

# Review of David Gontar's Unreading Shakespeare in Midwest Book Review

Jack Mason writes at Mason's Bookshelf on [Unreading Shakespeare](#)" Professor Gontar shakes the foundations of Renaissance studies, as he breaths new life into William Shakespeare's Othello, Hamlet, Falstaff, Rosalind, and many other of his characters in what can be justifiably described as the definitive exposition of Shakespeare in the 21st century.

"Unreading Shakespeare" teaches us how to find the real wisdom of Shakespeare, shows the major philosophical influence on Shakespeare is not Montaigne but Plato, introduces Katherine of Aragon as Feminist Hero, uncovers the comic dimension of Shakespeare's Tragedies, presents the Socratic Apology of Falstaff, and rescues King Lear from modern oblivion.

Critique: An exceptionally well written and presented study, "Unreading Shakespeare" is unreservedly recommended for community, college, and university library Shakespearean Studies Collections and supplemental curriculum lists. It should be noted for the personal reading lists of students, academia, and non-specialist general readers with an interest in the subject that "Unreading Shakespeare" is also available in a digital book format (Kindle, \$9.99).

Jack Mason  
Reviewer