

《JULIUS

CAESAR 《裘力斯·凯撒》(ISBN=9780553212969)》

书籍信息

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From School Library Journal

Grade 5-8-One of the marks of Shakespeare's greatness is the continued interest in adapting his enduring works. This recording of Julius Caesar is one in a series drawn from Leon Garfield's Shakespeare Stories. Liberally sprinkled with lines from the original play, the recording presents a condensation of all five acts in a little more than an hour. Beginning with a brief biography of the Bard, the recording then offers a thorough but not lengthy overview of the play. All this sets the stage for Simon Russell Beale's well paced narration. This Royal Shakespeare Company veteran moves so skillfully between story text and dialogue that at times it seems as though there are several actors reading. Classic lines such as "Et tu. Brute" and "Friends, Romans, Countrymen " are rendered with fresh vigor. At the conclusion of the play, an article on "Shakespeare Today" offers suggestions to help youngsters have fun with Shakespeare. Short selections of period music make a nice transition between sections of the recording. Though aimed at a middle school audience, both teens and adults will find this presentation a good way to learn about one of the earliest plays performed at the Globe Theatre.

Barbara Wysocki, Cora J. Belden Library, Rocky Hill, CT

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内容简介

Book De*ion

In this striking tragedy of political conflict, Shakespeare turnsto the ancient Roman world and to the famous assassination ofJulius Caesar by his republican opponents. The play is one oftumultuous rivalry, of prophetic warnings – “ Beware the ides ofMarch ” – and of moving public oratory, “ Friends, Romans, countrymen! ” Ironies abound and most of all for Brutus, whose fate it is tolearn that his idealistic motives for joining the conspiracyagainst a would-be dictator are not enough to sustain the movementonce Caesar is dead.

* Comprehensive explanatory notes

* Vivid introductions and the most up-to-date scholarship

* Clear, modernized spelling and punctuation, enabling contemporaryreaders to understand the Elizabethan English

* Completely updated, detailed bibliographies and performancehistories

Each Edition Includes: * Comprehensive explanatory notes * Vivid introductions and the most up-to-date scholarship * Clear, modernized spelling and punctuation, enabling contemporary readers to understand the Elizabethan English * Completely updated, detailed bibliographies and performance histories * An interpretive essay on film adaptations of the play, along with an extensive filmography

Amazon.co.uk Review One of Shakespeare's most political plays, *Julius Caesar* continued Shakespeare's interest in Roman history, first developed in *Titus Andronicus*. Drawing on Plutarch, the great historian of Rome, Shakespeare dramatises one of the most crucial moments in Roman history--the assassination of Julius Caesar. Loved by the Roman crowd but increasingly feared by the Senators, Caesar increasingly shows signs of his desire to abolish the Republic and crown himself emperor. A conspiracy is hatched, led by Cassius and Brutus, who murder Caesar on the steps of the Capitol. Mourning over his dead friend's body, Mark Antony gives one of the famous rhetorical speeches in literature, asking "Friends, Romans, Countrymen" to lament Caesar's death, privately vowing to "let slip the dogs of war" against those who have shed Caesar's blood. Antony joins forces with Caesar's son Octavius to defeat Cassius and Brutus in battle, and establish an uneasy alliance whose collapse is dramatised in Shakespeare's later play *Antony and Cleopatra*. Written at the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, *Julius Caesar* has been seen by many as a radically pro-Republican play which sailed close to the political wind of the time. --Jerry Brotton

From the Author It's two, two, two plays in one! Shakespeare's play "*Julius Caesar*" is the only tragedy he wrote where the title character dies in the third act. The real "tragic hero" is Brutus, who is the last to die in the play. It's also interesting to note Marc Antony, a minor character in the first two acts, who comes to the forefront in his funeral oration. But his nobility declines in Act 4, where Shakespeare shows him to be influenced by power. There is no direct confrontation between the protagonists and the antagonists in the play. Both Cassius and Brutus come to their ends by their own hands.

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作者简介

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon in April 1564, and his birth is traditionally celebrated on April 23. The facts of his life, known from surviving documents, are sparse. He was one of eight children born to John Shakespeare, a merchant of some standing in his community. William probably went to the King's New School in Stratford, but he had no university education. In November 1582, at the age of eighteen, he married Anne Hathaway, eight years his senior, who was pregnant with their first child, Susanna. She was born on May 26, 1583. Twins, a boy, Hamnet (who would die at age eleven), and a girl, Judith, were born in 1585. By 1592 Shakespeare had gone to London working as an actor and already known as a playwright. A rival dramatist, Robert Greene, referred to him as "an upstart crow, beautified with our feathers." Shakespeare became a principal

shareholder and playwright of the successful acting troupe, the Lord Chamberlain ' s Men (later under James I, called the King ' s Men). In 1599 the Lord Chamberlain ' s Men built and occupied the Globe Theater in Southwark near the Thames River. Here many of Shakespeare ' s plays were performed by the most famous actors of his time, including Richard Burbage, Will Kempe, and Robert Armin. In addition to his 37 plays, Shakespeare had a hand in others, including Sir Thomas More and The Two Noble Kinsmen, and he wrote poems, including Venus and Adonis and The Rape of Lucrece. His 154 sonnets were published, probably without his authorization, in 1609. In 1611 or 1612 he gave up his lodgings in London and devoted more and more time to retirement in Stratford, though he continued writing such plays as The Tempest and Henry VIII until about 1613. He died on April 23, 1616, and was buried in Holy Trinity Church, Stratford. No collected edition of his plays was published during his life-time, but in 1623 two members of his acting company, John Heminges and Henry Condell, put together the great collection now called the First Folio.

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