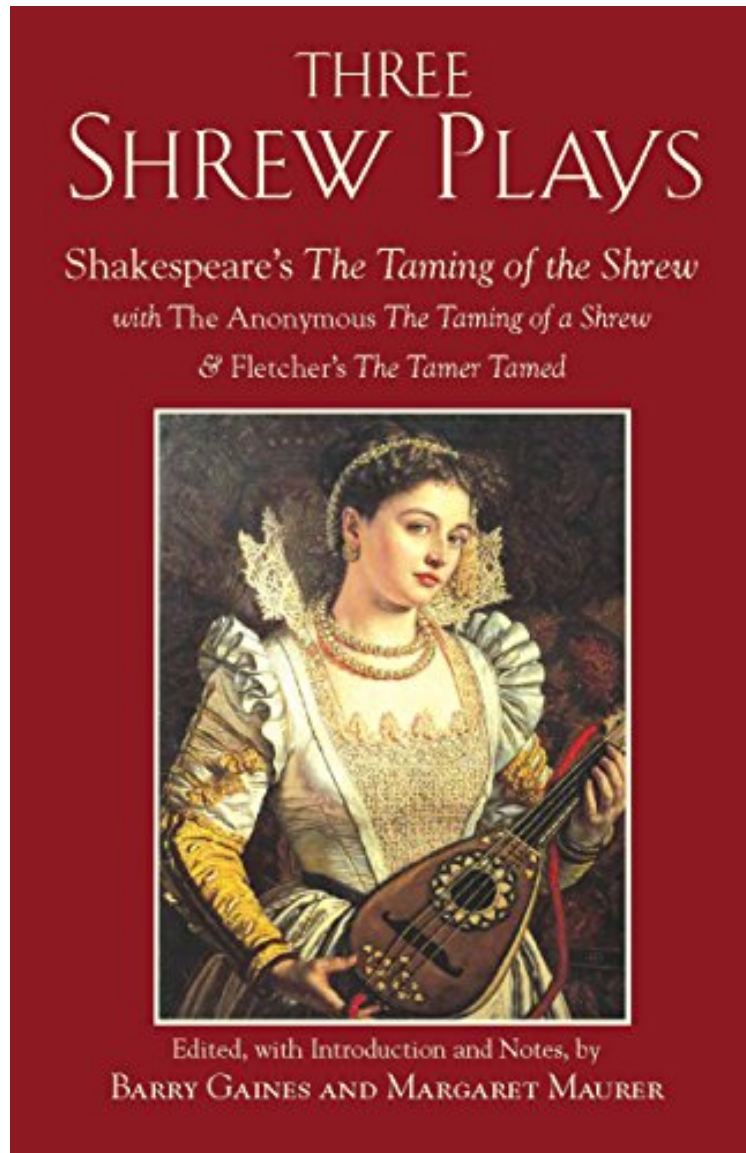


(Download pdf ebook) Three Shrew Plays: Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew; with The Anonymous The Taming of a Shrew, and Fletcher's The Tamer Tamed (Hackett Classics)

## Three Shrew Plays: Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew; with The Anonymous The Taming of a Shrew, and Fletcher's The Tamer Tamed (Hackett Classics)

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From Hackett Publishing Company, Inc. : Three Shrew Plays: Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew; with The Anonymous The Taming of a Shrew, and Fletcher's The Tamer Tamed (Hackett Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Three Shrew Plays: Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew; with The Anonymous The Taming of a Shrew, and Fletcher's The Tamer

Tamed (Hackett Classics):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. 5 Stars, but I'm a Shakespeare fanatic  
By John Michael Albert  
A director on the west coast recommended this book to me. For some reason, every theater even remotely interested in doing Shakespeare seems to be doing *The Taming of the Shrew* this year. What a treat! The first play (50 pp), anonymous, a quarto-sized best seller in its day, and much shorter than Shakespeare's, is a real revelation. It could pass for a "cut and paste" for Shakespeare's, the same way that the "bad quarto" relates to the First Folio of *Hamlet*. EXCEPT, it is so clearly dependent on Marlowe's *Tamburlaine* (!!!) for images and turns of phrase, and gives the frame story a much stronger part. Then there is the familiar Shakespeare (80 pp) which we all know and love--guiltily of course in the post feminist decades. And finally, there is the play by Shakespeare's sometime co-author, John Fletcher (110 pp). Written as a sort of comic response to the Shakespeare, where a woman gives Petruchio his comeuppance, it is SO long and SO long winded. Larded with ten times the sexual innuendo as Shakespeare (which I didn't think was possible). I'd love to see it just to see how to make it work. But only after someone explained all the jokes. A great book for fanatics and a lot of fun.

Unusual among Shakespeare's plays in that it drew theatrical responses from the outset, *The Taming of the Shrew* continues to inspire adaptations and interpretations that respond to its fascinating, if provocative, representation of a husband's dominance of his wife. This annotated collection of three early modern English plays allows readers to explore the relationship between Shakespeare's *Shrew* and two closely related plays of the same genre, the earlier of which, the anonymous *The Taming of a Shrew* (whether inspired by Shakespeare's play or vice-versa), once enjoyed a level of popularity that likely surpassed that of Shakespeare's play. The editors' Introduction brilliantly illuminates points of comparison between the three, their larger themes included, and convincingly argues that Shakespeare's *Shrew* is seen all the more vividly when the anonymous *A Shrew* and Fletcher's table-turning *The Tamer Tamed* are waiting in the wings.

This excellent volume brings together for the first time three plays that need to be read together as each casts light on the other two. It will be invaluable to students and teachers. --David Wootton, Anniversary Professor of History, The University of York