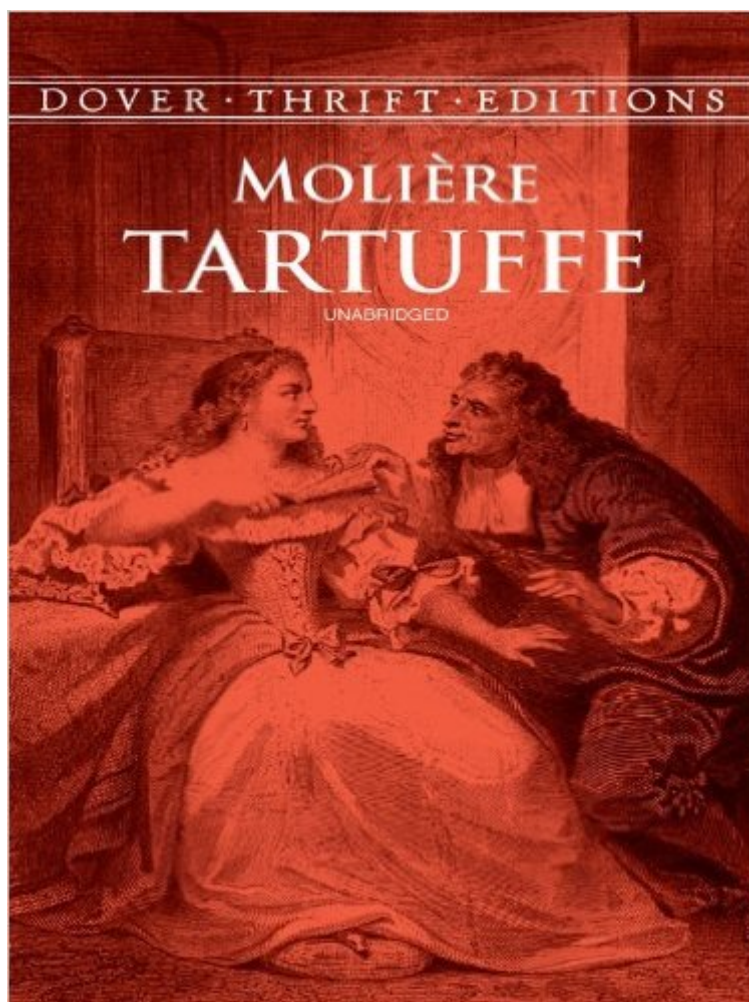


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Tartuffe (Dover Thrift Editions)



Synopsis

Renowned for his satirical works, Molière (Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, 1622–1673) delighted in lampooning the social pretensions and conceits of 17th-century French society. In this 1664 verse comedy with serious overtones, Tartuffe, a penniless scoundrel and religious poseur, is invited by a gullible benefactor to live in his home. Imposing a rigidly puritanical regimen on the formerly happy household, Tartuffe wreaks havoc among family members. He breaks off the daughter's engagement, attempts to seduce the wife of his host, acquires his patron's property, and eventually resorts to blackmail and extortion. But ultimately, his schemes and malicious deeds lead to his own downfall. Attacked by the Church and twice suppressed, Tartuffe opened to packed houses in 1669. Teeming with lively humor and satirical plot devices, this timeless comedy by one of France's greatest and most influential playwrights is essential reading for students of theater and literature. A selection of the Common Core State Standards Initiative.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Beware! The Dover edition is NOT the wonderful Wilbur poetry translation. It is a lumbering, stilted

prose translation based on an 18th century version. The play comes through, but barely. Since no translator was listed and so many reviewers indicated that this was the Wilbur version, I ordered this for my theatre class to read -- disaster! Spend the money on the Wilbur -- it's worth it.

It was an interesting play and got a few chuckles out of me. I just loved Dorine and her personality which brought about a more lively aspect to the piece. I bought this for a school project and presentation and I'm sure it'll serve its purpose well. Even if it was for schoolwork, oddly enough I wasn't bored.

This play is very funny. The clever play on words is mentally stimulating. The deus ex machina that creates the happy ending is obvious but quite acceptable. The message about hypocrisy is loud and clear. I may read this one again.

The translation is very readable and keeps the lively narrative moving as if the play was unfolding live in your hands. You actually get a feel for the complex family dynamics among generations and classes. There is just no way that Tartuffe can be stopped from his ravenous conspiracy to take daughter and fortune. But wait the King intervenes at last and loyal but stupid subjects are returned to peace and quiet. A funny glimpse of 17th century France.

This book is so confusing and hard to follow! I do not like the language and style of writing. I don't recommend this unless you're really good at ready poetic symbolical talk

It was super cheap and I needed it for a class. the pages are super thin but I didn't need it to be that sturdy.

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