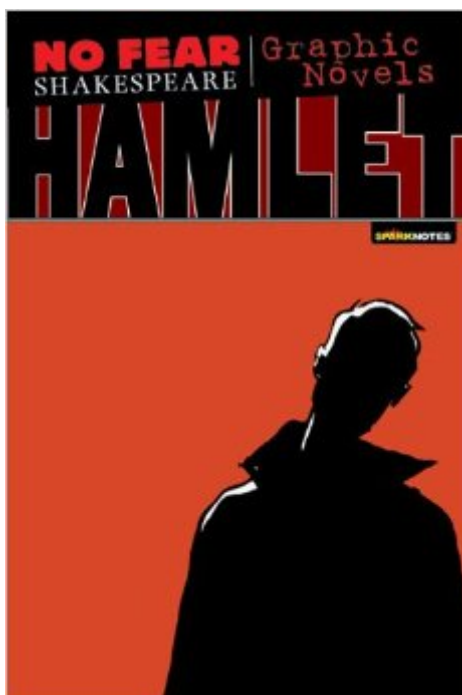


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Hamlet (No Fear Shakespeare Graphic Novels)



Synopsis

No Fear Shakespeare Graphic Novels is a series based on the translated texts of the plays found in No Fear Shakespeare. The original No Fear series made Shakespeare's plays much easier to read, but these dynamic visual adaptations are impossible to put down. Each of the titles is illustrated in its own unique style, but all are distinctively offbeat, slightly funky, and appealing to teen readers. Each book will feature:

- Illustrated cast of characters
- A helpful plot summary
- Line-by-line translations of the original play
- Illustrations that show the reader exactly what's happening in each scene

making the plot and characters even clearer than in the original No Fear Shakespeare books

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: SparkNotes (January 25, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1411498739

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (24 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #108,708 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Dramas & Plays > Tragedy #117 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Biographies & History Graphic Novels #151 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Literary

Customer Reviews

Neil Babra's done an outstanding job with this one. His character designs, graytones, page layouts are all superb. The characters' "acting" is strong, the pacing works well, and (most impressively) the script is a hybrid of Shakespeare's original and SparkNotes' dumbed-down "translation," capturing the best features of both (and leaving Shakespeare's best lines undamaged). Note also the fantastic frontispieces drawn by Babra for each act - each one a masterpiece I'd be proud to hang in my house. Hats off to Babra for taking a project that could easily have been phoned in (SparkNotes? Seriously?) and knocking it out of the park. This is a fine graphic novel.

I teach at risk 12th grade students and I purchased this book to preview it for my students before investing in a class set. It's definitely a faithful version of the original text, but I decided not to

purchase it because I think my students might find it confusing. Also, it's not set up to be read like a play and I like to assign parts and have my students read aloud. I think this text would work best for an average or advanced student wanting to familiarize themselves with the content of the play.

• To be or not to be that is the question. • I have read the majority of material the master of prose (William Shakespeare) has written and when I saw this graphic 207 soft cover novel (Hamlet: No fear Shakespeare graphic novel, Illustrations by Neil Babra) at a bargain price on I immediately purchased it. The tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark (known as Hamlet) is one of the most popular works of Shakespeare, as well as being one of the most played of all his plays. This is the sad tragedy of Hamlet, who was haunted by the ghost of his father King Hamlet. The king was murdered by his brother, Claudius. Claudius seized not only the throne but also married his deceased brother's widow. Hamlet's grief is brought out in this haunting tale. The story has many of the most famous quotes of Shakespeare and the graphics make the story come alive. There are five parts to this story (play). I never like to give away too much but if you are into the great Works of William Shakespeare you may want to check out this graphic novel version. I intend to order more in the future. Rating: 5 Stars. Joseph J. Truncale (Author: Zen Poetry moments: Haiku and Senryu for special occasions).

I teach Hamlet. As anyone who teaches Shakespeare to lower ability readers knows, getting students to read Shakespeare for homework is like pulling your own teeth. Well, I have found that if I copy certain "big" scenes out of this novel and assign it for homework. The kids read it and are ready to discuss the next day.

There are 3 huge benefits to this version. First, the language is a translation into modern English, so it is still beautiful but understandable!. If Hamlet were translated into French, it would be understandable to a modern audience. Why should native English speakers be the only people in the world unable to appreciate our greatest writer? Second, Hamlet is shown as the correct age. On stage and film , the actors are invariably too old. But here, you can really understand the impetuosity of youth that drives the action. Finally, the art is innovative - the images in the soliloquies are fully illustrated, to beautiful effect. Finally I can appreciate Hamlet. A great book.

A great tool to use in the classroom when teaching Shakespeare. Helps the students visual see the scene and help them make predictions about what will happen next based on the pictures. A great

tool for the reluctant reader.

Babra has done some excellent work here. While I think transposing Shakespeare's language to our run o' the mill idioms loses a lot, it does work. Especially with as well matched as that informal tone is to the line work Babra has used. The images and the word balloons fit well together. And beyond that, the word balloons are fantastic. That may sound like an odd compliment, but so few comics artists use the full range of the medium's conventions. A simply tail from a word balloon pointing to someone's face clarifies who the speaker is; however, the twists and turns that Babra sometimes uses in those tails add to the meaning of the statement. ("I can tell a hawk from a handsaw" definitely deserves a figure-8 knot in its tail.) Similarly, the use of abstract expressionistic backgrounds complements and amplifies the varieties of emotion and madness in the tale. All in all, it's a book that I am completely happy I invested in.

I bought four copies for my students in who receive help in the learning resource room at our private high school. They and the learning center staff love them, and these students have been more engaged than any others in the class in discussion of the text. Other teachers have been impressed too--only one or two holdouts who think this approach is sacrilege.

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