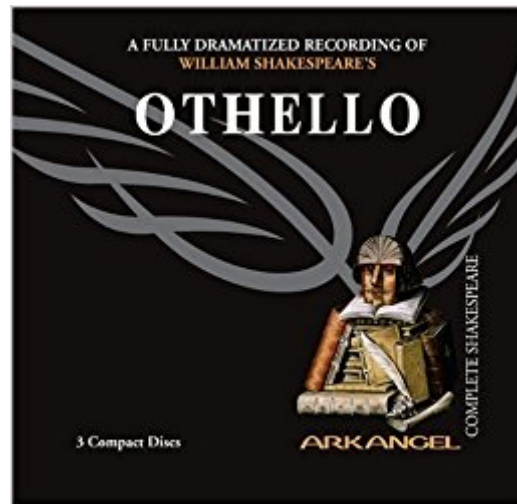




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Othello (Arkangel Shakespeare)



Synopsis

[Full-Cast Audio Theater Dramatization. Othello is played by Don Warrington, David Threlfall is Iago, Anne-Marie Duff is Desdemona, and Jasper Britton plays Cassio.] This great tragedy confronts the mystery at the heart of evil and contains some of Shakespeare's most magnificent dramatic verse. Othello, a Moorish general in the service of Venice, has married Desdemona, beautiful daughter of a Venetian senator. But Iago, Othello's malignant ensign, is determined to destroy their happiness. Cunningly bending Othello to his own purposes, Iago persuades the Moor that Desdemona is unfaithful to him. Tormented in a hell of jealousy, Othello moves inexorably toward the destruction of his innocent wife and himself.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

William Shakespeare (1564-1616), English poet and dramatist of the Elizabethan and early Jacobean period, is the most widely known author in all of English literature and often considered the greatest. He was an active member of a theater company for at least twenty years, during which time he wrote many great plays. Plays were not prized as literature at the time, and Shakespeare was not widely read until the middle of the eighteenth century, when a great upsurge of interest in his works began that continues today.

One of Shakespeare's four greatest tragedies, OTHELLO has been brought to stage and screen countless times. This recording, part of Arkangel's usually solid series of the Bard's plays, adds little to this history of performances. Don Warrington in the title role is awkwardly un-Moorish, though

David Threlfall is more convincing as the villainous Iago - cold and calculating without any exaggerated fiendishness. Some of the minor characters shine also (particularly the Clown, who appears in just two scenes), but the music, often a highlight of Arkangel recordings, is unfortunately cloying and improbable in this production, adding another minor disappointment. D.B. Â© AudioFile 2002, Portland, Maine-- Copyright Â© AudioFile, Portland, Maine --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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