

David Timson

STORIES FROM SHAKESPEARE 2

As You Like It • Julius Caesar • The Merchant of Venice

The Taming of the Shrew • Richard II • Henry IV Part 1

Henry IV Part II • The Merry Wives of Windsor

Read by **Juliet Stevenson** and **Alex Jennings**with **Elaine Claxton, Oliver Le Sueur, Cathy Sara, Benjamin Soames**

Here are eight key plays by Shakespeare re-told for younger listeners, with extracts from the works themselves. There is romance: in *As You Like It* Rosalind goes into the forest of Arden to find true love – dressed as a boy! In *The Taming of the Shrew*, Katherina and Petruchio find love while quarrelling with each other all the time.

There is drama: in *The Merchant of Venice*, Shylock demands a pound of flesh from the living body of Antonio. There is history: King Richard II loses his throne, Julius Caesar is stabbed to death by men who said they were his best friends; also the complex story of Henry IV – in two parts. Finally, there is comedy, with that old rogue Sir John Falstaff chasing after the Merry Wives of Windsor!

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