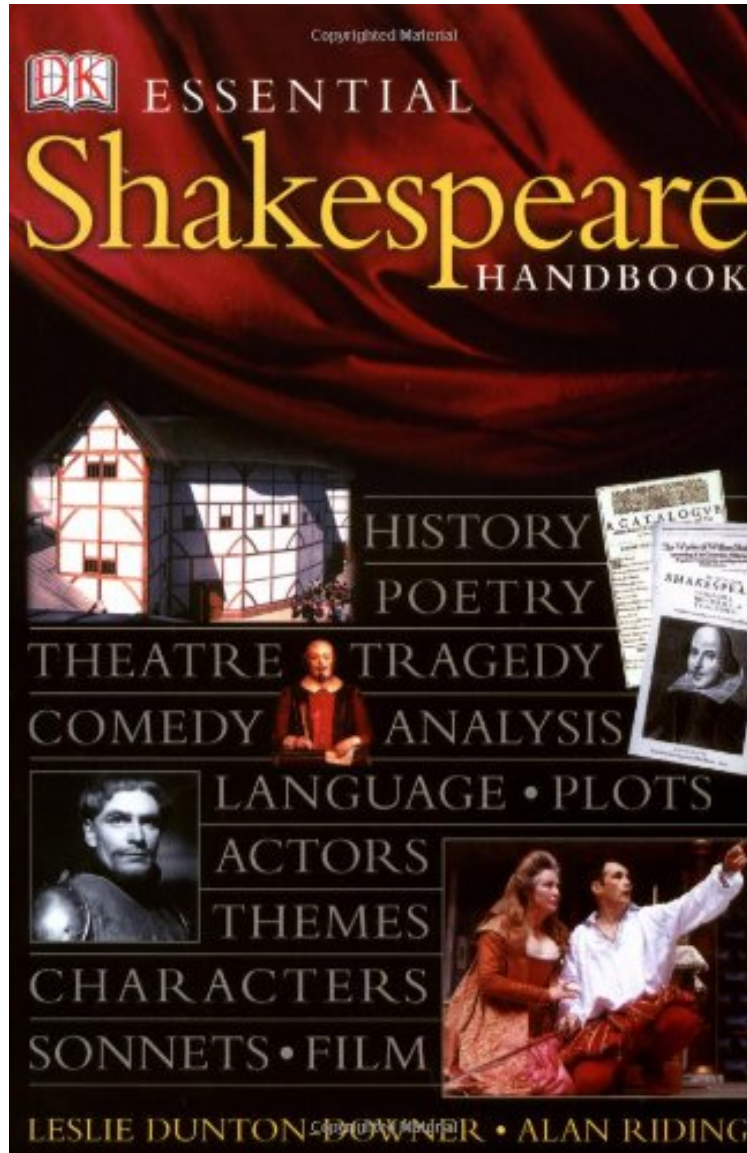


(Read now) Essential Shakespeare Handbook

Essential Shakespeare Handbook

Leslie Riding, Alan Dunton-Downer
DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#7571544 in Books 2004Format: ImportOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.35 x 1.18 x 5.59l, 1.10 #File Name: 0751348821480 pages | File size: 61.Mb

Leslie Riding, Alan Dunton-Downer : Essential Shakespeare Handbook before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Essential Shakespeare Handbook:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Not in depth, but for what it is, it's great !By Christopher BarrettThis is a true DK companion book. It has a lot of information, but does not get into too much detail. There are plenty of nice photos and pictures of old paintings, drawings, etchings, etc... But if you are looking for expert, in depth analysis of the plays I recommend either purchasing the Pelican edition of individual plays or investigating this fantastic book:

Shakespeare: The Essential Guide to the Plays. This book delves a bit into the life and history of Shakespeare and then summarizes the plays. It's a great companion, but it is not a good text for those researching the plays or studying Shakespeare in University. I would say it's targeted for a younger audience, or those with a familiarity with Shakespeare and who want just a little slice of everything he wrote. I have been extremely happy with the Pelican books, a few that I have that I HIGHLY recommend are listed here: Titus Andronicus (The Pelican Shakespeare) King Lear (The Pelican Shakespeare) (has both Folio and Quarto editions!) Macbeth (The Pelican Shakespeare) For a better and more thorough Shakespeare text go here: Shakespeare: The Essential Guide to the Plays 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The title says it all! By John Alldredge I borrowed this book from the public library as soon as I opened it, I knew I would buy it. Although it is intended as a reference book, I suppose, I read it from cover to cover as soon as I got it home. If you are just "getting into" the Bard, this handbook will get you up to speed. If you are a casual play-goer, reading the appropriate bits BEFORE attending a performance will make the experience more relevant for you, IMHO. I have read that this book is a bit too simplistic for "real" Shakespeare aficionados but I am not one of those, and this suits me to a "T". I am an old man have been reading Shakespeare going to performances of his plays for decades. Dunton-Downer's book has a great deal to teach me. This book is a high quality production, beautifully printed on quality paper and chock full of photos illustrations. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Perfect playgoing resource for the novice as well as the aficionado By Lesley A. Williams Dorling-Kindersley has mastered the art of providing maximum information in minimal space, and with gorgeous illustrations. Each play is covered in about 10-15 pages. The character list summarizes each person's role in the story, and gives the number of lines they speak; characters are also identified by handy icons for "identify change" "dies", "ghost" etc. The plot summary is highlighted with similar icons for "play within a play", "soliloquy" and my favorite, "not dead after all!" The whole thing is lavishly illustrated with photos and paintings from famous productions and movies. This is a terrific refresher to flip through right before a performance, and essential reading for those attending Shakespeare for the first time.

Offering a user-friendly, beautifully illustrated guide to every play in the Shakespeare canon, as well as a portrait of the Bard's life and the world of Elizabethan and Jacobean theater, the Essential Shakespeare Handbook is an innovative and entertaining book which unravels the complexities of Shakespeare's plays and poems. Written in a clear and engaging style, this book will enrich the experience of the Bard's work on the page, stage, and screen.

From School Library Journal Grade 7 Up Organized according to the categories of plays and including a section on his nondramatic poetry, this is an excellent basic tool for gaining insight into the Bard's poetic genius. Each of the categories histories, comedies, tragedies, and romances commences with a well-written essay that explains the nature of the genre (and the place of Shakespeare's works within it) and discusses the themes and ideas that lay behind the poet's words. A more in-depth analysis of each play follows: a look at the sources that inspired it, an act-by-act plot outline (with relevant quotes), an annotated list of the dramatis personae, ideas to ponder when reading/seeing the play, and, finally, a discussion of issues associated with the play and/or its productions. Each treatment is liberally peppered with informative sidebars, as well as with clear, color photos of relevant people and places. For the poems, similarly organized information is offered. A number of useful discussions help put the pieces into their full literary context. A biography of the playwright, an essay on Elizabethan society and the theater it spawned, a discussion of the overall canon, and an explanation of Shakespeare's language and poetic meters round out the text. This volume is not meant to take the place of more comprehensive reference works, such as Michael Dobson and Stanley Wells's The Oxford Companion to Shakespeare (Oxford, 2001), but it is an informative, visually enticing introduction to the world's most famous dramatist. Nancy Menaldi-Scanlan, LaSalle Academy, Providence, RI Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Essential Shakespeare Handbook deserves a place next to your edition of Shakespeare's plays. Leslie Dunton-Downer, a former lecturer at Harvard, and Alan Riding, the European cultural correspondent for The Times, have written a guide to the poems and plays that is scholarly without being recondite, succinct without being superficial." The New York Times Book "Students will like the glossy, well-illustrated format; it is an English teacher's dream. Recommended." Library Media Connection "This simple, colorful handbook is a perfect companion to the playwright's complete works." Library Journal About the Author Leslie Dunton-Downer, a fellow and lecturer at her alma mater, Harvard, is a founding member of the Cambridge Riverside Players, and has produced community readings of Shakespeare's plays. Her published works have earned her a Sheldon Fellowship, two Rockefeller Foundation Awards, and the International Orpheus Award. Alan Riding is the European Cultural Correspondent for The New York Times based in Paris. He has covered countless Shakespearean performances, films, ballets, and operas.