

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-85708-6 — Titus Andronicus
William Shakespeare, Edited by Alan Hughes, With contributions by Sue Hall-Smith
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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.

TITUS ANDRONICUS

Titus Andronicus is still regarded by many as a bad play of dubious authorship. Its adversaries have abhorred the violence of the action and the apparent lapses in the quality of the verse. Since 1945, however, the play has been taken increasingly seriously in both the theatre and the study: the violence and cruelty it depicts were disconcertingly matched by the events of two World Wars. Alan Hughes joins those critics who take the play seriously, arguing for its unity of theme and its grim humour, and demonstrates that it is the work of a brilliant stage craftsman, confident in his mastery of space, movement and verse.

The text is based on the first quarto, supplemented by crucial additions and stage directions from the Folio. The critical account of the play's fortunes is integrated within a description of major modern productions, including those directed by Peter Brook, Brian Bedford and Deborah Warner. In addition there is a complete stage history which includes the eighteenth-century adaptation by Edward Ravenscroft and a reconstruction of the version performed by the nineteenth-century black American actor Ira Aldridge. For this updated edition, a new section is included on recent stage, film and critical interpretations by Sue Hall-Smith. There are also sections on text, authorship and the relevance of the famous Longleat drawing of the play. Appendices explore how the play might have been performed at the Rose playhouse in London, and how it could be adapted for a touring company of fourteen men and boys. An updated reading list completes the edition.

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TITUS ANDRONICUS

Updated edition

Edited by

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Emeritus Professor of Theatre, University of Victoria



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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi - 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

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It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521857086

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First published 1994
Reprinted 2002, 2004
Updated edition 2006
13th printing 2016

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

ISBN 978-0-251-85708-6 Hardback

ISBN 978-0-521-67382-2 Paperback

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PREFACE

Titus Andronicus is not everyone's favourite play. It 'reads badly'; but in comparatively recent years, theatre audiences have been learning that it frequently 'plays well'. Philip Brockbank, the Founding General Editor of this series, recognised that when he appointed a theatre historian to edit it. Much that is best in this edition must be attributed to his insight and wisdom. Its faults are all my own.

I owe Albert Braunmuller a similar debt. He has dedicated a large part of a busy life to painstaking editorial comment without which I do not think my work would ever have been finished. To him and to Clifford Leech I owe most of what I know about editing; and to F. D. Hoeniger, a large part of what I know about Shakespeare. I am grateful for the advice of Stanley Wells, who advised me to edit less conventionally than I fear I have done, and to Sarah Stanton for her patience.

If the reader finds in this volume some insights about why *Titus* plays well, I owe them to many actors and directors. Chief amongst these are Anthony Quayle, who invited me to tea and showed me how Aaron can be played, and Edward Atienza, the Clown in the same production, directed by Peter Brook.

The staffs of many libraries have been of invaluable assistance, particularly those of the University of Victoria Library, the British Library, and the long-suffering staff of its newspaper repository at Colindale.

Finally, I cannot adequately express my gratitude to my wife Mary, who has put up with *Titus* far too long; and to my children, who have no doubt come to regard it as an immutable part of their lives.

A.H.

University of Victoria

Titus Andronicus has enjoyed a vigorous revival in recent years, generated by successful productions which demonstrated how stageworthy the play can be. In this edition, Sue Hall-Smith very effectively brings its performance and critical history up to date.

A.H. 2006

ABBREVIATIONS AND CONVENTIONS

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 (Dyce, Waith) unless they are the work of more than one editor. In such cases, an abbreviated series name is used (Cam.). When more than one edition by the same editor is cited, later editions are discriminated with a raised figure (Rowe²). All quotations from Shakespeare, except those from *Titus Andronicus*, use the text and lineation of *The Riverside Shakespeare*, under the textual editorship of G. Blakemore Evans.

1. Shakespeare's plays

<i>Ado</i>	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>
<i>Ant.</i>	<i>Antony and Cleopatra</i>
<i>AWW</i>	<i>All's Well That Ends Well</i>
<i>AYLI</i>	<i>As You Like It</i>
<i>Cor.</i>	<i>Coriolanus</i>
<i>Cym.</i>	<i>Cymbeline</i>
<i>Err.</i>	<i>The Comedy of Errors</i>
<i>Ham.</i>	<i>Hamlet</i>
<i>1H4</i>	<i>The First Part of King Henry the Fourth</i>
<i>2H4</i>	<i>The Second Part of King Henry the Fourth</i>
<i>H5</i>	<i>King Henry the Fifth</i>
<i>1H6</i>	<i>The First Part of King Henry the Sixth</i>
<i>2H6</i>	<i>The Second Part of King Henry the Sixth</i>
<i>3H6</i>	<i>The Third Part of King Henry the Sixth</i>
<i>H8</i>	<i>King Henry the Eighth</i>
<i>JC</i>	<i>Julius Caesar</i>
<i>John</i>	<i>King John</i>
<i>LLL</i>	<i>Love's Labour's Lost</i>
<i>Lear</i>	<i>King Lear</i>
<i>Mac.</i>	<i>Macbeth</i>
<i>MM</i>	<i>Measure for Measure</i>
<i>MND</i>	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
<i>MV</i>	<i>The Merchant of Venice</i>
<i>Oth.</i>	<i>Othello</i>
<i>Per.</i>	<i>Pericles</i>
<i>R2</i>	<i>King Richard the Second</i>
<i>R3</i>	<i>King Richard the Third</i>
<i>Rom.</i>	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
<i>Shr.</i>	<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>
<i>STM</i>	<i>Sir Thomas More</i>
<i>Temp.</i>	<i>The Tempest</i>
<i>TGV</i>	<i>The Two Gentlemen of Verona</i>
<i>Tim.</i>	<i>Timon of Athens</i>

<i>Tit.</i>	<i>Titus Andronicus</i>
<i>TN</i>	<i>Twelfth Night</i>
<i>TNK</i>	<i>The Two Noble Kinsmen</i>
<i>Tro.</i>	<i>Troilus and Cressida</i>
<i>Wiv.</i>	<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i>
<i>WT</i>	<i>The Winter's Tale</i>

2. Other works cited and general references

Adams	<i>Shakespeare's 'Titus Andronicus': The First Quarto, 1594</i> , introduction by J. Q. Adams, 1936
Alexander	<i>William Shakespeare: The Complete Works</i> , ed. Peter Alexander, 4 vols., 1951
Baldwin	T. W. Baldwin, <i>On the Literary Genetics of Shakespeare's Plays 1592–1594</i> , 1959
Barnet	<i>The Tragedy of Titus Andronicus</i> , ed. Sylvan Barnet, 1964 (Signet Classic Shakespeare)
Bevington	<i>The Complete Works of Shakespeare</i> , ed. David Bevington, 3rd edn, 1980
Bolton	Joseph S. G. Bolton, 'The authentic text of <i>Titus Andronicus</i> ', <i>PMLA</i> 44 (1929), 765–88
Bradbrook	M. C. Bradbrook, <i>Themes and Conventions in Elizabethan Tragedy</i> , 1933
Bullough	<i>Narrative and Dramatic Sources of Shakespeare</i> , ed. Geoffrey Bullough, 8 vols., 1957–75, VI
Cam.	<i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. W. G. Clark, J. Glover and W. A. Wright, 9 vols., 1863–6 (The Cambridge Shakespeare)
Capell	<i>Mr William Shakespeare His Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , ed. Edward Capell, 10 vols., 1767–8
Chambers, <i>Shakespeare</i>	E. K. Chambers, <i>William Shakespeare: A Study of Facts and Problems</i> , 2 vols., 1930
Chambers, <i>Stage</i>	E. K. Chambers, <i>The Elizabethan Stage</i> , 4 vols., 1951
conj.	conjecture
corr.	correction
Cross	<i>Titus Andronicus</i> , ed. Gustav Cross, revised edn, 1977 (Pelican Shakespeare)
Delius	<i>Shakespeare's Werke</i> , ed. Nicolaus Delius, 7 vols., 1854–60
Dent	R. W. Dent, <i>Shakespeare's Proverbial Language: An Index</i> , 1981 (references are to numbered proverbs)
Dessen	Alan C. Dessen, <i>Shakespeare in Performance: 'Titus Andronicus'</i> , 1989
Dyce	<i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Alexander Dyce, 6 vols., 1857
Dyce ²	<i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Alexander Dyce, 9 vols., 1864–7
<i>EIC</i>	<i>Essays in Criticism</i>
<i>ELH</i>	<i>ELH: A Journal of English Literary History</i>

List of abbreviations and conventions

x

<i>ES</i>	<i>English Studies</i>
F	<i>Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , 1623 (First Folio)
F2	<i>Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , 1632 (Second Folio)
F3	<i>Mr William Shakespear's Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , 1663 (Third Folio)
F4	<i>Mr William Shakespear's Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , 1685 (Fourth Folio)
Greg, <i>Folio</i>	W. W. Greg, <i>The Shakespeare First Folio: Its Bibliographical and Textual History</i> , 1955
Greg, <i>Problem</i>	W. W. Greg, <i>The Editorial Problem in Shakespeare</i> , 3rd edn, 1954
Hanmer	<i>The Works of Shakespear</i> , ed. Thomas Hanmer, 6 vols., 1743–4
Hinman	Charlton K. Hinman, <i>The Printing and Proof-reading of the First Folio of Shakespeare</i> , 2 vols., 1963
Hudson	<i>The Works of Shakespeare</i> , ed. Henry N. Hudson, 11 vols., 1851–6
<i>JEGP</i>	<i>Journal of English and Germanic Philology</i>
Johnson	<i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Samuel Johnson, 8 vols., 1765
Kittredge	<i>The Complete Works of Shakespeare</i> , ed. George Lyman Kittredge, 1936
Kyd	Thomas Kyd, <i>The Spanish Tragedy; or, Hieronimo Is Mad Again</i> , in <i>The Spanish Comedy; or, the First Part of Hieronimo, and The Spanish Tragedy</i> , ed. Andrew S. Cairncross, 1967
Malone	<i>The Plays and Poems of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Edmond Malone, 10 vols., 1790
Marlowe	Christopher Marlowe, <i>Tamburlaine the Great, Parts I and II</i> , ed. John D. Jump, 1967
Maxwell	<i>Titus Andronicus</i> , ed. J. C. Maxwell, 3rd edn, 1961 (Arden Shakespeare)
miscorr.	miscorrected
<i>MLN</i>	<i>Modern Language Notes</i>
<i>MLR</i>	<i>Modern Language Review</i>
<i>N&Q</i>	<i>Notes and Queries</i>
NCS	The New Cambridge Shakespeare
<i>ODEP</i>	<i>The Oxford Dictionary of English Proverbs</i> , 3rd edn, rev. F. P. Wilson, 1970
<i>OED</i>	<i>The Oxford English Dictionary</i> , 2nd edn, 1989
Onions	C. T. Onions, <i>A Shakespeare Glossary</i> , rev. Robert D. Eagleson, 1986
Ovid	P. Ovidius Naso, <i>Metamorphoses</i> , trans. A. D. Melville, 1987
Partridge	Eric Partridge, <i>Shakespeare's Bandy</i> , 1968
<i>PMLA</i>	<i>Publications of the Modern Language Association of America</i>
Pope	<i>The Works of Shakespear</i> , ed. Alexander Pope, 6 vols., 1723–5
Q	<i>The Most Lamentable Romaine Tragedie of Titus Andronicus</i> . . . Printed by Iohn Danter, 1594

Q2	<i>The most lamentable Romaine Tragedie of Titus Andronicus . . .</i> Printed by I.R. for Edward White, 1600
Q3	<i>The Most Lamentable Tragedie of Titus Andronicus . . .</i> Printed for Eedward White, 1611
Qq	quarto editions
Ravenscroft	Edward Ravenscroft, <i>Titus Andronicus; or, The Rape of Lavinia</i> , 1687
Riverside	<i>The Riverside Shakespeare</i> , ed. G. Blakemore Evans, 1974
RNT	Royal National Theatre
Robertson	J. M. Robertson, <i>An Introduction to the Study of the Shakespeare Canon</i> , 1924
Rowe	<i>The Works of Mr William Shakespear</i> , ed. Nicholas Rowe, 6 vols., 1709
Rowe ²	<i>The Works of Mr William Shakespear</i> , ed. Nicholas Rowe, 8 vols., 1714
RSC	Royal Shakespeare Company
Rubinstein	Frankie Rubinstein, <i>A Dictionary of Shakespeare's Sexual Puns and Their Significance</i> , 2nd edn, 1989
SD	stage direction
SH	speech heading
Sisson	<i>William Shakespeare: The Complete Works</i> , ed. C. J. Sisson, 1954
SNL	<i>Shakespeare Newsletter</i>
SP	<i>Studies in Philology</i>
SQ	<i>Shakespeare Quarterly</i>
S.St.	<i>Shakespeare Studies</i>
S.Sur.	<i>Shakespeare Survey</i>
Steevens	<i>The Plays of William Shakespear</i> , notes by Samuel Johnson and George Steevens, 10 vols., 1773 (The Johnson–Steevens Variorum)
subst.	substantively
Theobald	<i>The Works of Shakespear</i> , ed. Lewis Theobald, 7 vols., 1733
Tilley	M. P. Tilley, <i>A Dictionary of the Proverbs in England in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries</i> , 1950 (references are to numbered proverbs)
TLS	<i>The Times Literary Supplement</i>
uncorr.	uncorrected
Virgil	<i>Aeneid in P. Vergili Maronis, Opera</i> , ed. F. A. Hirtzell, 1900
Waith	<i>Titus Andronicus</i> , ed. Eugene M. Waith, 1984 (Oxford Shakespeare)
Wells	Stanley Wells, <i>Re-editing Shakespeare for the Modern Reader</i> , 1984
Wilson	<i>Titus Andronicus</i> , ed. J. Dover Wilson, 1948 (New Shakespeare)
Witherspoon	<i>Titus Andronicus</i> , ed. A. M. Witherspoon, 1926 (Yale Shakespeare)