



Present

Shakespeare's Tragedies: Titus Andronicus, Romeo and Juliet, and Hamlet

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Outline

Prologue: Text

Part 1: The first attempt: Titus Andronicus

- A. Sources and influences
- B. The plot
- C. Defects and achievements

Part 2: Romeo and Juliet

- A. The plot
- B. The poetry of the play
- C. The characters
- D. Coincidences in the play

Part 3: Hamlet

- A. The plot
- B. Mystery
- C. Hamlet's character
- D. Philosophy
- E. Revenge
- F. Hamlet as tragedy

Titus Andronicus: The Main Characters

Titus Andronicus – Roman general. He's the tragic figure

Lavinia – daughter of Titus who is raped and mutilated

Saturninus – the Roman Emperor

Tamora – Queen of the Goths; marries Saturninus

Bassianus – Saturninus's brother

Aaron – Tamora's Moor lover

Romeo and Juliet: The Main Characters

The Montagues

Romeo – a young man

Mercutio – Romeo's hot-tempered buddy

Benvolio – another of Romeo's buddies

Montague and Lady Montague – Romeo's parents

The Capulets

Juliet – a young woman

Tybalt – Juliet's cousin; a belligerent young man

Capulet and Lady Capulet – Juliet's parents

Nurse – Juliet's caretaker

Paris

Friar Laurence

Prince of Verona

Hamlet: The Main Characters

Hamlet – the Prince of Denmark

Claudius – Hamlet's uncle and now the King of Denmark

Gertrude – Hamlet's mother and also new wife of Claudius

Old King Hamlet's Ghost – spooky guy who says Claudius killed him

Polonius – an advisor to Claudius

Ophelia – Polonius's daughter and former girlfriend of

Laertes – Polonius's son

Horatio – Hamlet's buddy

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern – schoolmates of Hamlet

Fortinbras – Prince of Norway