



Twelfth Night: From Shakespeare Stories by Leon Garfield

By William Shakespeare

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Twelfth Night: From Shakespeare Stories by Leon Garfield By William Shakespeare Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #13789765 in Books
- Published on: 1999-04
- Formats: Audiobook, Unabridged
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.75" h x 5.75" w x 1.25" l,
- Binding: Audio Cassette

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 9 Up-William Shakespeare's comedy of disguised and deceptive love is entertainingly brought to listeners on these high-quality audiocassettes. Using the complete text from the New Cambridge Shakespeare text, the production presents a full cast of accomplished Shakespearean actors and actresses who skillfully convey the emotion and meaning, confusion and humor of this popular play. When twins Sebastian and Viola are shipwrecked and separated off the coast of Illyria, each believes the other is dead. Viola disguises herself as a boy, becomes a page of Duke Orsino, and falls in love with him. The Duke is hopelessly in love with Olivia, but she is in the process of mourning her brother's death and becomes infatuated with Viola as she/he delivers messages for the Duke. When Sebastian shows up, Olivia confuses him with the Duke's page (Olivia) and marries the astonished young man. All is cleared up eventually when Viola and Sebastian meet and recognize each other. In the midst of all of this romantic confusion, servants and family members provide comic relief with their pompous, pretentious, and sometimes inebriated behavior. Early English music and excellent sound effects are sparingly included, yet add greatly to this performance. Reading along with the text is optional as the production moves at an easy-to-follow pace, and characterizations are clear and captivating. A booklet with background and a synopsis of the play, photos and descriptions of each cast member, and starting points for each scene on the proper tape side is a useful addition. For its entertainment value or as a supplement to the curriculum, this excellent audioplay is highly recommended.

Marilyn Higgins, Metuchen High School, NJ

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 3-6. The latest in Coville's series of retold Shakespearean plays, this volume provides a short, prose version of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, a romantic comedy that offers young people such promising elements as separated twins, a woman disguised as a man, a drunken buffoon, courtship, swordplay, mistaken identity, and a practical joke. Though simplified, the story is intact and bits of the original language are preserved. Large-scale ink drawings, warmed with tints of color and shaded with cross-hatching, clearly depict the action. As Coville states in his Author's Note, "*Twelfth Night* remains one of the most read and performed of Shakespeare's plays." Children looking for a preperformance introduction to the play's twisting plot will find this an appealing choice. *Carolyn Phelan*

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Review

'refreshing and of immense practical use ... Sources and provenances are fascinatingly discussed.'

Christopher Morley, Birmingham Post Weekend

'The commentary on *Twelfth Night* is alive with the editors' feeling for the play in performance.' M.M. Mahoud, University of Kent, YES, 27, 1996

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Harry Nelson:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children right up until adult are different content. As it is known to us that book is very important usually. The book Twelfth Night: From Shakespeare Stories by Leon Garfield was making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The book Twelfth Night: From Shakespeare Stories by Leon Garfield is not only giving you much more new information but also for being your friend when you really feel bored. You can spend your personal spend time to read your publication. Try to make relationship with all the book Twelfth Night: From Shakespeare Stories by Leon Garfield. You never experience lose out for everything when you read some books.

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Trevor Cianciolo:

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