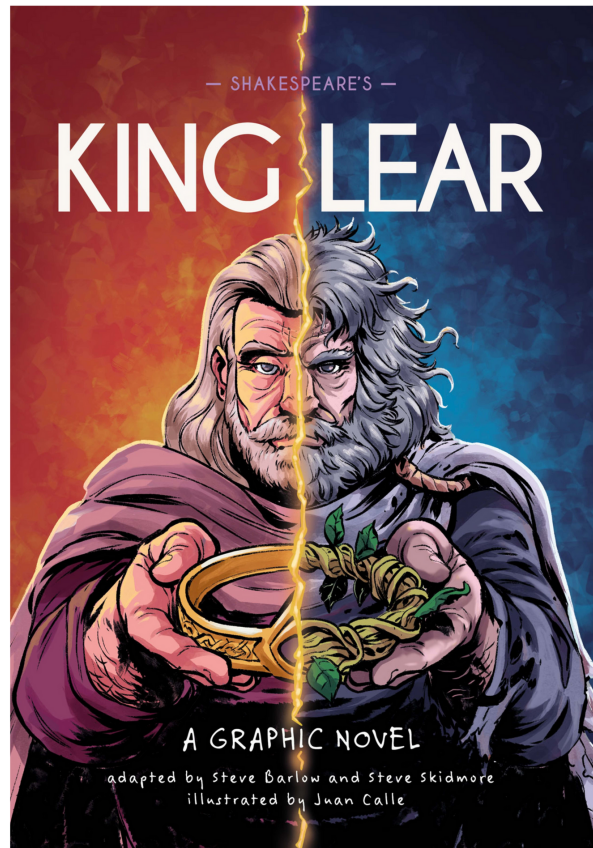




Teaching Notes & Resources

Key Stage 3

Themes: Shakespeare | English Literature | Graphic novels

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**ACT 1**

- Why do Goneril and Regan lie to their father?
- Why might Lear believe them instead of Cordelia?
- How do you think Cordelia feels when her father banishes her?
- What clues show that Lear is beginning to make unwise decisions?
- Do you think Lear's test was fair? Why or why not?
- Should children always tell their parents the truth, even if it hurts?
- What does this act teach us about pride and honesty?

ACT 2

- What do Edmund's words tell us about how he feels about being illegitimate?
- How does the Fool try to warn Lear about his mistake?
- What does Goneril's behaviour show about her character?
- Who do you trust more - Edmund or Edgar? Why?
- How do lies cause problems in this act?
- What would you have done differently if you were King Lear?

**ACT 3**

- How does the storm mirror Lear's emotions?
- Why does Lear start to feel sorry for the poor and homeless people?
- What does the Fool mean when he says Lear is 'a shadow of himself'?
- How does the storm help Lear begin to change?
- Why is it important that Lear still has people who care about him?
- How would you feel if you were caught outside in a storm like this?



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Discussion Questions



ACT 4

- How does Gloucester's blindness symbolise something more than physical pain?
- Why does Edgar choose not to tell his father who he really is?
- How does Cordelia show kindness and forgiveness?
- Which character shows the most loyalty in this act?
- Why do you think suffering helps some people understand others better?
- Should Cordelia forgive her father after what he did?



ACT 5

- Why does Edmund change his mind too late?
- What emotions do you see in Lear's final moments?
- What message do you think Shakespeare wanted audiences to take from the ending?
- Do you think the ending is fair?
- How does Lear change from the beginning of the play?
- What lessons could modern readers learn from this tragedy?



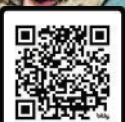
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Character Study

King Lear



— SHAKESPEARE'S —
KING LEAR



While reading *Classics in Graphics: King Lear*, gather information about the main character, King Lear. You should add to each category as the story develops and you learn more about him.



What do you know about King Lear?

What is King Lear's relationship with his daughters?



How does King Lear change as the story progresses?

How does King Lear make you feel as a reader? Do you feel sorry for him, frustrated, or something else?



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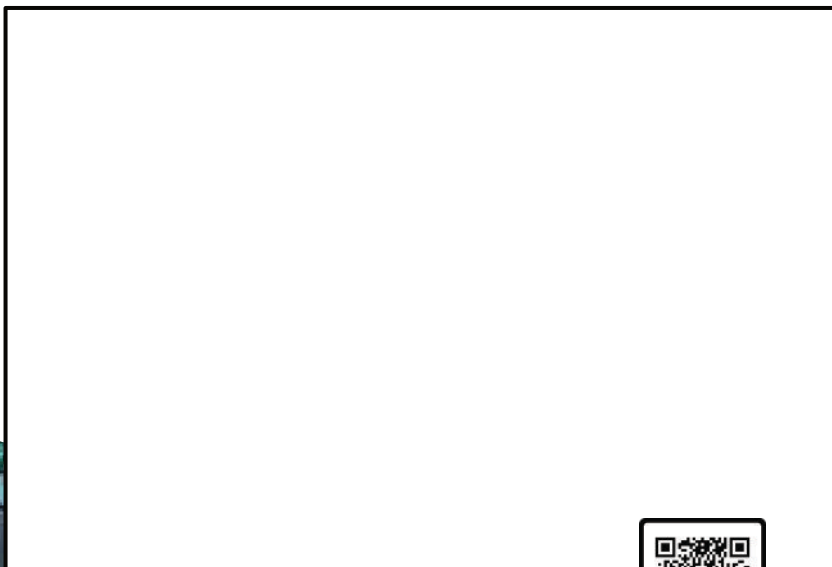
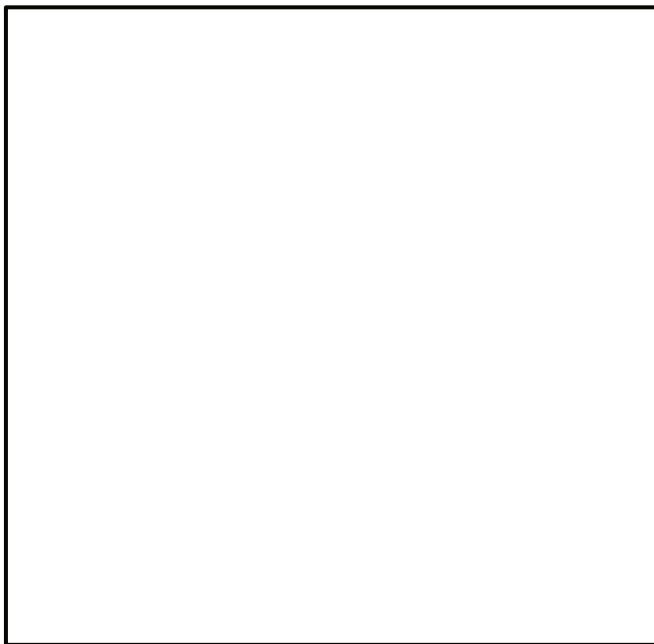
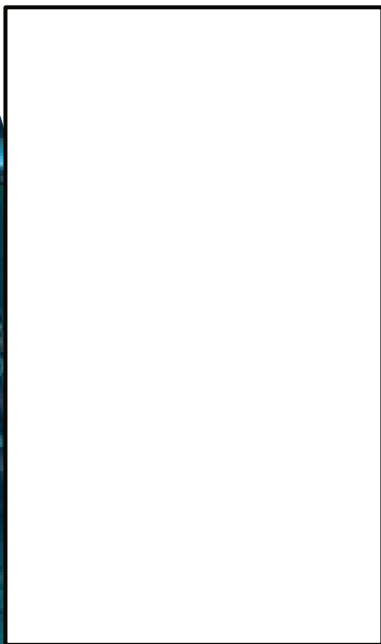
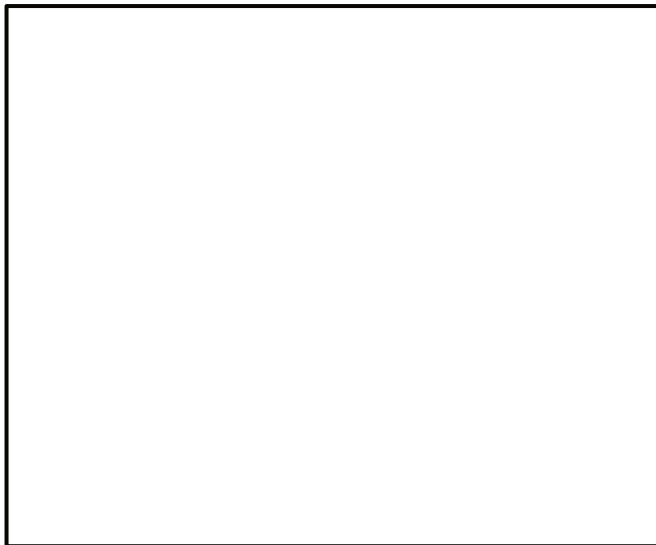
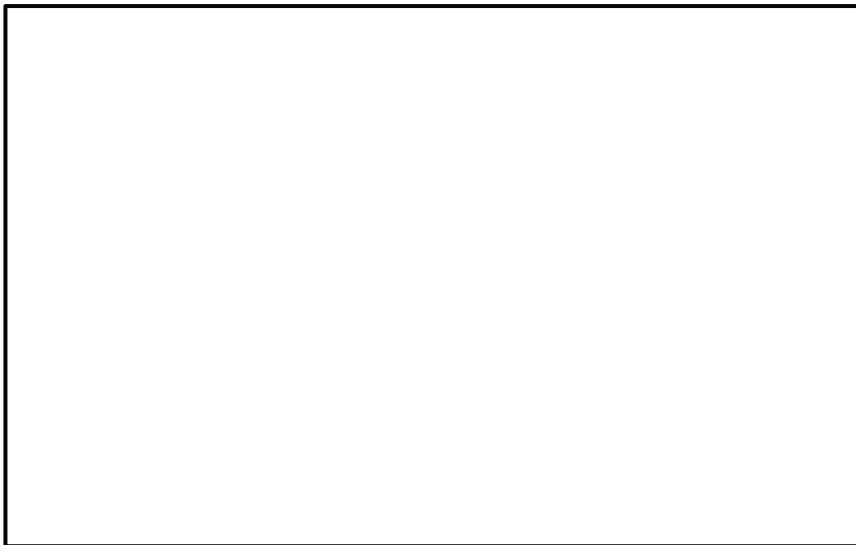
Graphic Novel



— SHAKESPEARE'S —

KING LEAR

Take a scene from the *Classics in Graphics: King Lear* graphic novel and think about how it could have played out differently. Write and illustrate your alternative scene.



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