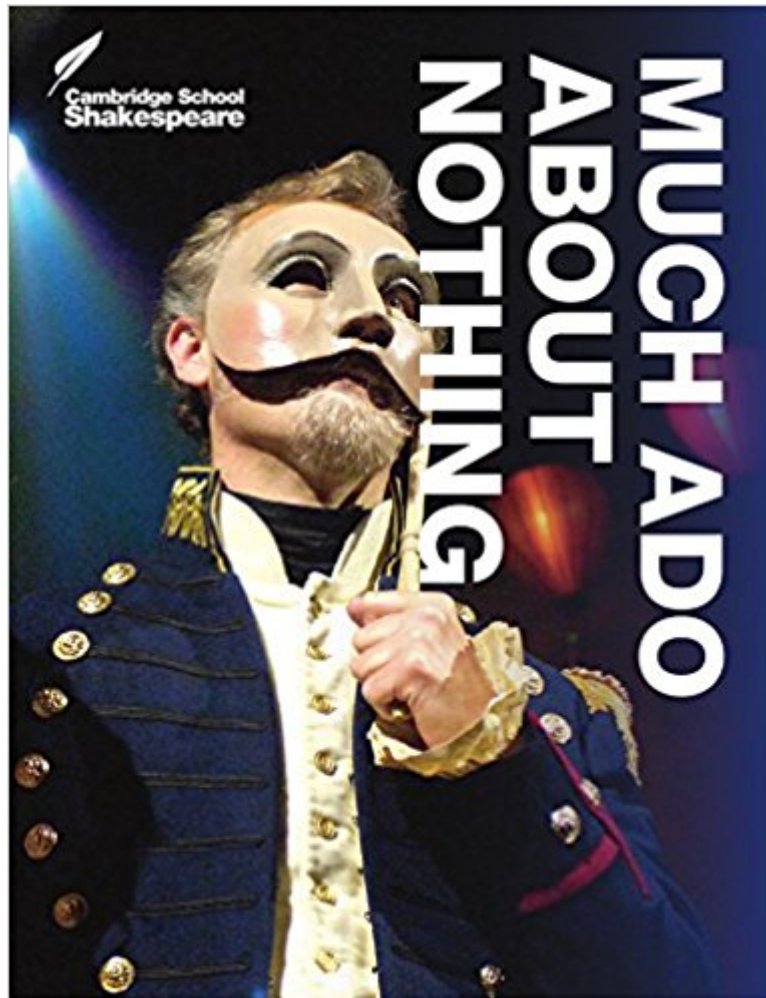




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Much Ado About Nothing (Cambridge School Shakespeare)



Synopsis

An improved, larger-format edition of the Cambridge School Shakespeare plays, extensively rewritten, expanded and produced in an attractive new design. An active approach to classroom Shakespeare enables students to inhabit Shakespeare's imaginative world in accessible and creative ways. Students are encouraged to share Shakespeare's love of language, interest in character and sense of theatre. Substantially revised and extended in full colour, classroom activities are thematically organised in distinctive 'Stagecraft', 'Write about it', 'Language in the play', 'Characters' and 'Themes' features. Extended glossaries are aligned with the play text for easy reference. Expanded endnotes include extensive essay-writing guidance for 'Much Ado about Nothing' and Shakespeare. Includes rich, exciting colour photos of performances of 'Much Ado about Nothing' from around the world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"...a much-needed and welcome addition to Shakespeare resources." Choice "...an indispensable resource for theatre historians, dramaturgs, directors, or performers." Studies in English Literature 1500-1900 "This book could also be very useful to a student of gender, history, and language, especially its detailed information on lines added and cut, on treatments of the play's cuckoldry humor, and on the critics' anxious iteration of such key binaries as sharp/soft, wit/feeling, salt/sweet, and mannishness/womanliness. I do recommend this book for anyone trying to piece together

information about the performance history of the play, especially those interested in Victorian and Edwardian productions. Those who are attempting to chart shifts in myths of gender as they shift over the longue durée of culture, or who are researching particular productions or players, will find this edition rich, intriguing, sometimes frustrating, but always informative." Shakespeare Quarterly --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A revised edition of the Arden Third Series play, edited by leading scholar Claire McEachern. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

My problem with the Kindle Bantam Classic edition of Othello is that there are no footnotes at the bottom of each page. This means no immediate vocab definitions or comprehension aids. I bought the Kindle edition because my old Signet paperback Othello is yellow with age, plus tiny font. (I'm rereading Othello before watching the live performance starring Blair Underwood and Richard Thomas.) Not being a scholar of Elizabethan English, I do need annotative help with the vocab and idioms. So unfortunately, it's back to the old, barely readable but annotated Signet print version for me.

This book is in awesome shape and arrived just in the nick of time. It even has footnotes to help you to understand the old english in the book which is great help to further understand the book.

Really helpful to read the contemporary English version next to the Shakespeare text; allows you to understand the play so much better and consequently appreciate the old English wording so much more completely!!

If a man do not erect in this age his own tomb ere he dies, he shall live no longer in monument than the bell rings and the widow weeps.

These are good to have if you are teaching Shakespeare to students who are first time readers. It is a good companion piece to the real-thing, but in no way replaces a proper reading of the Bard.

I love this book. I am currently using it to teach my students Othello. It makes the translation much easier; its a blessing. The book also seems very sturdy and the pages are extremely white so you see the words clearly. The book provides a side by side translation that accompanies the original

Othello script. Who wouldn't want this?

This is a Shakespearean Comedy of Manners from before the genre was even really a fully developed thing, featuring love affairs, a revenge plot, some humorous incompetence, a faked death, and much more. I'm not a big comedy fan, but this is certainly a good example of the genre at the time from which it came, and I actually quite enjoyed it. When it comes to the works of Shakespeare as a whole, I would say that this is a less memorable example, but definitely has some positives going for it as well. For one, it's far less well-known than many of his more famous works, so it doesn't feel familiar as you read it. The characters and plot also tend to grow on you, even as the language isn't quite so memorable, and the plotting and mistaken identities aspects are always good plot points, whether you're speaking of today or centuries ago. As to the edition itself, I found it to be greatly helpful in understanding the action in the play. It has a layout which places each page of the play opposite a page of notes, definitions, explanations, and other things needed to understand that page more thoroughly. While I didn't always need it, I was certainly glad to have it whenever I ran into a turn of language that was unfamiliar, and I definitely appreciated the scene-by-scene summaries. Really, if you want to or need to read Shakespeare, an edition such as this is really the way to go, especially until you get more accustomed to it.

Christ I mean seriously who the hell am I to critique Shakespeare? If I had a way to "skip reviews" this would probably be one of those I'd hit. Anything I could say about the work would feel woefully contrived and without merit. The "brass tacks" on this from a lay-mans perspective is it's fantastic but seriously it's Shakespeare and while I haven't read the breadth of his work I haven't regretted reading one yet. The translation/interpretation was fine for me (not an English major ergo haven't read another translation to compare it to). Honestly it's a safe bet and solid read if you have time

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