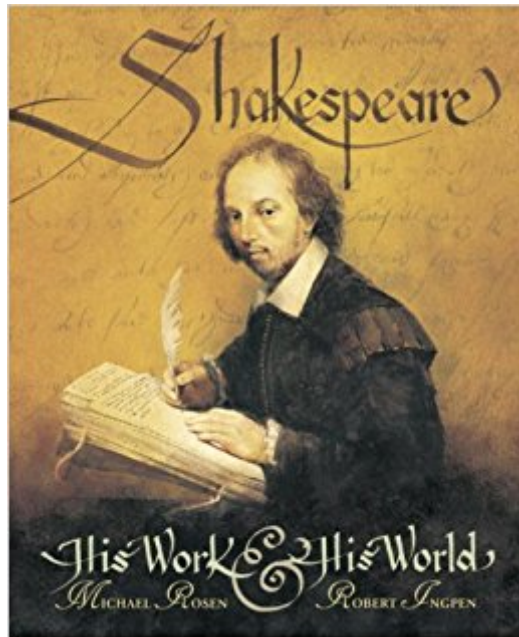




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Shakespeare: His Work And His World



Synopsis

"Rosen makes the life and work of Shakespeare vibrant and exciting in this perfectly splendid biography. . . . Beautiful and engaging." — • KIRKUS REVIEWS (starred review) "In exceptionally fresh and vivid terms, the author plies readers with abundant, accurate information on the playwright, his theater, and the plays, looking closely at A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, ROMEO AND JULIET, MACBETH, KING LEAR, and THE TEMPEST. . . . This volume justly serves its spectacular subject." — • SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL (starred review) "Even readers whose previous experience with Shakespeare has been rounded with sleep will be persuaded by this robust introduction to give it another try." — • BOOKLIST (starred review)

Book Information

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Rosen's (Classic Poetry) compelling text and Ingpen's (Who Is the World For?) dramatic paintings invite readers into the "extraordinary and dangerous times" in which the Bard wrote his famous plays. The narrative and design divide into distinct sections ideal for browsing. To set the stage, Rosen introduces "A Plot!" and details how, in 1598, to avoid paying their landlord, actors covertly pulled down the timber from the Curtain theater to reconstruct the Globe (a portion of which Shakespeare owned) on the opposite side of the Thames. Most chapters begin with engaging, chatty rhetorical questions (relayed, however, in a sometimes distracting typeface) such as "What's

So Special About Shakespeare?" and "So How Does Someone Stay That Famous?" Some metaphors, such as comparing Shakespeare's plays to a "house full of many amazing rooms," become a bit strained, but the narrative benefits from liberal quotation of Shakespeare's plays. Rosen effectively sets the historical context and reconstructs and imagines the events and circumstances of Shakespeare's life, while also demonstrating the surprising and pervasive extent of his linguistic legacy. Ingpen's atmospheric paintings evoke the romance of the era and capture the pageantry of the plays. A strong and worthy companion for readers exploring Shakespeare. Ages 12-15. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Gr 6 Up-With the exclamation point in the first chapter title and the contraction and present tense in the opening sentence, Rosen's text announces its lively and compelling colloquial style. In exceptionally fresh and vivid terms, the author plies readers with abundant, accurate information on the playwright, his theater, and the plays, looking closely at *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *King Lear*, and *The Tempest*. He presupposes some acquaintance with the best-known works (especially *Macbeth*), but the chief virtue of the text is the excitement that comes through the lucid descriptions-or evocations-of the plays, the poetry, and the period. He writes, too, about those parts of the bard's life that rouse curiosity: his schooling, marriage, will. The detailed time line is especially useful. The copious and engaging pencil-and-watercolor illustrations have the burnished look of old pictures and are as glorious as the text. They will lure many young people to read (and to brave the absence of paragraph indentation), as will the book's large, open typeface and attractive design. Better even than John Russell Brown's *Shakespeare and His Theatre* (Lothrop, 1982; o.p.), this volume justly serves its spectacular subject. Patricia Lothrop-Green, St. George's School, Newport, RI Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Beautifully illustrated and engagingly written, with a very helpful historical timeline included as an addendum. Highly recommend!

I purchased this book because I had read good reviews about it and wanted to share it with graduate students who plan to teach Shakespeare in secondary education. I was pleased with the book, mainly because it illuminates Shakespeare and the early modern theater via an accessible text and attractive illustrations. My students liked the book, too, and may use it as a supplemental

text in the future.

I found this book at my local library, and was enchanted by it. I taught high school English for almost twenty years, and taught several of Shakespeare's plays within that time; how I wish I had this book then! This exquisite book details the life of the Bard, his times, and his works. The illustrations are beautifully executed, the passages chosen are perfect; I cannot think of one thing that I do not like about this book. It is perfect for older children as an introduction to Shakespeare and his time, and to older students and adults! Who doesn't enjoy lovely drawings along with the reading. This book should be in every public library, in every school library, and in every classroom from at least fifth grade through twelfth. It is a wondrous book!

Great resource!

Is beautiful

Great book, love the images

The illustrations are just lovely in this book. I think this is a great introduction to Shakespeare and his plays. It talks briefly of some of his plays-just enough to know what goes on-and also about the time Shakespeare grew up in and wrote his plays in. The kings, queens, customs, etc...It's perfect for a child or an adult who doesn't know much about him.

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