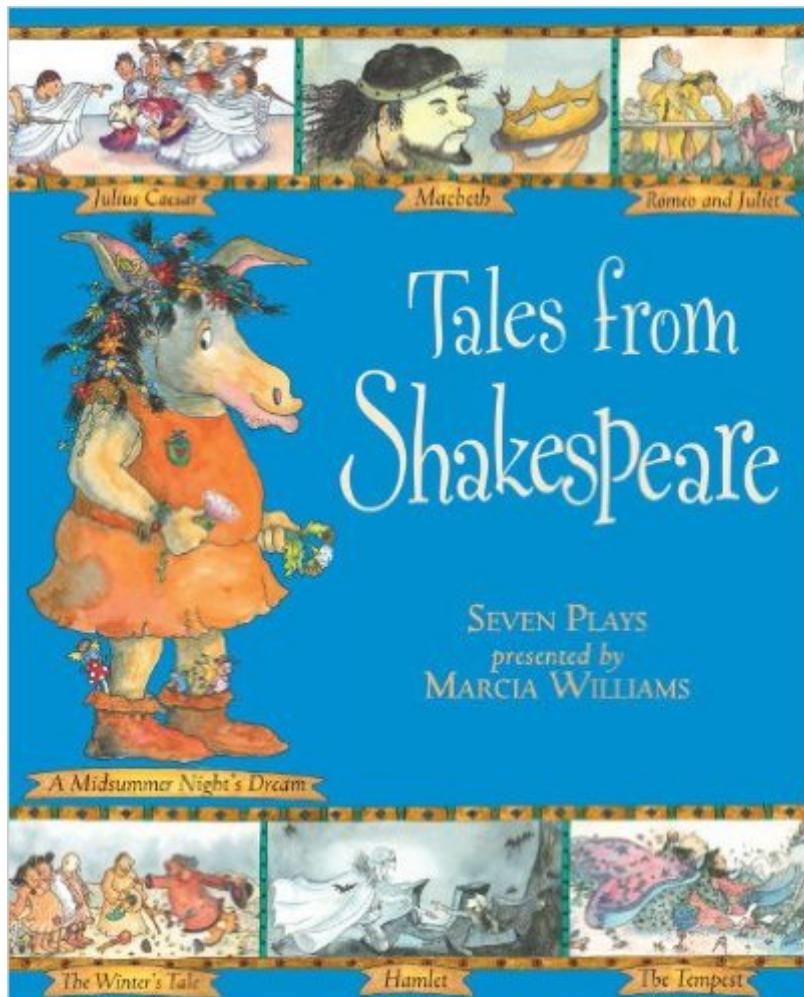


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# Tales From Shakespeare



## **Synopsis**

Shakespeare made accessible for young readers! Come wend your way along Londonâ™s Thames River to the Globe Theatre, where seven favorite Shakespearean plays are being performed! Marcia Williams brings to life ROMEO AND JULIET, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, JULIUS CAESAR, HAMLET, MACBETH, THE WINTER'S TALE, and THE TEMPEST, making liberal use of Shakespeareâ™s rich dialogue. With the help of her signature comic-strip style, the Bardâ™s 400-year-old masterworks become as relevant to young readers today as they were to theatergoers way back then.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 960L (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

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Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (33 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #79,568 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Drama & Theater #26 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Humor > Cartoons #160 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Story Collections

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

My eight-year old daughter and I delighted in reading these seven plays together! Marcia Williams has created a colorful, imaginative, fun way to present these wonderful plays so that the young reader gains an appreciation for Shakespeare's works and an insight into the historical period in which he presented them on stage. Each page contains whimsical illustrations, in strip style, wherein the characters speak lines from the plays, as well as a clearly written storyline. My daughter especially chuckled over the humorous but often droll comments of scampering Globe audience members, framing the text of every page. You'll find Will himself is there, too! The events of the

plays are not sugar coated, though, so the tragedies do rack up a body count and the reader encounters the famous scenes of poisonings and revenge sought by the sword.

Tales from Shakespeare, illustrated by Marcia Williams ISBN 0-7636-0441-0 Hardback(Beware of 's policy to mix personal reviews and editorial reviews within item description of things with the same title but different editors, publishers, illustrators, binding, and so on. So far I only see the Marcia Williams volume linked here, but this can change.)This volume includes Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Macbeth, The Winter's Tale, Julius Caesar, and The Tempest. Each story is told comic book style in 4 pages. Excerpts of the original language are put with the illustrations. Beneath each illustrated strip is straightforward story telling of what is going on. Around the edges of each page are illustrations representing the audience from Shakespeare's time and theater humorously commenting on the play.The illustrations are colorful and fun and completely within the spirit of Shakespeare. The reader experiences it as part of the audience of a Shakespeare play. I own multiple Marcia Williams illustrated works and love them so much I'm trying to collect all of them (but beware if you click on Marcia Williams, some of what lists is not illustrated by her).The volume does a great job of summarizing each play while introducing the child to the fun language of Shakespeare. There is also the historical cultural element of what the audience would be like.Highly recommended for introducing the love of Shakespeare to small children. Also recommended for adults who want to be introduced to Shakespeare but don't feel they can handle the full stories.

My kids were super excited when we got this. The very next day both of them read it and now they want to see the plays and read more Shakespeare!!! As a homeschool mom this is music to my ears! It is a large book and it has comic strips with the stories. My 10 year old son really like the way it was portrait as people watching a movie. He thought it was the best way possible. My son doesn't like to read anything but graphic novels so it's a great way to sneak some culture in his reading. My 12 year old loves that you could understand what they were saying and that you had the pictures helped you understand the story. She didn't like people around the edges that are watching the story. They confused her.So I have one that loves them and one that didn't.All in all I find this a great success at bringing Shakespeare to kids!!!

Now when so many adults are clueless concerning our cultural landmarks, this book brings certain Shakespeare classics down to kid-level. This first exposure may lure the five-to-10 [years] crowd to

check out Shakespeare in more detail in another five years. Book introduces Shakespeare in comic-book format. For kids below eleven years, unrelieved blocks of print may sap the electronic-games drenched kid's determination to press on. Pictures offer that otherwise missing encouragement. Nice present. Given to others' kids, the gift itself leaves the impressed other parents a whiff of the giver's unexpectedly high cultural level.

I decided to write these comments after reading a series of very silly criticisms/critiques in the official review section. What trivia! Once again, I find myself wondering how people EVER get their jobs in the industry until they can find something negative to say about things... That said, my grandchildren had these books from when they were about four years old (because the older one may have been six by that time). They absolutely adored reading them, as did all of their grown-ups. When they couldn't read the words for themselves, they would sit and study the really wonderful pictures/art work. Now they are 12 and 10 years old, and the 10-year old's SPECIFIC request for a trip to England this summer is to SEE a Shakespeare play AT the Old Globe! She's seen at least two "Shakespeare in the Park" versions and now want to experience the "real thing". I credit this almost entirely to this wonderful series of books--get them all! The kids will love them. (And ignore the negative silliness--seriously, it's just silly--they couldn't think of anything else to say.) One Proud Nana!

I thought this was a great book. I love anything by Marcia Williams. The illustrations are great and there are hillarious comments from the audience throughout the book. This is a great book for kids to enjoy and they also get the basic story line of seven of Shakespeare's most pouplular plays. But most of all this book is just fun.

My daughter has loved meeting Shakespeare in this comic book format. It is a great introduction to the stories although not the poetry, but for an 8 year old, that's just fine. When it's time for her to face the language, she will already be interested in the story. I question putting Macbeth in a book for kids, however. We found it too disturbing and scary for this age. The comedies however were great.

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