



## Much Ado About Nothing (Folger Shakespeare Library)

By William Shakespeare

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**Much Ado About Nothing (Folger Shakespeare Library)** By William Shakespeare

*Much Ado About Nothing* includes two quite different stories of romantic love. Hero and Claudio fall in love almost at first sight, but an outsider, Don John, strikes out at their happiness. Beatrice and Benedick are kept apart by pride and mutual antagonism until others decide to play Cupid.

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Essay by Gail Kern Paster

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## **Much Ado About Nothing (Folger Shakespeare Library) By William Shakespeare Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"...a much-needed and welcome addition to Shakespeare resources." Choice

"...an indispensable resource for theatre historians, dramaturgs, directors, or performers." Studies in English Literature 1500-1900

"This book could also be very useful to a student of gender, history, and language, especially its detailed information on lines added and cut, on treatments of the play's cuckoldry humor, and on the critics' anxious iteration of such key binaries as sharp/soft, wit/feeling, salt/sweet, and mannishness/womanliness. I do recommend this book for anyone trying to piece together information about the performance history of the play, especially those interested in Victorian and Edwardian productions. Those who are attempting to chart shifts in myths of gender as they shift over the *longue durée* of culture, or who are researching particular productions or players, will find this edition rich, intriguing, sometimes frustrating, but always informative." Shakespeare Quarterly

#### From the Publisher

Set in a courtly world of masked revels and dances, this play turns on the archetypal story of a lady falsely accused of unfaithfulness, spurned by her bridegroom, and finally vindicated and reunited with him. Villainy, schemes, and deceit threaten to darken the brilliant humor and sparkling wordplay--but the hilarious counterplot of a warring couple, Beatrice and Benedick, steals the scene as the two are finally tricked into admitting their love for each other in Shakespeare's superb comedy of manners.

#### From the Inside Flap

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#### Each Edition Includes:

- Comprehensive explanatory notes
- Vivid introductions and the most up-to-date scholarship
- Clear, modernized spelling and punctuation, enabling contemporary readers to understand the Elizabethan English
- Completely updated, detailed bibliographies and performance histories
- An interpretive essay on film adaptations of the play, along with an extensive filmography

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### **Steven Burley:**

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