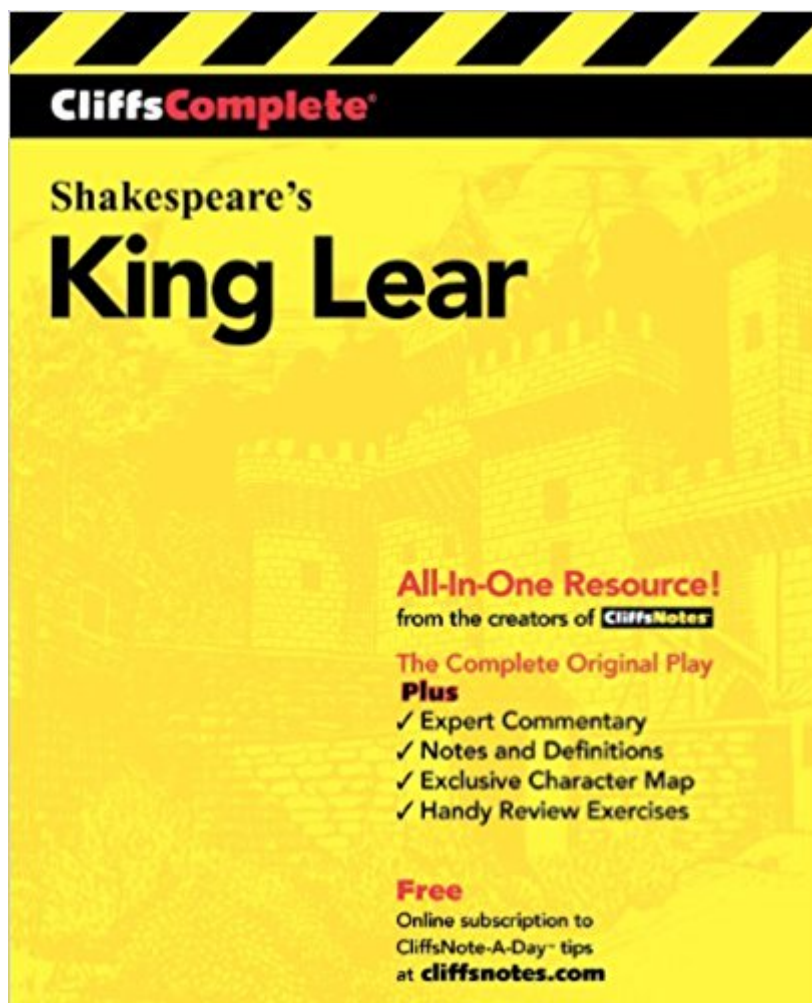


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CliffsComplete King Lear



Synopsis

In the CliffsComplete guides, the play's complete text and a glossary appear side-by-side with coordinating numbered lines to help you understand unusual words and phrasing. You'll also find all the commentary and resources of a standard CliffsNotes for Literature. In this tragic play, Lear, a ruler in pre-Christian Britain, is described as a "very foolish old man." Grossly misjudging his daughters, he endures a harrowing experience and emerges as a man "more sinned against than sinning." This most tragic of Shakespearean plays speaks to us repeatedly about fate and chance, destiny and the gods. But we also are reminded that humanity has free will and King Lear's choices lead to madness. Enhance your reading of King Lear and save valuable studying time all at once with CliffsComplete King Lear. Studying is easier with features that include Shakespeare's original play notes and definitions that appear directly opposite the line in which they occur. A summary and insightful commentary for each scene. Bibliography and historical background on the playwright, William Shakespeare. A look at the historical context and structure of the play. Discussions on the play's symbols and themes. A character map that graphically illustrates the relationships among the characters. Review questions, a quiz, discussion topics (essay questions), activity ideas. A Resource Center full of books, articles, films, and Internet sites. Streamline your literature study with all-in-one help from CliffsComplete guides!

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Customer Reviews

In this tragic play, Lear, a ruler in pre-Christian Britain, is described as a "very foolish old man, fourscore and upward." Grossly misjudging his daughters, he endures a harrowing experience and emerges as a man "more sinned against than sinning." The Cliffs Complete King Lear is a revised and expanded study edition. It contains Shakespeare's original play, a glossary, and expert commentary in a unique, 2-column format. To enhance your learning, notes and definitions appear directly opposite the line in which they occur, and a review section follows the play. This edition also introduces you to the life, works, and times of William Shakespeare.

William Shakespeare (1564-1616) wrote 37 plays. King Lear and Macbeth are widely considered his finest and most popular. They are, perhaps, the most frequently produced works on the planet.

I find Shakespeare very difficult and "Cliff's Complete" is a tremendous help!! Cliff's Complete should be available for all of Shakespeare and not just a few plays. Amazingly, it is the only such guide that I've found. It astounds me that it stands so alone when so many students and readers have so much difficulty with Shakespeare. The introductory material is good re Shakespeare and Elizabethan England. The Character Map is good, but it isn't as clear as it could be. It lacks a complete list of characters, and some minor characters are left out and appear out of the blue. An entire introductory section on characters should be considered. Descriptions about the characters, their roles, relationships and meanings would also be helpful to someone like me. The brief introduction to each scene is excellent and very helpful. The Commentaries are excellent and very helpful. I've used Cliff's Complete before, and choose to read the Commentary before each Scene instead of after. That might be suggested to the reader in a short guide. The running notes could and should be done better. The numbered line references for the running notes are very helpful. It would be even more helpful if an italic or something like an asterisk for the noted item referred to the note even more directly. Many more such notes would also be more helpful given the very difficult language and terms, and the reader could choose whether or not to bother with more such notes. Also, notes of more importance could be done in a bolder type. Running the notes along the side of the script is excellent and makes reference easier and more seamless than at the bottom of the page or at the end. Unfortunately, the notes are on a light blue background and in small blue typeset both of which make it harder to read for an old guy like me. Despite these comments, this is an indispensable help as I prepare to see a performance. Thank you, Wiley Publishing and the authors and editors! Victor Ostrower

Great

You need this to understand anything !Its absolutely amazing, one side is the shakespear version, the other has a simplified version of what he is trying to say.A muuuust !!

Shakespeare no easy to understand to begin with :)so for High schooler this is perfect for filling in the gaps!

King Lear was made easier to read with the commentary. Clarification of old English words was very healpful. With these aids, it made reading of this classic and enjoyable experience.

Came in fast, and a really great price. I really needed this desperately, and I ended up getting it. Thank You!

We are currently using this book in my AP English class. The commentary that follows each scene is very helpful in analyzing the sometimes confusing language of Shakespeare. Also, there is a lot of extra room for writing and annotating King Lear. For anyone in need of a copy of King Lear, and plans on writing in it while you are reading, I strongly recommend this Cliff's Complete version of King Lear.

Stunned how clean an edition this was. Pristine condition.

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