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978-1-107-04128-8 - *Passionate Playgoing in Early Modern England*

Allison P. Hobgood

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PASSIONATE PLAYGOING IN EARLY MODERN ENGLAND

Allison P. Hobgood tells a new story about the emotional experiences of theatergoers in Renaissance England. Through detailed case studies of canonical plays by Shakespeare, Jonson, Kyd, and Heywood, the reader will discover what it felt like to be part of performances in English theater and appreciate the key role theatergoers played in the life of early modern drama. How were spectators moved – by delight, fear, or shame, for example – and how did their own reactions in turn make an impact on stage performances? Addressing these questions and many more, this book discerns not just how theatergoers were altered by drama's affective encounters, but how they were undeniable influences upon those encounters. Overall, Hobgood reveals a unique collaboration between the English world and stage, one that significantly reshapes the ways we watch, read and understand early modern drama.

ALLISON P. HOBGOOD is Assistant Professor of English and Women's and Gender Studies at Willamette University. Her fields of interest are Shakespeare and early modern literature, disability studies, and women's and gender studies. She is co-editor with David H. Wood of *Recovering Disability in Early Modern England* (2013) and has published articles in journals including *Shakespeare Bulletin* and *Disability Studies Quarterly*. Recently, she contributed a chapter on early modern affect and *Macbeth for Shakespearean Sensations* (Cambridge, 2014).

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Dedicated to Fred, Alexa, and Harper, my three greatest passions

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	page viii
<i>Notes on the text</i>	x
Introduction: Pondering playgoers	i
1 Fear-sickness in <i>Macbeth</i>	34
2 Emotional afterlives in <i>The Spanish Tragedy</i>	64
3 Hazarding homeopathy in <i>A Woman Killed with Kindness</i>	97
4 Notorious abuses in <i>Twelfth Night</i>	128
5 Jonson and the pleasure problem	159
Coda: Becoming selves	191
<i>Bibliography</i>	196
<i>Index</i>	224

Cambridge University Press

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Acknowledgments*

ix

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[More information](#)

Notes on the text

In citing early modern works (other than play editions) throughout the book, I have retained original spellings but, for clarity, modernized typography such that long *s* is revised to *s*, consonantal *u* and *i* to *v* and *j*, and vocalic *v* to *u*.