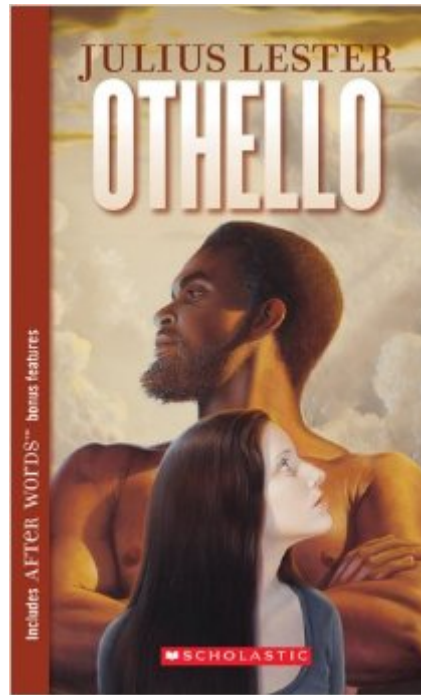


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# Othello (Point Signature Editions)



## Synopsis

Julius Lester's "beautiful and powerful" (SLJ, starred review) modern retelling of OTHELLO, now in a striking After Words edition. Othello is a powerful general, revered by his soldiers and honored by his peers. But his strength cannot contain his jealousy and rage when he believes his beautiful wife, Desdemona, has been unfaithful. As deception leads to tragedy, nobody is safe . . . . Award-winning author Julius Lester takes one of Shakespeare's most intense plays and brings modern life to this saga of two doomed, passionate souls and a kingdom torn apart by secrets, lies, and violence.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 770L (What's this?)

Series: Point signature editions

Mass Market Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks (February 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0590419668

ISBN-13: 978-0590419666

Product Dimensions: 6.9 x 4.2 x 0.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,605,407 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #68 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Historical Fiction > Renaissance](#) #15857 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social &](#)

[Family Issues](#) #58197 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

When I first found out that the book Othello was originally a Shakespeare play, I immediately thought 'I don't want to read some Elizabethan garbage...' but after enduring the first few boring chapters I came to notice that the book was actually a modern version of Othello, with also an extremely interesting plot. Some of the original lines from Shakespeare appeared in the book, and instead of loathing the complex language I came to appreciate the intricacy that Shakespeare had put into the words. Altogether, I thought Othello was a great entertaining read.

At first, when I saw this book I was upset someone would try to remake a great Shakespeare play in

another written form. However, Lester thoroughly explains himself and his reasons for wanting to make this play a novel. 'Othello: a novel' explores a different face of the play that has been hidden. It adds new characters, removes others, and places them in England instead of Italy but the plot and all of the deceitfulness it entails remains intact. Shakespeare had a way of using common themes that live today but still eluded boredom and cliché. And Lester continues this tradition in his novel with his beautiful and unique use of simile and metaphor. It's a great book to read that should not be overlooked!

amazing book

One of my main concerns in looking at the reviews for this novel were that most of them reviewed not this version of the play, but were reviewing the actual play by Shakespeare itself. While I considered it kind of funny that people would take the time to give a bad review to a play that has been considered one of the great treasures of English literature for centuries, I thought it was somewhat tragic that they would give a bad review based solely in some cases on what could only be called a synopsis of the original work. True, the author went through the trouble of changing the race of a couple of characters, and in effect ruined a lot of the drama of the original work, but largely this is simply a poorly written synopsis of a literary classic. The problem with all such watered down versions of the original works is that they are not the original work. The original work, while it may be hard to understand, is a work of art, anything that merely gives the gist of the action in the original play is going to necessarily lose a lot of the original language and the original art. This novel is no different. Read the original!

the book Othello was alright i think that it would of been better if it spoke the way that we speak in present day. It is a book that deals with alot of controversy in tragedy and romance it also deals with betrayal. Iago Othello's best friend betrays him during the whole book. towards the end of the a book it gets better though.

I haven't read Shakespeare's version of Othello... yet. Hey, I'm only 13, I don't get the "thees" and "thous"! 'Othello, the Novel', is the NIV of Shakespeare. This story brought me to tears at the end. Any book that can make me cry, I'm sure, is book worth your reading. Geez, what was Iago's problem?

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