

### Joss Whedon As Shakespearean Moralist: Narrative Ethics of the Bard and the Buffyverse

By J. Douglas Rabb



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Drawing on the works of Shakespeare and American screenwriter Joss Whedon, this study in narrative ethics contends that Whedon is the Shakespeare of our time. The Bard wrote before the influence of the modern moral philosophers, while Whedon is writing in the postmodern period. It is argued that Whedon's work is more in harmony with the early modern values of Shakespeare than with modern ethics, which trace their origin to 17th and 18th century moral philosophy. This study includes a detailed discussion of representative works of Shakespeare and Whedon, showing how they can and should be read as forms of narrative ethics.



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#### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

"This book makes a compelling argument that Joss Whedon...is the Shakespeare of our time. They consider representative works from each author and draw important parallels through the narrative ethics. Fans of Whedon and literary scholars will both find this book an informative and interesting read"--*ProtoView*.

#### About the Author

- J. Douglas Rabb is a professor emeritus of philosophy at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, and an executive member of the Centre for Health Care Ethics, also at Lakehead University.
- *J. Michael Richardson* is a professor of English at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada. A specialist in Early Modern Literature, he has written a number of articles on Shakespeare and popular culture.

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