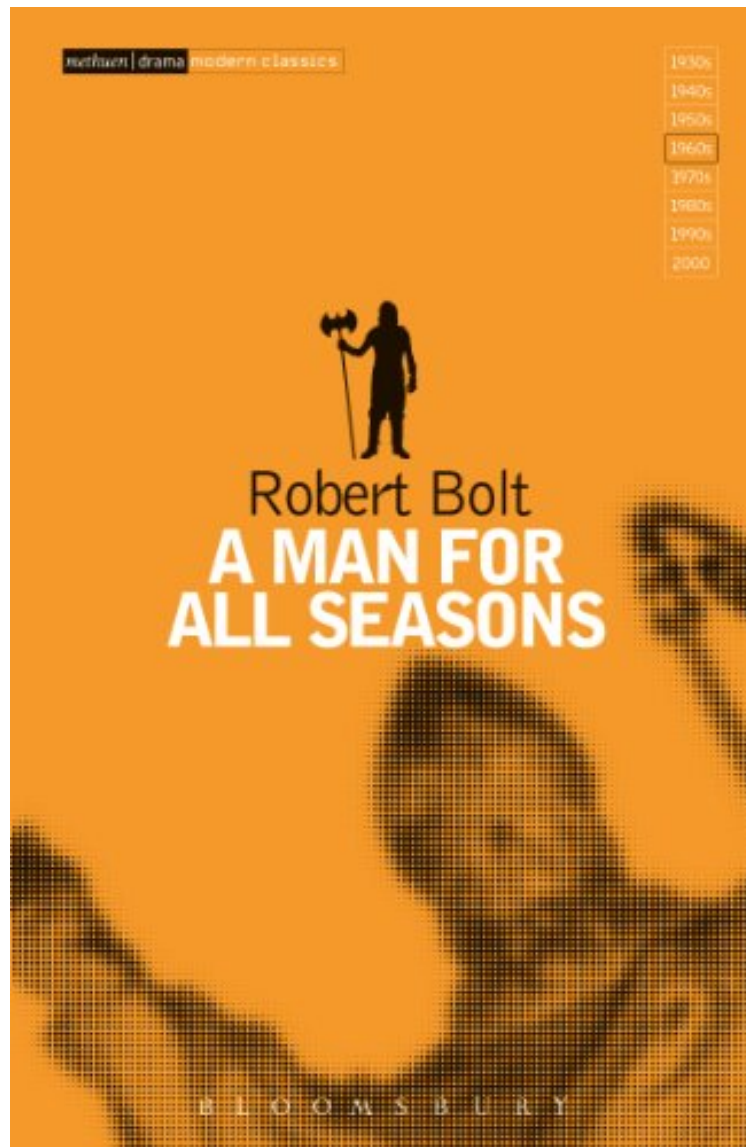


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## A Man For All Seasons (Modern Classics)

*Robert Bolt*

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**Robert Bolt : A Man For All Seasons (Modern Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Man For All Seasons (Modern Classics):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. I wish I'd read this years agoBy Mike RossanderA modern description of a historical event, this play describes the tribulations of Sir Thomas More during the split between the Roman Catholic Church and the newly-formed Church of England. The play lays out the historical details clearly and articulately. The writing is engaging and accessible. Most importantly, the depiction of More is true to everything we know about his personality and morals.The fascinating part for me is More's approach to the law. There are some very

memorable quotes in this play that anyone wanting to understand the law would do well to study. More's character lays out some deep questions about the nature of proof. His situation (and the eventual resolution of his case) illustrate the continuing tension between law as a pure exercise in reason and law as an instrument of state power. Enjoyable as the play is, it is a cautionary tale. Wonderful as the story is, Bolt's use of the Common Man and the frequent stage directions were a distraction to me - especially with all the hats. I understand the mood that Bolt was trying to set but whenever those parts of the play came around, they actually jolted me out of that mood. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Wish it had been required reading in high school. By Elena M. Miller As a community college student I believe this book would be an excellent addition to any list of political novels for required reading. Its theme is religious freedom, but it's also about government, and how too much power to the center can influence everyone's understanding of morality and values. Because King Henry the VIII said so, there were new definitions for marriage. Was he right? Most people now would say yes, but Thomas Moore speaks of objective truth and how it cannot be changed despite humanity willing it changed. If you're not into ethics, it's also a character study. Robert Bolt isn't/wasn't Catholic, so this isn't him gushing about a saint, but he did make Thomas Moore entirely admirable and yet human. He was primarily a man of the law, and when he defends himself in the play he always goes by the law, not religious sentiment, so you see the other courtly figures conspiring against him by rewriting the rules in their favor. I could not put this down. Keep the cast of characters list handy so you can follow along in the beginning, but I promise you'll find something to be drawn to. This is a classic. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What's to discuss? This is a classic modern English ... By Leslie Gerber What's to discuss? This is a classic modern English play. Now that the Wolf Hall series is out, Thomas More is getting a much more critical look. But, as a play (and movie), A Man for All Seasons is solidly in the canon.

A Man for All Seasons dramatises the conflict between King Henry VIII and Sir Thomas More. It depicts the confrontation between church and state, theology and politics, absolute power and individual freedom. Throughout the play Sir Thomas More's eloquence and endurance, his purity, saintliness and tenacity in the face of ever-growing threats to his beliefs and family, earn him status as one of modern drama's greatest tragic heroes. The play was first staged in 1960 at the Globe Theatre in London and was voted New York's Best Foreign Play in 1962. In 1966 it was made into an Academy Award-winning film by Fred Zinneman starring Paul Scofield. "A Man for All Seasons is a stark play, sparse in its narrative, sinewy in its writing, which confirms Mr Bolt as a genuine and solid playwright, a force in our awakening theatre." (Daily Mail)