

THE NEW CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE

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From the publication of the first volumes in 1984 the General Editor of the New Cambridge Shakespeare was Philip Brockbank and the Associate General Editors were Brian Gibbons and Robin Hood. From 1990 to 1994 the General Editor was Brian Gibbons and the Associate General Editors were A. R. Braunmuller and Robin Hood.

TIMON OF ATHENS

Karl Klein's edition of *Timon of Athens* introduces Shakespeare's play as a complex exploration of a corrupt, moneyed society, and Klein sees the protagonist not as a failed tragic hero, but as a rich and philanthropic nobleman, surrounded by greed and sycophancy, who is forced to recognise the inherent destructiveness of the Athenian society from which he retreats in disgust and rage.

Klein establishes *Timon* as one of Shakespeare's late works, arguing, contrary to recent academic views, that evidence for other authors besides Shakespeare is inconclusive. The edition argues that the play is neither tragedy, satire nor comedy, but a subtle and complete drama whose main characters contain elements of all three genres.



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TIMON OF ATHENS

Edited by KARL KLEIN





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GUDRUN KLEIN

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ABBREVIATIONS AND CONVENTIONS

1. Shakespeare's plays

Shakespeare's plays, when cited in this edition, are abbreviated in a style modified slightly from that used in the *Harvard Concordance to Shakespeare*. Other editions of Shakespeare are abbreviated under the editor's surname (Rowe, Maxwell) unless they are the work of more than one editor. In such cases, an abbreviated series title is used (Cam.). When more than one edition by the same editor is cited, later editions are discriminated with a raised figure (Collier²). All quotations from Shakespeare, except those from *Timon of Athens*, use the text and lineation of *The Riverside Shakespeare*, under the general editorship of G. Blakemore Evans.

Ado Much Ado About Nothing
Ant. Antony and Cleopatra
AWW All's Well That Ends Well
AYLI As You Like It
Cor. Coriolanus

Cor. Coriolanus
Cym. Cymbeline
Err. The Comed

Err. The Comedy of Errors

Ham. Hamlet

1H4 The First Part of King Henry the Fourth
2H4 The Second Part of King Henry the Fourth

H₅ King Henry the Fifth

The First Part of King Henry the Sixth
 The Second Part of King Henry the Sixth
 The Third Part of King Henry the Sixth

H8 King Henry the Eighth

JC Julius Caesar John King John

LC A Lover's Complaint LLL Love's Labour's Lost

Lear King Lear

Luc. The Rape of Lucrece

Mac. Macbeth

MM Measure for Measure MND A Midsummer Night's Dream MV The Merchant of Venice

Oth. Othello Per. Pericles

R2 King Richard the Second
R3 King Richard the Third
Rom. Romeo and Juliet
Shr. The Taming of the Shrew

Son. Sonnets

STM Sir Thomas More Temp. The Tempest

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Abbreviations and conventions

TGV The Two Gentlemen of Verona

Tim. Timon of Athens Tit. Titus Andronicus TN Twelfth Night

TNK The Two Noble Kinsmen
Tro. Troilus and Cressida
Wiv. The Merry Wives of Windsor
WT The Winter's Tale

2. Other works cited and general references

Works mentioned once in the Commentary and the Introduction appear there with full bibliographical information; others are either cited by the shortened titles below or may be found in the Reading List.

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> Timon of Athens [x]

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ELHELH: A Journal of English Literary History

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edies, 1632 (Second Folio)

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Johnson/Steevens³ The Plays, with notes by S. Johnson and G. Steevens, 3rd

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MLR Modern Language Review
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RES



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SD stage direction SH speech heading

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