

# MERCHANT OF VENICE



**BASSANIO**



Antonio's friend who loves Portia and owes money to Shylock



*"I hold the world but as the world, Gratiano, A stage, where every man must play a part."*



The world is just the world—a stage where every person has a part to play.



**SHYLOCK**



A Jewish moneylender, widely seen as one of Shakespeare's greatest villains



*"For affection, mistress of passion, sways it to the mood of what it likes or loathes."*



There's no sense trying to explain people's likes and dislikes.



**ANTONIO**



A rich Venetian merchant who occasionally lends money to others



*"I like not fair terms and a villain's mind."*



I don't like it when a villain acts nice.



**PORTIA**



The beautiful, dutiful heroine who must marry according to her dead father's will



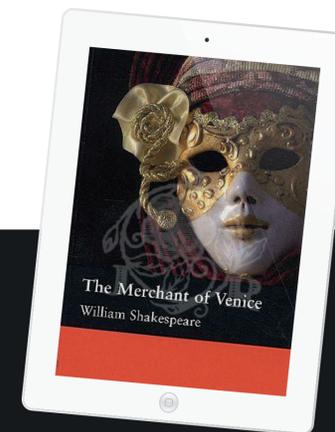
*"I can easier teach twenty what were good to be done than be one of the twenty to follow mine own teaching."*



It's easier to advise others than to follow my own advice.



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