

One Act Audio Theatre Presents  
GREAT MOMENTS IN HISTORY  
"SHAKESPEARE AT THE GLOBE: YOU'RE THE WRITER!"

CAST  
Narrator  
Shakespeare  
The Manager

- 1 NARRATOR: The One Act Players Present: Great Moments in History!
- 2 NARRATOR: London, 1595. The Globe Theatre.
- 3 DOOR KNOCK
- 4 MANAGER: Will, how are you? Good to see you. Come in, come in.
- 5 MANAGER: I've just been reading over your latest, this Romeo and Julius.
- 6 SHAKES: Juliet. Romeo and Juliet.
- 7 MANAGER: That's the one. I'm sure we can find a slot for it here at the Globe.
- 8 SHAKES: Thank you.
- 9 MANAGER: Just wanted to go over a few things.
- 10 SHAKES: All right.
- 11 MANAGER: Like I said, I read this over, and some great stuff in here, great  
12 stuff. Sword fights, people getting stabbed. It looks like you've got the  
13 teen angle covered pretty good ... great for the opening weekend  
14 numbers. But ...
- 15 SHAKES: Yes?
- 16 MANAGER: Well, I'm thinking about that Shrew thing you did a couple seasons  
17 back. Remember?
- 18 SHAKES: I do indeed. "No profit grows where is no pleasure taken."
- 19 MANAGER: Quite right! Made a tidy profit on that one! And do you know why,  
20 Will?

21 SHAKES: Well, if I may be less than humble, my carefully woven interplay  
22 between --

23 MANAGER: Yes! Yes! A lot of slapstick, funny insults, and pretty girls getting  
24 smacked on the fanny – that’s what Shrew had – the real crowd-  
25 pleasing stuff. I don’t see any of that in this Romeo and Julio thing.

26 SHAKES: It’s a tragedy.

27 MANAGER: Oh, Will, don’t be so hard on yourself. A couple changes here and  
28 there, and you’d really have something.

29 SHAKES: Have something?! That is NOT what --

30 MANAGER: Look here for example. This balcony thing where he’s in the garden  
31 and she comes out on the balcony. Just read that, right there.

32 SHAKES: “But soft, what light through yonder window breaks? It is the East  
33 and Juliet is the sun. Arise fair sun and kill the envious moon--- ”

34 MANAGER: Yeah, yeah, yeah, exactly! I’m sure you get the idea, Will.

35 SHAKES: I’m not sure I do.

36 MANAGER: Really? It’s just that nobody talks like that. I mean who talks like  
37 that? When was the last time you heard anyone in the pub start a  
38 sentence, “But soft”?

39 SHAKES: Well, I don’t --

40 MANAGER: Never, that’s when. And the sun killing the moon ... (sigh) ... the  
41 groundlings will never sit still for that kind of guff. You’ve got to keep  
42 things moving. Look, I took the liberty—just a little rewrite. Here, read  
43 this. She comes out on the balcony, and he says--

44 SHAKES: “Hi-ya, toots, you’re looking hot.”

45 MANAGER: See? It moves things along.

46 SHAKES: “Hi-ya, toots, you’re looking hot”?! I have NEVER been so insulted ...

47 MANAGER: Hey, Will ... Billy baby, calm down. You’re the writer. We all know  
48 that. But we gotta think box office, am I right?

49 SHAKES: Ummm

50 MANAGER: Of course I'm right. Here's another place, where the Romeo kid's  
51 blabberin' more of that gibberish.

52 SHAKES: "He jests at scars who never felt a wound." That most certainly is not  
53 gibberish, sir. It speaks plainly to --

54 MANAGER: Sure, sure, it speaks, but it's not so easy to say. I'm thinking maybe  
55 something like, "Oh yeah? What the hell do you know?" Just punch it  
56 up a bit, get it?

57 SHAKES: Uhhhh.

58 MANAGER: I'm sure you can fix it up for me.

59 SHAKES: Well, I suppose I could, but --

60 MANAGER: Good! Thanks for coming in, Will.

61 SHAKES: I see how this works. Fine.

62 MANAGER: Oh! I almost forgot! They all die at the end.

63 SHAKES: Uh, yes ... that's why it's a tragedy --

64 MANAGER: But that just kills the sequel don't it ... if you'll pardon the pun! It  
65 might be better if they were to learn to get along, not only is that ...  
66 (fade under)

67 NARRATOR: Tune in again for another Great Moment in History!

c. Jim Cort and One Act Audio Theatre  
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