

# Shakespeare And The New Disease: The Dramatic Function Of Syphilis In Troilus And Cressida, Measure For Measure, And Timon Of Athens

**Greg W. Bentley**

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Shakespeare and the New Disease: The Dramatic Function of Syphilis in Troilus and Cressida Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1985. . . Gless, Darryl J. Measure for Measure: the Law, and the Convent. Romance and Reformation: The Erasmian Spirit of Shakespeare's . - Google Books Result Shakespeare and Medicine - Cummings Study Guides Shakespeare and the new disease : the dramatic function of syphilis in Troilus and Cressida, Measure for measure, and Timon of Athens. by: Bentley, Greg W., Shakespeare and the Classical Tradition: An Annotated . - Google Books Result Shakespeare and the new disease the dramatic function of syphilis in Troilus and Cressida, Measure for measure, and Timon of Athens. Author: Bentley, Greg Beyond the Body: The Boundaries of Medicine and English . - Google Books Result Being sick, have in some measure made me well (1.1.153-155) Another common affliction in Shakespeare's time was venereal disease—in particular, syphilis. . The Merchant of Venice, Richard II, The Tempest, and Troilus and Cressida. In a soliloquy in Timon of Athens, Timon curses all Athenians, wishing that

Measure for Measure is a play by William Shakespeare, believed to have been written in 1603 or 1604. Originally published in the First Folio of 1623, where it was listed as a comedy, the play's first recorded performance occurred in 1604. The play's main themes include justice, "morality and mercy in Vienna," and the dichotomy between corruption and purity: "some rise by sin, and some by virtue fall." Mercy and virtue prevail, as the play does not end tragically, with virtues such as compassion and Measure for Measure. Love's Labour's Lost. Pericles, Prince of Tyre. William Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida, is widely considered one of just three works that are true "problem plays." Along with two other works, these plays are characterized by their shifting tone, moving between extremely dark drama and much lighter comic material. Troilus and Cressida is also characterized as a tragedy and was written in 1602. She believed Shakespeare wrote a grand existential statement with "Troilus and Cressida," and that it was a new kind of very contemporary tragedy. The play begins during the Trojan war, near the war's end in the last years of the conflict. In Pericles, Prince of Athens, Shakespeare demonstrates an awareness of altered states of consciousness that mimic death. Some people of Shakespeare's time believed disease was a punishment for sinful behavior. In Troilus and Cressida, Thersites curses Patroclus, saying, "Now, the rotten diseases of the south, the guts-griping, ruptures, catarrhs . . . take and take again such preposterous discoveries" (5.1.18). Cramps Abdominal spasms or painful muscle contractions. In The Tempest, when Caliban curses Prospero, Prospero replies with a curse of his own: "To-night that shalt have cramps / Side-stitches that shall pen they breath up" (1.2.389-390).