

# Coriolanus: A Modern Classic at the Donmar Warehouse



## Coriolanus: Donmar Warehouse (Modern Plays)

by William Shakespeare

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

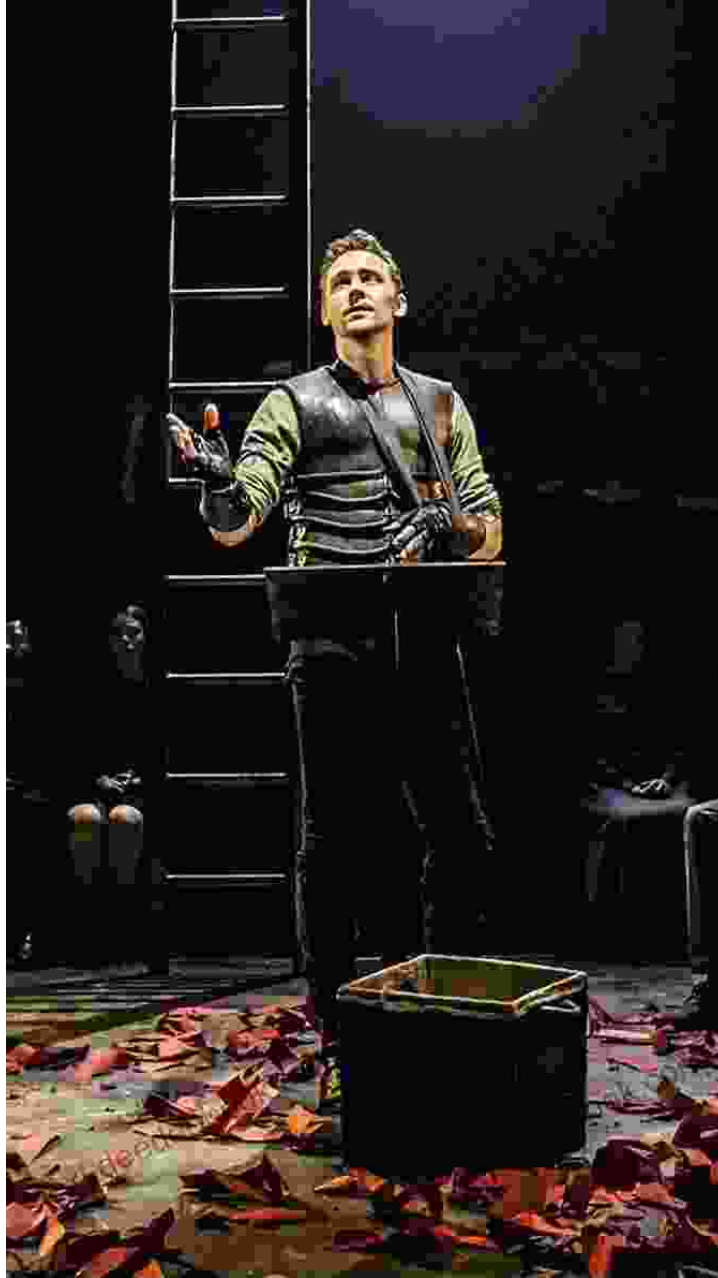
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Shakespeare's *Coriolanus* is a tragedy of epic proportions, and the Donmar Warehouse's modern adaptation brings the play to life with stunning clarity and power.

The play tells the story of Gaius Marcius Coriolanus, a proud and arrogant Roman general who is banished from the city after he angers the people with his disdain for them. Coriolanus then joins forces with the Volscians, Rome's sworn enemies, and leads them in an attack on the city.

The Donmar Warehouse's production is set in a modern military context, with the characters wearing combat fatigues and the action taking place in a war-torn landscape. This setting helps to emphasize the play's timeless themes of war, power, and betrayal.



Tom Hiddleston gives a commanding performance as Coriolanus, capturing the character's pride, arrogance, and vulnerability. He is ably supported by a strong cast, including Deborah Findlay as his mother, Volumnia, and Hadley Fraser as his friend, Menenius. The production is directed by Josie Rourke, who brings a fresh and exciting perspective to the play.

The Donmar Warehouse's *Coriolanus* is a must-see for fans of Shakespeare and theatre alike. It is a powerful and thought-provoking production that will stay with you long after you leave the theatre.

## Themes of *Coriolanus*

*Coriolanus* is a play that explores a number of complex themes, including:

- **War and its consequences:** The play is set against the backdrop of a war between Rome and the Volscians, and it explores the devastating effects of war on both the individual and the community.
- **Power and its corruptions:** *Coriolanus* is a man who is driven by his ambition for power, and the play shows how this ambition can lead to his downfall.
- **The nature of heroism:** *Coriolanus* is a complex character who is both a hero and a villain. The play explores the nature of heroism and asks whether it is possible to be a hero without also being flawed.
- **The importance of family:** *Coriolanus* is deeply attached to his mother, Volumnia, and the play explores the importance of family relationships.

## Characters of *Coriolanus*

*Coriolanus* features a number of memorable characters, including:

- **Gaius Marcius Coriolanus:** The protagonist of the play, *Coriolanus* is a proud and arrogant Roman general who is banished from the city after he angers the people with his disdain for them.

- **Volumnia:** Coriolanus's mother, Volumnia is a strong and ambitious woman who has a profound influence on her son.
- **Menenius:** Coriolanus's friend, Menenius is a wise and compassionate man who tries to mediate between Coriolanus and the people.
- **Aufidius:** The leader of the Volscians, Aufidius is Coriolanus's bitter enemy.

## The Donmar Warehouse Production

The Donmar Warehouse's production of Coriolanus is a modern adaptation of the play, set in a contemporary military context. The production is directed by Josie Rourke and stars Tom Hiddleston as Coriolanus. The production has been praised for its clarity, power, and emotional depth.

The Donmar Warehouse is a leading London theatre company that is known for its innovative and thought-provoking productions. The company has a long history of staging Shakespeare's plays, and its production of Coriolanus is a welcome addition to its repertoire.

The Donmar Warehouse's Coriolanus is a powerful and thought-provoking production that is sure to stay with you long after you leave the theatre. The production is a must-see for fans of Shakespeare and theatre alike.



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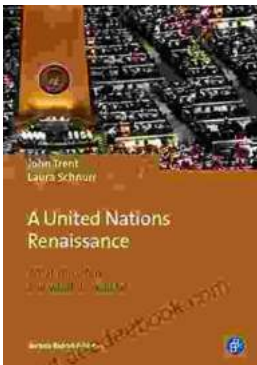
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