



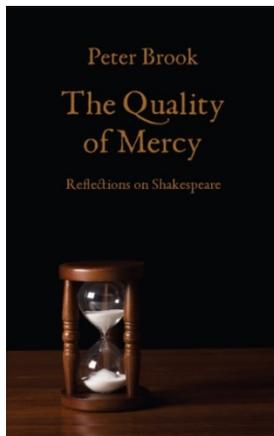
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New from TCG Books:

***The Quality of Mercy: Reflections on Shakespeare*
by Peter Brook**



NEW YORK, NY – Theatre Communications Group (TCG) is pleased to announce the publication of **Peter Brook's *The Quality of Mercy: Reflections on Shakespeare***, in which one of the world's most revered theatre directors reflects on the world's most revered playwright.

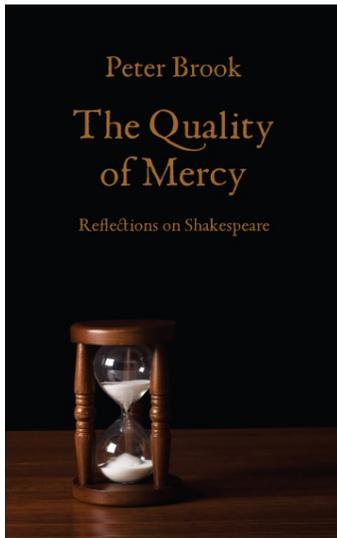
“Exquisite... enthralling... This short, modest and brilliant book does more than many more grandiose tomes to renew the reader's fascination with the plays, and the theatre-goer's wonder at the extraordinary and diverse sensations locked up inside the First Folio. It should be required reading at all universities and drama clubs.”
—Robert McCrum, *The Guardian*

In this sequence of essays—all but one published here for the first time—Peter Brook debates such questions as who was the man who wrote Shakespeare's plays, why Shakespeare is never out of date and how actors should approach Shakespeare's verse. He also revisits some of the plays which he has directed with notable brilliance, such as *King Lear*, *Titus Andronicus* and, of course, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Taken as a whole, this short but immensely wise book offers an illuminating and provocative insight into a great director's relationship with our greatest playwright.

"Contains within its scintillating reflections the essence of all that Peter Brook has learned over a lifetime. Whoever imagined that a book about Shakespeare could also be such fun?"
—John Heilpern, *Wall Street Journal*

Peter Brook is one of the world's best-known theatre directors. Outstanding in a career full of remarkable achievements are his productions of *Titus Andronicus* with Laurence Olivier, *King Lear* with Paul Scofield, and *Marat/Sade* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Since moving to Paris and establishing the Centre International de Créations Théâtrale at the Bouffes du Nord, he has produced a series of events which push at the boundaries of theatre, such as *The Conference of Birds*, *The Ik*, *The Mahabharata* and *The Tragedy of Hamlet*. His films include *Lord of the Flies*, *King Lear* and *The Mahabharata*. His books, especially *The Empty Space*, have been hugely influential.

For over 50 years, **Theatre Communications Group** (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, has existed to strengthen, nurture and promote the professional not-for-profit American theatre. TCG's constituency has grown from a handful of groundbreaking theatres to nearly 700 Member Theatres and Affiliate organizations and more than 12,000 individuals nationwide. TCG offers its members networking and knowledge-building opportunities through conferences, events, research and communications; awards grants, approximately \$2 million per year, to theatre companies and individual artists; advocates on the federal level; and serves as the U.S. Center of the International Theatre Institute, connecting its constituents to the global theatre community. TCG is North America's largest independent trade publisher of dramatic literature, with 13 Pulitzer Prizes for Best Play on the TCG booklist. It also publishes the award-winning *American Theatre* magazine and ARTSEARCH®, the essential source for a career in the arts. In all of its endeavors, TCG seeks to increase the organizational efficiency of its member theatres, cultivate and celebrate the artistic talent and achievements of the field and promote a larger public understanding of, and appreciation for, the theatre. www.tcg.org.



The Quality of Mercy: Reflections on Shakespeare

By Peter Brook

Paperback 128 pages

\$15.95 978-1-55936-483-6

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I read many reviews about *The Quality of Mercy: Reflections on Shakespeare* By Peter Brook before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *The Quality of Mercy: Reflections on Shakespeare*, declaring it one of the best, something that all readers will enjoy. To download and get a free book or read online. *The Quality of Mercy: Reflections on Shakespeare* for free, please click the link below. The quality of mercy is not strained; It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven Upon the place beneath. It is twice blest; It blesseth him that gives and him that takes: 'T is mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes The throned monarch better than his crown: His sceptre shows the force of temporal power, The attribute to awe and majesty, Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings; But mercy is above this sceptred sway; It is enthron'd in the hearts of kings, It is an attribute to God himself; And earthly power doth then show likest God's When mercy seasons justice. Therefore, Jew, In *The Quality of Mercy*, one of the world's most revered theatre directors reflects on a fascinating variety of Shakespearean topics. In this sequence of essays - all but one published here for the first time - Peter Brook debates such questions as who was the man who wrote Shakespeare's plays, why Shakespeare is never out of date, and how actors should approach Shakespeare's verse. He also revisits some of the plays which he has directed with notable brilliance, such as *King Lear*, *Titus Andronicus* and, of course, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. 'This book is an invaluable gift from the greatest Shakespeare director of our time Brook's genius, modesty and brilliance shine through on every page.' James Shapiro, author of *1599: A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare*.

We pray for mercy and, in seeking it ourselves, we learn to be merciful. Iâ€™ve spoken about this to soften the justice of your plea. If you insist on pure justice, however, then this serious Venetian court has no alternative other than to pronounce sentence against the merchant there. Watch â€˜The Quality Of Mercy Is Not Strainâ€™ Monologue Performed. Read other Shakespeare monologues >>. See All The Merchant of Venice Resources. Table of Contents. The Quality of Mercy Summary. Stanza 1. Stanza 2. Stanza 3. Couplet. The Quality of Mercy Summary. Stanza 1. In the first stanza, the poet says that the quality of mercy is never affected by anything. It has come down on earth from heaven like gentle rain i.e. it is as gentle as the raindrop and is sent down on the earth by God Himself. Mercy is a blessing for both the giver and the taker. Ad. To the giver, the mercy rewards him fame, appreciation and love while to the taker, it is the lifesaver, it helps him from avoiding the punishment which he would have otherwise suffered. This book is probably not for everyone- but for Shakespeare buffs, it is an opportunity to look into the mind of one of the great directors. It is sprinkled with insights into the work of the actor, and the means used to achieve the best performances. I am already on my second reading, and will certainly come back to this book again and again in the future.Â Brook's and comments on Shakespeare, gleaned from his many years of experience, are absolutely spot on and devoid of any mystification. A very clear and simple style of writing which makes this book a delight to read. Any fan of Shakespeare should read this little book - it certainly makes one see his writings in a very different way.