

# Xavier Pinto Merchant Of Venice

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the merchant of venice is one of shakespeare s most popular comedies but it remains deeply controversial the text may seem anti  
semitic yet repeatedly in performance it has revealed a contrasting nature shylock though vanquished in the law court often  
triumphs in the theatre in his intensity he can dominate the play challenging abrasively its romantic and lyrical affirmations what  
results is a bitter sweet drama though the merchant of venice offers some of the traditional pleasures of romantic comedy it also  
exposes the operations of prejudice thus shakespeare remains our contemporary

over two million shakespeare shorts sold discover the world of shakespeare with this collection of brilliant stories perfect for  
readers of all ages in venice the merchant antonio borrows money so his friend can woo a beautiful lady he agrees that if he  
doesn t repay shylock the moneylender shylock can take a pound of his flesh when antonio s ships sink and he loses his fortune  
shylock insists on the gruesome payment a dramatic retelling of this classic shakespeare story

in this lively comedy of love and money in sixteenth century venice bassanio wants to impress the wealthy heiress portia but

lacks the necessary funds he turns to his merchant friend antonio who is forced to borrow from shylock a jewish moneylender when antonio s business falters repayment becomes impossible and by the terms of the loan agreement shylock is able to demand a pound of antonio s flesh portia cleverly intervenes and all ends well except of course for shylock

the merchant of venice is a play by william shakespeare believed to have been written between 1596 and 1598 although classified as a comedy in the first folio and while it shares certain aspects with shakespeare s other romantic comedies the play is perhaps more remembered for its dramatic scenes and is best known for the character of shylock the title character is the merchant antonio not the jewish moneylender shylock who is the play s most prominent and more famous villain though shylock is a tormented character he is also a tormentor so whether he is to be viewed with disdain or sympathy is up to the audience as influenced by the interpretation of the play s director and lead actors as a result the merchant of venice is often classified as one of shakespeare s problem plays

this edition of shakespeare s the merchant of venice reprints the bevington edition of the play accompanied by four sets of thematically arranged primary documents and illustrations designed to facilitate many different approaches to shakespeare s play and the early modern culture out of which the play emerges the texts include maps woodcuts sermons statutes early modern documents reflecting christian attitudes toward jews and jewish reactions to these attitudes excerpts from the bible on money lending as well as contemporary discourses on usury and commerce excerpts from the first account of jewish life written in the vernacular by a jew for a christian audience anti catholic tracts travel accounts diplomatic reports scenes from a morality play about the corrupting effects of money royal proclamations concerning the treatment of aliens conduct literature and contemporary treatises on the role of women

applause books if there ever has been a groundbreaking edition that likewise returns the reader to the original shakespeare text it will be the applause folio texts if there has ever been an accessible version of the folio it is this edition set for the first time in modern fonts the folio is the source of all other editions the folio text forces us to re examine the assumptions and prejudices which have encumbered over four hundred years of scholarship and performance notes refer the reader to subsequent editorial interventions and offer the reader a multiplicity of interpretations notes also advise the reader on variations between folios and quartos the heavy mascara of four centuries of shakespearean glossing has by now glossed over the original countenance of shakespeare s work never has there been a folio available in modern reading fonts while other complete folio editions continue to trade simply on the facsimile appearance of the elizabethan look none of them is easily and practically utilized in general shakespeare studies or performances

the merchant of venice is an intriguing drama of love greed and revenge at its heart the play contrasts the characters of the maddened and vengeful shylock a venetian moneylender with the gracious level headed portia a wealthy young woman besieged by suitors at the play s climax shylock insists on the enforcement of a binding contract that will cost the life of the merchant antonio inciting portia to mount a memorable defense in this richly plotted drama shylock whom shakespeare endowed with all of the depth and vitality of his greatest characters is not alone in his villainy in scene after scene a large cast of ambitious and scheming characters demonstrates that honesty is a quality often strained where matters of love and money are concerned the gravity and suspense of the play s central plot together with its romance have made the merchant of venice a favorite of audiences and one of the most studied and performed of shakespeare s plays it is reprinted here from an authoritative text complete with explanatory footnotes

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the merchant of venice is one of the most outstanding romantic comedies of william shakespeare the play revolves around the legendary characters of antonio a rich italian merchant shylock a rich jewish man and portia a rich heiress when antonio asks to borrow money from shylock to help his friend bassanio shylock agrees on the condition that if he is unable to repay it by the date specified he will have to repay it with a pound of his flesh as the play unfolds antonio is trapped by shylock s condition but the beautiful and intelligent portia comes to his rescue also available as part of a 20 book set including romeo and juliet hamlet the tragedy of macbeth a midsummer night s dream a winter s tale the taming of the shrew the tempest twelfth night timon of athens the two gentlemen of verona the merchant of venice othello much ado about nothing king lear julius caesar cymbeline the comedy of errors as you like it anthony and cleopatra and all s well that ends well

the merchant of venice is a 16th century play written by william shakespeare in which a merchant in venice named antonio defaults on a large loan provided by a jewish moneylender shylock it is believed to have been written between 1596 and 1599 though classified as a comedy in the first folio and sharing certain aspects with shakespeare s other romantic comedies the play is perhaps most remembered for its dramatic scenes and is best known for shylock and the famous hath not a jew eyes speech also notable is portia s speech about the quality of mercy the title character is the merchant antonio not the jewish moneylender shylock who is the play s most prominent and most famous character

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william shakespeare s the merchant of venice is a richly woven tapestry of human emotion that intertwines themes of mercy justice and the complexities of societal prejudice written in the late 16th century this play exemplifies the intricacies of shakespearean style incorporating both prose and verse to explore the lives of its diverse characters notably shylock the jewish moneylender and antonio the merchant set against the vibrant backdrop of venice the play examines the tension between mercy and law challenging audiences to grapple with moral ambiguities while engaging in sharp wit and compelling dialogues shakespeare born in 1564 in stratford upon avon was influenced by the political and religious climate of his time wherein anti semitic sentiments were prevalent his exploration of shylock s character serves as a poignant lens through which he critiques societal norms revealing deep empathy amidst the era s prevalent biases shakespeare s diverse experiences ranging from theatrical performances to interactions with various social classes probably shaped his insightful portrayal of both the triumphs and tribulations of human relationships for anyone drawn to the depths of human experience the merchant of venice offers a powerful exploration of justice and mercy that remains relevant in contemporary discussions on tolerance and prejudice a must read for literature aficionados and casual readers alike this play invites a nuanced examination of the human condition and the societal

constructs that shape our interactions

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excerpt from shakespeare s merchant of venice night had fallen as they drew near to belmont the moon light lay spread among the statues and cypresses in portia s garden where on a grassy bank the two lovers lorenzo and jessica talked together in low antiphons such as lovers use and in the pauses of their talk gazed and drank in the beauty of the heavens word had come that the mistress of the house would return home before daybreak and close upon this came a mes senger with the news that bassanio too might be expected lorenzo called for music no gentler or more gracious welcome could there be for the home comers should they be arriving and if not still he and jessica could sit till the moonlight faded and let the sweet sounds creep in their ears while the stillness of the garden the embracing silent night made harmony with the hidden lutes as the listening heart might hear its own beating harmonies whispered back from the stars paving the floor of heaven about the publisher forgotten books publishes

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