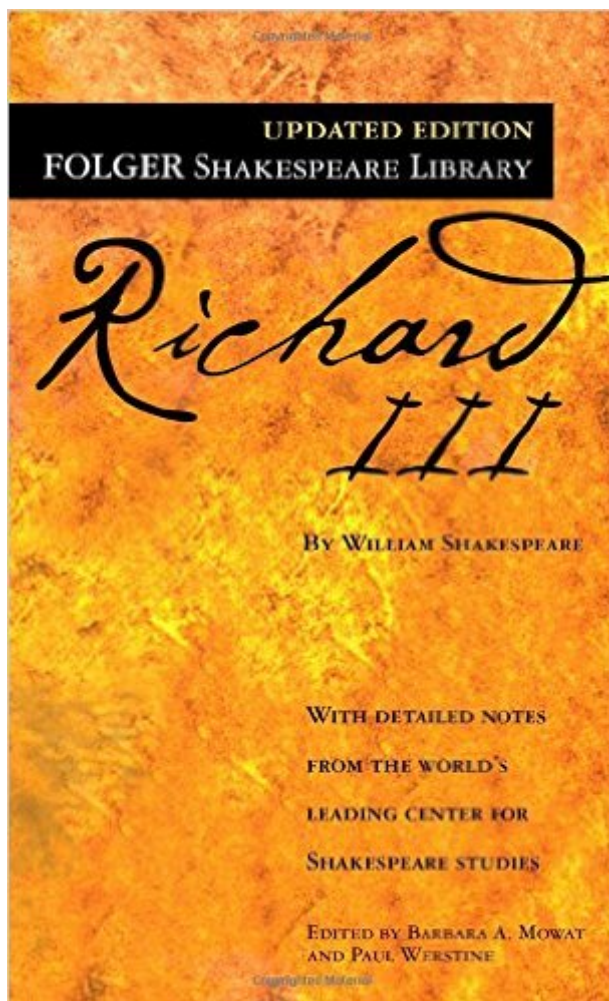


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Synopsis

In *Richard III*, Shakespeare invites us on a moral holiday. The play draws us to identify with Richard and his fantasy of total control of self and domination of others. Not yet king at the start of the play, Richard presents himself as an enterprising villain as he successfully plans to dispose of his brother Clarence. Richard achieves similar success in conquering the woman he chooses to marry. He carves a way to the throne through assassination and executions. The authoritative edition of *Richard III* from The Folger Shakespeare Library, the trusted and widely used Shakespeare series for students and general readers, includes: -Freshly edited text based on the best early printed version of the play -Newly revised explanatory notes conveniently placed on pages facing the text of the play -Scene-by-scene plot summaries -A key to the play's famous lines and phrases -An introduction to reading Shakespeare's language -An essay by a leading Shakespeare scholar providing a modern perspective on the play -Fresh images from the Folger Shakespeare Library's vast holdings of rare books -An up-to-date annotated guide to further reading

Essay by Phyllis Rackin

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Customer Reviews

Norton Critical Editions has long been the first resource to tap for English language Literature. For

interpretation cum primary sources we might prefer the recent The Oxford Shakespeare: The Tragedy of King Richard III (Oxford World's Classics: the Oxford Shakespeare), referenced here in the Norton, in fact, and we might also find further along the shelf the King Richard III (Arden Shakespeare: Second Series), but we always know the Norton will be quite comprehensive and the highest quality of the academic as opposed to the polemic. And in this very recent release from Norton we find no variation from this reputation. The primary sources in themselves are worthwhile to have between one cover in order to avoid disturbing your academic librarian while clodding across the oak floors. From the section here on primary sources and analogues we discover of course an extensive excerpt (over thirty large pages) from Saint Thomas More's The History Of King Richard The Third, with the interesting story of how More came to record this gruesome history. From More we receive the deformed figure of Richard as well.

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