

Classical Comics

publishes its pioneering three-tier dialogue graphic novel adaptation of

Macbeth

the most dramatic of Shakespeare's tragedies

on

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It might seem a strange match to some, mixing comics and Shakespeare, but Classical Comics has executed it with panache. The Plain Text version is a good balance for casual readers looking for sophisticated entertainment without the need to struggle with the Elizabethan language.

The translation is spot on, carrying the weight and meaning of Shakespeare's words, but in a way that doesn't leave you toiling over unusual diction. Purists may balk at the concept, but they can always find the full script version if they'd prefer. This is a faithful rendition of the play and nothing is left out
grovel.org.uk

I think Classical Comics could be ushering in a new age of British comics. Buy!
Terry Hooper, ComicBitsOnline.com

I was blown away by Classical Comics version of Shakespeare's Henry V. What is particularly good about this series is that there are three different texts available for each of the plays. The publisher makes a common English version available, as well as one designed specifically for the comic format. If I were a literature teacher, I would be finding copies of all of their titles for my students!

Liz Jones, children's writer and Cybils nominee panel member

The idea behind this collection is so simple that I'm surprised that it hasn't been done before. This is an essential purchase for all who want to get to grips with Shakespeare's original play
Nick Smithson, Sci-Fi Online

Following the success of its pioneering three-tier dialogue treatment of *Henry V*, Classical Comics publishes *Macbeth*, its graphic novel adaptation of, arguably, Shakespeare's most dramatic tragedy, certainly one of his greatest works. With stunning artwork from Marvel/Spider-man illustrator Jon Haward and comic strip illustrator Nigel Dobbyn, and script adaptation by author John McDonald, Classical Comics' presents a brand new and totally fulfilling view of the sheer genius of Shakespeare's storytelling.

With literacy levels in schools, and amongst school leavers, at an all time low, Classical Comics has devised a revolutionary three-tier dialogue approach as an invaluable classroom teaching tool. Each book is published in three versions: Original Text – the full, unabridged script; Plain Text – a modern English version of the original script; and Quick Text – with reduced, simplified dialogue for easier and faster reading. Clive Bryant, of Classical Comics, explains the thinking behind this: *'We wanted to spread a joy and appreciation of literacy, and particularly to target readers in key stages 2 and 3. Often children of that age are forced to read Shakespeare, but they struggle to get past the language. The comic book format and three text versions will undoubtedly help with their understanding. By providing these three text versions, which are all on the same stunning artwork, we allow a reader to absorb the story at Quick Text level, proceed onto Plain English, and then onto the Original script. That way, they understand the play and can appreciate the beautiful language that Shakespeare used. We believe we've created a way for readers to enjoy these fantastic stories regardless of their age or their reading ability.'*

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