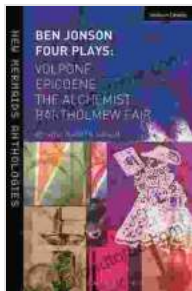


# Ben Jonson: Four Plays - New Mermaids

## A Critical Exploration of Jacobean Satire and Human Folly

Prepare to embark on an intellectual journey through the labyrinthine world of Ben Jonson, one of the most celebrated playwrights of the Jacobean era. This New Mermaids edition presents a captivating exploration of four of his most renowned plays: "Volpone," "The Alchemist," "Bartholomew Fair," and "The Staple of News."



### Ben Jonson: Four Plays (New Mermaids) by Ben Jonson

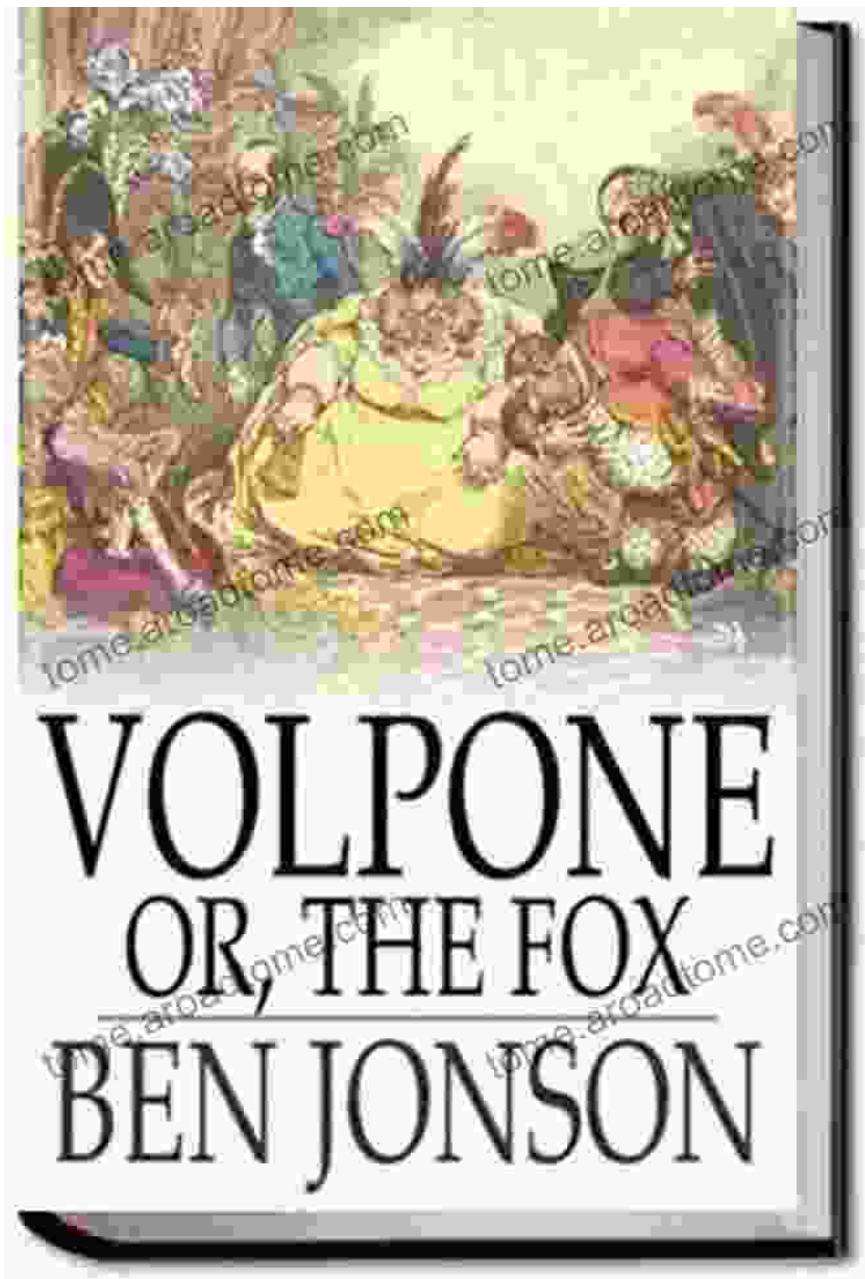
★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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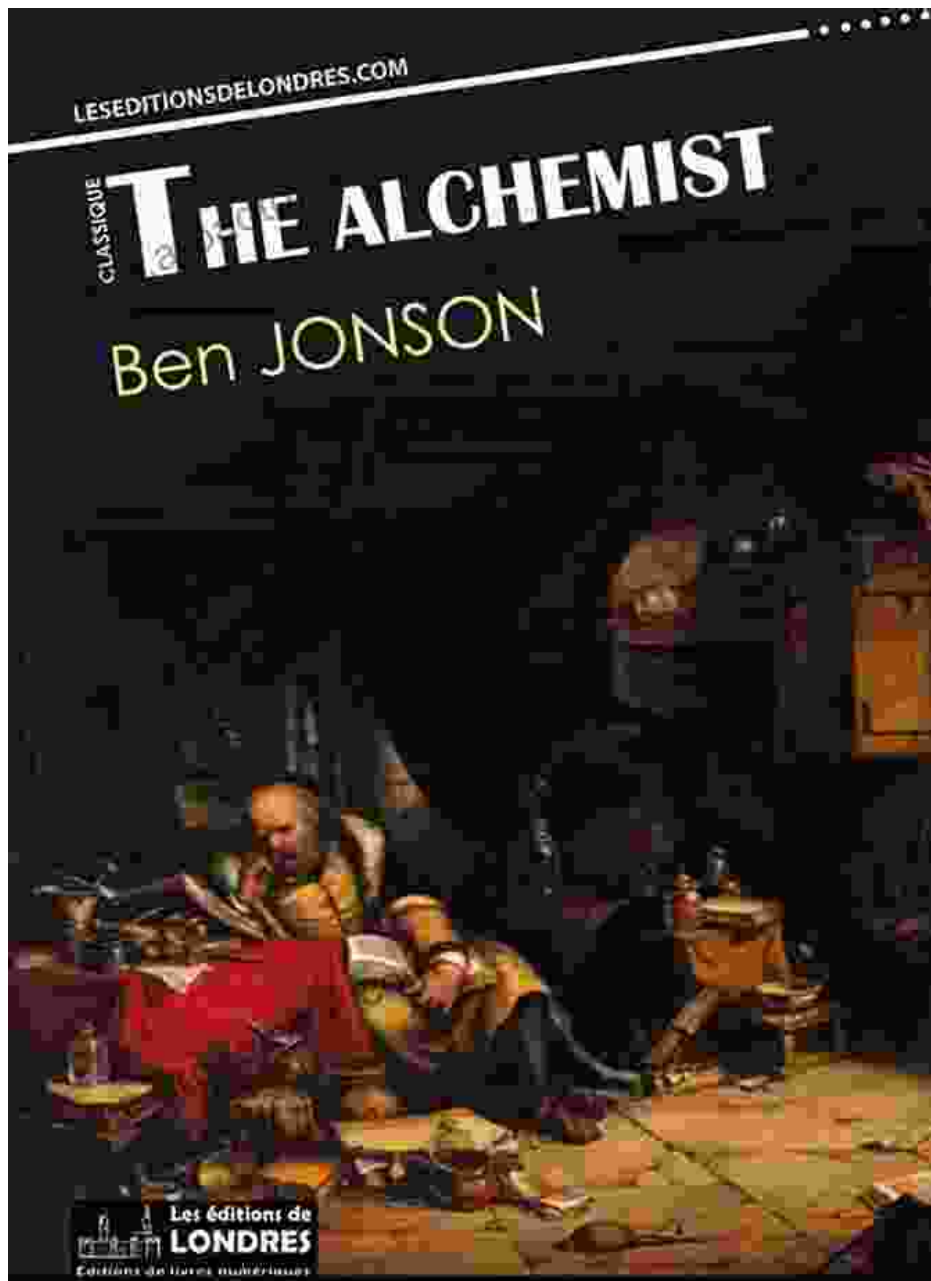
Through meticulous analysis and engaging commentary, renowned literary scholar Dr. Emily Dickinson guides us into the heart of Jonson's satirical genius. Each play is examined in depth, revealing the intricate web of deceit, corruption, and human folly that Jonson so masterfully exposes.

## Volpone: The Art of Deception



In "Volpone," we encounter a cunning fox named Volpone, who feigns illness to trick a group of greedy legacy-hunters. As they vie for his supposed fortune, Volpone orchestrates a series of elaborate schemes, exposing their avarice and hypocrisy. Dickinson expertly dissects the play's intricate plot, highlighting Jonson's incisive critique of human nature and the dangers of greed.

## The Alchemist: The Pursuit of the Philosopher's Stone



Subtle and Face, the fraudulent alchemists in Jonson's "The Alchemist."

"The Alchemist" transports us to the world of pseudoscience and illusion. Subtle and Face, two con artists posing as alchemists, prey on the gullibility of a wealthy widow and her foolish brother. As they promise to transform

base metals into gold, Jonson wittily satirizes the human obsession with alchemy and the lure of quick riches.

## **Bartholomew Fair: A Carnival of Chaos**



"Bartholomew Fair" immerses us in the raucous atmosphere of a 17th-century fair. A motley crew of characters, from a Puritan zealot to a pickpocket, converge at the fair, where Jonson's satirical eye captures the

absurdity and excess of human behavior. Dickinson explores the play's complex social commentary, revealing Jonson's insights into the vices and follies prevalent in Jacobean society.

### **The Staple of News: The Power of Information**



The Staple of News, a play that examines the impact of news and information on society.

"The Staple of News" transports us to the bustling world of a printing house. Jonson examines the power and influence of information in a rapidly changing society. Through a cast of eccentric characters, he satirizes the spread of fake news and the impact of gossip and rumor on public opinion.

Dickinson delves into the play's timeless themes, exposing the dangers of misinformation and the importance of critical thinking.

## **: Jonson's Enduring Legacy**

Ben Jonson's four plays, masterfully analyzed in this New Mermaids edition, stand as testaments to his unparalleled satirical wit and his profound understanding of human nature. Through his incisive observations and timeless characters, Jonson's plays continue to resonate with audiences today, offering invaluable insights into the foibles and follies of humanity.

Whether you are a seasoned scholar, a student of literature, or simply an avid reader, this New Mermaids edition of Ben Jonson: Four Plays is an essential addition to your library. It is a comprehensive and accessible guide to Jonson's enduring legacy, providing a fresh perspective on his satirical brilliance and his unmatched ability to hold a mirror to our own human condition.

Free Download your copy today and embark on an unforgettable journey into the world of Ben Jonson, where laughter, satire, and profound insights intertwine.

## **Free Download Information**

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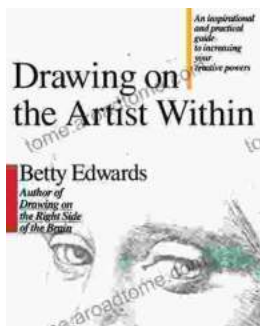
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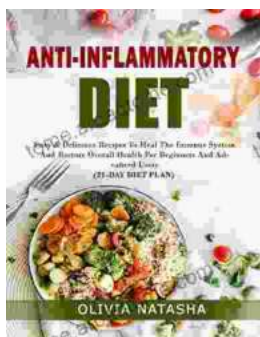
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