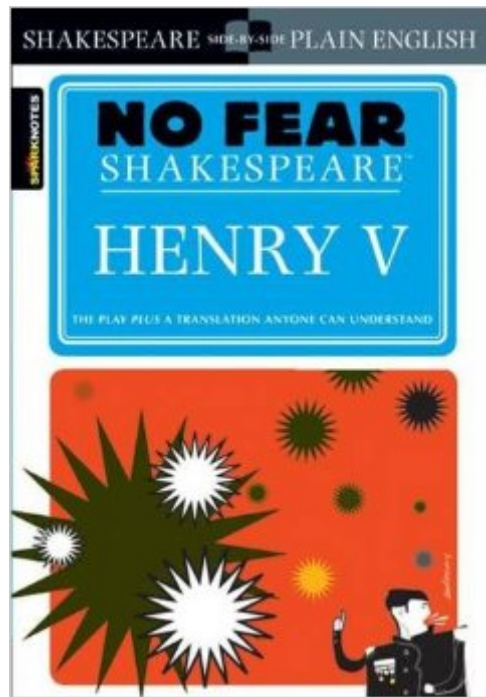


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No Fear Shakespeare: Henry V



Synopsis

No Fear Shakespeare gives you the complete text of *Henry V* on the left-hand page, side-by-side with an easy-to-understand translation on the right. Each No Fear Shakespeare contains:
The complete text of the original play
A line-by-line translation that puts Shakespeare into everyday language
A complete list of characters with descriptions
Plenty of helpful commentary

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am a private tutor who teaches Shakespeare to classes of middle school/high school students and I think the No Fear Shakespeare series is a wonderful thing. Over my years of teaching, the number one complaint I hear from my students (and sometimes from their parents, who say this to me with shamed faces) is that Shakespeare is "boring." Not so! I always say, and then I show them the collection of No Fear Shakespeare books I use for my classes and they all say, "Wow! What a great idea!" Let's face it: It's hard to understand Elizabethan English. Unless, of course, you are a scholar who has spent years learning how to unravel William Shakespeare's lofty lines, which most of us aren't. In fact, I think that's where we seem to have gotten the idea that Shakespeare is the province of college professors, when actually, Shakespeare is meant for highbrow and lowbrow audiences alike. These books, with Elizabethan English on the left and modern English on the right, are a fine thing for students to use because they remove the mystery of all those thee's and thou's, not to mention all the archaic slang. My students and I go over the modern English first, and then we read

it in the original. It really adds a LOT to their understanding. I feel that the translations are adeptly done. Every now and then you'll come across a modern line that jangles in the ear, but for the most part, the translations are handled gracefully. The original needs no criticism at all. This is one of William Shakespeare's best plays, in my opinion. His love of his country's history is evident in every line, and this play is particularly interesting because of the use of a Chorus: You can practically see yourself at the Globe as you read! [...]

This review is not so much about the play (in which Prince Hal reaches glorious and majestic maturity) as about the presentation of the material... "No Fear Shakespeare" continues to be one of the best ways for the casual reader to read and study the Bard... Original text on the lefthand page, updated modern language on the righthand page... the best of both worlds... Twice as much for the price, two for one, the old and the new side-by-side. One comment about Shakespeare's work in this play... use of the opening prologue to each scene makes this easy to understand and to visualize... nice touch, by the world's greatest writer and observer of the human condition.

This is an excellent study guide. Henry V is a great play. But I would implore any person inexperienced with Shakespeare to study the play before watching a performance. I have found that makes all the difference for me. Shakespeare plays are classified as history plays, tragedies, and comedies. For that reason, there is no single Shakespeare play that I would recommend for a student wishing to have a working knowledge of Shakespeare play. But this is probably my personal favorite history play. "No Fear Shakespeare" is an apt title for me. The first lines of the play: "Oh, for a muse of fire that would ascend The brightest heaven of invention." Huh? As a student I am wincing at the first line and shuddering at the prospect of studying this play. No Fear Shakespeare: "If only we had divine inspiration, our play might rise to the highest level of imagination. As a high school student, I wish I had this study aid available. As a senior citizen, I recall the painful exercise of trying to study Shakespeare. I ended up so frustrated that I completely quit on Shakespeare and a lot of other high literature, poetry, and art in general. I always nursed a vague regret for this. When I retired I vowed to fix this. One of my first projects was to attack the original source of my frustration, Shakespeare. It was only then that I discovered this fine product. I can only wish this existed when I was a youth. Thank You...

I dreaded my wife's invitations to see Shakespeare plays on stage, because most of the dialog would go straight over my head. The short synopsis generally included in the program didn't help

much. But this book made a huge difference. Having read it the week before the performance of Henry V, I knew what was going on on stage, and was able to really enjoy the actors and the production.

No Fear is good for those new to Shakespeare. I normally prefer Folger's Shakespeare but this edition was less expensive so I thought I'd give it a go. It was good but I still prefer Folger's for everyday reading.

I'm homeschooling an 8th grader; this series makes Shakespeare accessible and even entertaining for my student. We read the "No Fear" translation together, read/compare the more important speeches in the original language, and then watch the same scene from a cinematic version. I highly recommend this for "a little touch of Harry in the night" that is painless and fun.

I have read this but am still not sure I understand the plot! Guess I will soon find out as I view the play!

As good as the other 'No Fear' books in the series.

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