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To: [BoulderGreatBooks](#)

Subject: Book Discussion - Richard III. June 27

For our discussion on Wednesday, I was planning to talk a bit at the beginning, and answer the following questions:

Why was the War of the Roses important to Shakespeare and his society?

How does Richard III compare with Shakespeare's earlier plays?

Why was Shakespeare appropriating ideas and techniques from Christopher Marlowe and Seneca?

What aspects of Richard III appear in Shakespeare's later plays, for instance Macbeth?

How did Shakespeare alter history to make his points?

Afterwards, I thought that we might focus particularly on the following passages in Richard III:

1. Act I, scenes i and ii, with particular emphasis on Richard's initial soliloquy, lines 1-43.

2. Clarence's dream. Act I, scene IV, lines 1-63.

3. Tyrrel and the princes. Act IV, scene iii, lines 1-22

4. Richard's reaction to his dream. Act V, scene iii, lines 178-207.

(Compare this to his first soliloquy.)

5. Battle of Bosworth and Richmond. Act V, scenes iv and v.

The above is tentatively advanced only as a suggestion; I will move in the direction that the group wants to go!

Best regards,

Ron

See also, the "Richard III" and "Women of Will" Study Guides at <http://www.coloradoshakes.org/education-outreach/study-guides>, and "England under the Tudors" at <http://www.luminarium.org/encyclopedia/henry7.htm>.

This is: <http://www.sackett.net/Richard3Roundtable.pdf>.

Return to: <http://www.sackett.net/GreatBooksAll.htm>.