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## Shakespeare's Most Popular Quotes Today

*By Amanda Wilk*

It is difficult to pinpoint Shakespeare's most famous or popular quotes because there are so many to choose from. The quotes here are those that many people today have heard or even recited in everyday life. They are quotes that have become such an integral part of mainstream culture that today many may not even realize they are hearing the words of Shakespeare. They can be used to demonstrate the continued relevance of Shakespeare today, as these words are not ancient theatrical relics, but can be heard spoken in everyday life.

*To be or not to be that is the question*  
**Hamlet**

*All the world 's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts*  
**As You Like It**

*Be not afraid of greatness. Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them.*  
**Twelfth Night**

*If you prick us, do we not bleed? If you tickle us, do we not laugh? If you poison us, do we*

*not die? And if you wrong us, shall we not revenge?*

**The Merchant of Venice**

*If music be the food of love, play on.*

**Twelfth Night**

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears*

**Julius Caesar**

*What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.*

**Romeo and Juliet**

*We are such stuff as dreams are made on; and our little life is rounded with a sleep.*

**The Tempest**

*Et tu, Brute?*

**Julius Caesar**

*The play's the thing*

**Hamlet**

*I am fortune's fool*

**Romeo and Juliet**

*All that glisters is not gold*

**The Merchant of Venice**

*This above all: to thine own self be true*

**Hamlet**

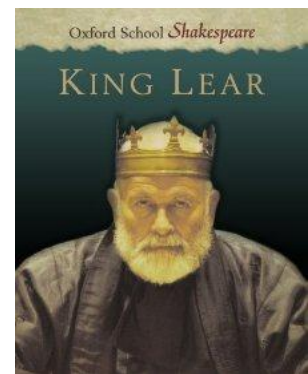
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**Shakespeare's Plays for Teens**

*By Ashley Levy*



Those who have tried to teach the Bard's plays to a teenaged audience or to a high school class are all too

aware of how painful those lessons can be. Many teens only see the plays in a text heavy, incomprehensible format, and are turned off when they don't immediately understand.

What is needed in the classroom is an accessible version of the plays that still manages to capture the essence of the playwright. Most Shakespeare texts that cover the plays provide a glossary for words that are no longer in frequent use, but even that often does not make it easy for most to understand what is actually happening in a scene.