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978-1-107-12347-2 - Monuments and Literary Posterity in Early Modern Drama

Brian Chalk

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## MONUMENTS AND LITERARY POSTERITY IN EARLY MODERN DRAMA

In spite of the ephemeral nature of performed drama, playwrights such as Marlowe, Jonson, Webster, Fletcher, and Shakespeare were deeply interested in the endurance of their theatrical work and in their own literary immortality. This book re-evaluates the relationship between these early modern dramatists and literary posterity by considering their work within the context of post-Reformation memorialization. Providing fresh analyses of plays by major dramatists, Brian Chalk considers how they depicted monuments and other funeral properties on stage in order to exploit and criticize the rich ambiguities of commemorative rituals. The book also discusses the print history of the plays featured. The subject will attract scholars and upper-level students of Renaissance drama, memory studies, early modern theatre, and print history.

BRIAN CHALK is Assistant Professor of English at Manhattan College. He has published essays on early modern drama and culture in journals including *Studies in Philology* and *Studies in English Literature, 1500–1900*.

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University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

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[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781107123472](http://www.cambridge.org/9781107123472)

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First published 2015

Printed in the United Kingdom by TJ International Ltd. Padstow Cornwall.

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

*Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data*

ISBN 978-1-107-12347-2 Hardback

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---

*To Bridget*

*“O know, sweet love, I always write of you, / And you and love are still  
my argument” (9–10) – Shakespeare, sonnet 76*

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Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	page viii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	ix
Introduction: “raptures of futurity”	I
1 “ <i>Let All things End</i> ”: Marlowe’s immortality	42
2 Jonson’s textual monument	77
3 Webster’s “worthiest monument”: the problem of posterity in <i>The Duchess of Malfi</i>	106
4 “Mocking life”: preemptive commemoration in <i>The Winter’s Tale</i>	139
5 Fletcher’s future: dynasty and collaborative posterity in <i>Henry VIII</i>	173
Coda: what they hath left us	200
<i>Select bibliography</i>	210
<i>Index</i>	220

*Figures*

1	The Tomb of Elizabeth I, 1620 (engraving). Dutch School, seventeenth century. Reproduced with the permission of Bridgeman Images.	<i>page 27</i>
2	Monument to Christopher Roper, 1618 Lynsted Church, Kent. Photograph taken by Nigel Heriz-Smith of the Lynsted Society. Used with the kind permission of the photographer.	126
3	Monument to Dame Catharine Drurye, 1601. Photograph taken by Nigel Heriz-Smith of the Lynsted Society. Used with the kind permission of the photographer.	145
4	Monument to Sir Augustine Nicolls, about 1616. Reproduced with the permission of the V&A Academic Image Rights Team.	158
5	Monument to John Hugessen, 1634. Photograph taken by Nigel Heriz-Smith of the Lynsted Society. Used with the kind permission of the photographer.	159
6	The monument to King James I (engraving), English School, (nineteenth century) / Private Collection / Look and Learn / Peter Jackson Collection / Bridgeman Images.	208



## *Acknowledgments*

Like much of the early modern drama it examines, this book has been a largely collaborative effort. I have benefited from the support, both academic and personal, of many people since I began work on this project as a graduate student, and I am grateful to have the chance to thank some of them here. To begin, I would like to thank the anonymous readers from *Studies in Philology*, *SEL*, and, most especially, the two readers recruited by Cambridge University Press to read my manuscript, whose incisive and thorough feedback challenged me to sharpen my arguments and clarify my objectives. Regardless of the shortcomings that remain in this book, their professionalism and conscientious approach to responding to my work has greatly improved the final result.

At Brandeis University, I received the rigorous and rewarding training that continues to guide my approach as a teacher and scholar. My work on the dissertation from which this book emerged was made possible by the generous funding of Brandeis University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and a Dissertation Year Fellowship from the Mellon Foundation. Thanks to a Provost award from Brandeis, moreover, I was able to travel to London and examine firsthand monuments built during the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods in their original settings, which gave me a profound sense of the centrality of these structures and their significance to the social world experienced by the playwrights of the period. For the guidance I received during my time at Brandeis, I would like especially to thank Mary Baine-Campbell, Tom King, Susan Lanser, Paul Morrison and John Plotz. I also would like to thank Yu Jin Ko of Wellesley College, who generously agreed to participate in my dissertation defense and offered valuable advice that helped me develop it into this book. I will never stop benefiting from the experience of working with William Flesch, both as a reader of my dissertation and a teacher. Often in thirty seconds or less, Billy is capable of extracting the essence of an argument in a manner that brings its literary value to the surface. His knowledge of literature is surpassed only by his

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Brian Chalk

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

*Acknowledgments*

love for it. The professionalism and sheer brilliance of Ramie Targoff, who advised the dissertation version of this project, impresses everyone she meets. As formidable as her intellectual gifts are, however, Ramie's generosity, sly sense of humor, and kindness distinguish her even further. Working closely with Ramie on this project was far and away the most rewarding and formative experience of my intellectual life. I am proud to have her as a mentor and friend.

Ralph Alan Cohen inspired me to pursue this career when I was an undergraduate at James Madison University, and the work he does at the American Shakespeare Center continues to inspire me every time I visit the Blackfriars Playhouse. The opportunity to present portions of this book at the ASC's Blackfriars Conference, as well as at conferences organized by the Renaissance Society of America and seminars during the Shakespeare Association of America's annual meetings, was invaluable and greatly shaped its ideas. My work has also benefited from the advice and generosity of Jean Howard, Scott Newstok, Garrett Sullivan, Pattie Wareh and Don Weingust. I am grateful to Nigel Heriz-Smith of the Lynsted Society, who cheerfully agreed to allow me to use his wonderful photographs of monuments in this book. I am also deeply grateful to Sarah Stanton of Cambridge University Press for her patience in guiding me through this process and for her support of this project.

Manhattan College has provided a stimulating and encouraging environment in which to develop and share my ideas. I have benefited enormously from conversations with numerous students and colleagues, but I would especially like to acknowledge the conviviality and encouragement of Eoin O'Connell, Paul Droubie, Patrick Horner, Natalia Imperatori-Lee, Stephen Kaplan, Rocco Marinaccio, Kelly Marin, Deirdre O'Leary and David Witzling. Ashley Cross and Rick Emmerson made time to provide valuable advice and feedback despite their own rigorous schedules and deadlines that kept me sane throughout the writing process and was particularly important to my revisions.

My parents, Brad and Catherine Chalk, nurtured in me a love of literature and never stopped encouraging me to pursue a career as a teacher and scholar of it, even when there was great reason to be skeptical that I would accomplish either goal. This book would not have been possible without the opportunities that they worked tirelessly to generate for me. My brother, Bradley, and his wife, Agnes, have, in their uniquely blunt way, always been supportive of my goals. The presence of my niece and nephew, Jane and James, in my life has made the experience of accomplishing this one all the more rewarding. The cheerful support of Michael Hatch and

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-12347-2 - Monuments and Literary Posterity in Early Modern Drama

Brian Chalk

Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Acknowledgments*

xi

Kathy Patterson, Maureen and Rick Kane, and Moira and Tom Tiefenbacher had a crucial, sustaining influence on me. I regret that my Uncle Tom did not live to see me complete this project; I know he would have been especially proud. I cannot overstate how helpful my tirelessly wonderful and wonderfully tireless mother-in-law, Jane Toomey, has been to this project. Over the past three years, she has contributed by providing shelter, wine, and, most crucially, childcare during the summer breaks when the bulk of the revisions on this book were completed. The encouragement and support of my beautiful and brilliant sisters-in-law, Tricia and Norah, has been more important than they realize. Since becoming a part of their lives and, by extension, mine, Steve Roe and Zack Cziryak have added to this support and joy.

My valued friend and favorite poet, Damian Love, has been an incredibly generous proofreader and supporter of my work for more than a decade. This book has profited greatly from his remarkable talents as a critic and a writer since its inception. His belief in my ideas and refusal to allow me to take the easy way through an argument has made me a better writer and, quite frankly, a better person.

Finally, my wife, Bridget, has applied her tenacious, remarkable intelligence to every sentence of this book. These acknowledgments, in fact, are unique in that they represent the only portion of the book for which I haven't turned to her for guidance and advice. Her contributions have been so indispensable and her encouragement so tireless that it is impossible to imagine this book (or my life) without her. This book is, in the sincerest sense of the word, a monument to my love for her and the life we are fortunate to share with our miraculous children, Colin and Gemma.

Earlier versions of Chapters 2 and 3 appeared in *SEL* and *Studies in Philology*, respectively. The material from Chapter 2 is reprinted with permission from *SEL Studies in English Literature 1500–1900* 52, 2 (Spring 2012). A brief excerpt from Chapter 4 appeared in the *St. Johns Humanities Review*. I am grateful to the editors of these publications for allowing me to reprint these materials here.