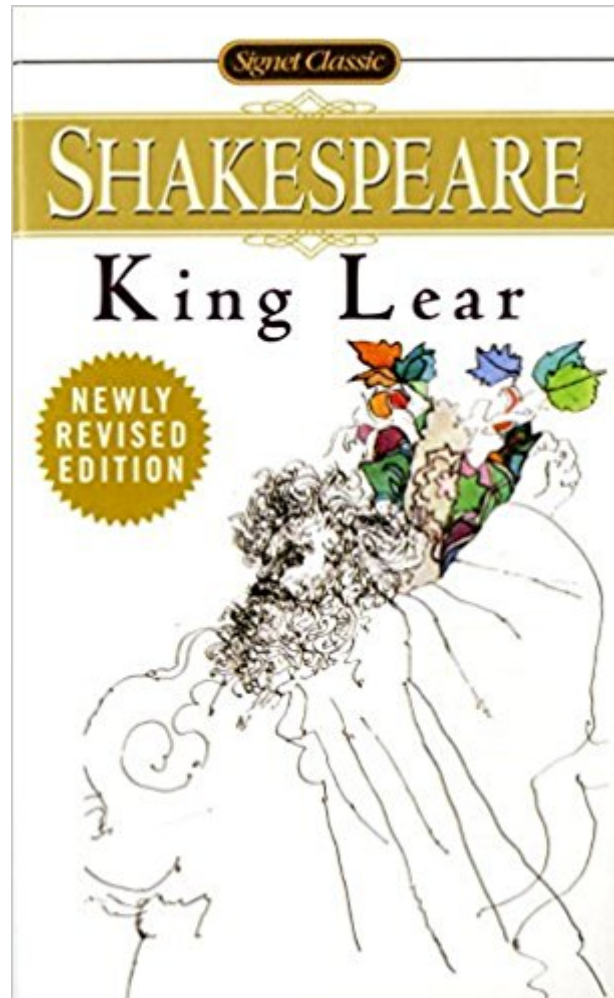




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# King Lear (Signet Classics)



## Synopsis

The Signet Classics edition of one of William Shakespeare's greatest tragedies. Full of cruelty and betrayal, King Lear is the timeless and timely story of a kingdom held in the thrall of an aging ruler's descent into madness. Desperate for praise, he banishes those who would guide him with honesty and surrounds himself with sycophants—an action which leads to his ultimately tragic downfall... This revised Signet Classics edition includes unique features such as:

- An overview of Shakespeare's life, world, and theater
- A special introduction to the play by the editor, Russell Fraser
- Selections from Raphael Holinshed's *Chronicles of England, Scotland, and Ireland*, Sir Philip Sidney's *Arcadia*, and *The True Chronicle History of King Lear*, the sources from which Shakespeare derived *King Lear*
- Dramatic criticism from Samuel Johnson, A. C. Bradley, John Russell Brown, and others
- A comprehensive stage and screen history of notable actors, directors, and productions
- Text, notes, and commentaries printed in the clearest, most readable text
- And more...

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This marvelous new installation to the revamped "Pelican Shakespeare" series contains both the original 1608 version as big Will wrote it and the 1623 scaled-down and reworked version with which we are all familiar. If that wasn't enough, this edition also sports a scholarly introduction and notes on the texts. All that for less than the price of lunch at McDonald's makes this a remarkable bargain for all academic and public libraries. Don't play the fool; buy this. Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"...an exemplary consideration of all the new bibliographic explication...Halio has done an admirable job. If all editions of Shakespeare and his contemporaries were similarly conceived and presented, study and understanding of Elizabethan-Jacobean-Caroline drama would be greatly improved."

William B. Long, TEXT: Transactions of the Society for Textual Scholarship --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Like I say about all Shakespeare: the Arden versions are my favorite. I own about a third of the Canon in them already. The footnotes are my favorite parts about it, and they're great because I don't have to carry my Lexicon around everywhere. King Lear is a brilliant play, all around. Between the family ties, the love and lust, and just the crazy existential dialogue, it's just a great read all-around.

I'm a fan of the layout of Folger Shakespeare Library. The covers are also beautiful, but the play on the right, explanation of archaic terms on the left style is very helpful to the reader and makes getting into Shakespeare much easier. King Lear is a great tragedy. It is very enjoyable.

This 'interpretation' alongside the original makes for much easier reading, while making the original so readily available also gives one the 'texture' of how the original felt. There is so much meaning and so much feeling contained in this play that the interpretation is essential unless one is able to interpret all the old English terms by oneself. So, I will certainly purchase further editions by this author's interpretations for more appreciation of the many plays of Shakespeare.

Every time I read this or watch this perform I feel changed. This edition is small, beautiful, and great. I have many of the plays in this edition, though truly the play is what makes me rate this so high. An exploration of madness, family, old age, and so much more. Read it and weep.

Was an AP English summer reading assignment. Read the Sparknotes after. Not my typical choice of text, but it is a classic

This is a welcome addition to my growing Folger library at home. Thank you!

Every time I re-read Lear I'm amazed at just how much pain and sorrow we must endure in life. This

Folger Library edition makes the language easily comprehensible. One can read straight through without difficulty, which restores the tension and flow to the action.

Excellent collection of essays that enable students to consider the play in its historical context.

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