

### Discursive Paratexts in Commercial Playbooks, 1590-1623

This table contains first-edition commercial playbooks – in single-text and collections – that feature one or more dedications, addresses to readers, and/or commendatory verses. The final column specifies the number and type of paratexts, as well as their contributors (where known). Modern attributions are given in square brackets; date = date of publication.

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Year	Title	Author	Company	STC	Publisher	Paratexts and Contributor
1590	<i>1 and 2 Tamburlaine</i>	[Marlowe]	Admiral's	17425	Richard Jones	Address to reader (by Jones)
1591	<i>Endymion</i>	[Lyly]	Paul's (1)	17050	Joan Broome	Address to reader (from 'Printer', likely meaning Broome)
1591	<i>1 and 2 Troublesome Reign of King John</i>	[Anon]	Queen's	14644	Sampson Clarke	Address to reader (anon; repurposed stage prologue?)
1600	<i>Every Man Out of His Humour</i>	Jonson	[Chamberlain's]	14767	William Holme	Note on original ending (unsigned; by Jonson); note from stationer
1600	<i>The Shoemaker's Holiday</i>	[Dekker]	Admiral's	6523	Valentine Simmes	Dedication to shoemakers, (unsigned; by Dekker)
1601	<i>Cynthia's Revels</i>	Jonson	Chapel (2)	14773	Walter Burre	Special dedications in variant states to 1) William Camden and 2) Lucy Russell, Countess of Bedford (by Jonson)
1602	<i>Antonio and Mellida</i>	Marston	Paul's (2)	17473	Thomas Fisher and Matthew Lownes	Dedication to 'Nobody' (by Marston)
1602	<i>Poetaster</i>	Jonson	Chapel (2)	14781	Matthew Lownes	Address to reader (unsigned; likely from stationer)
1602	<i>Satiromastix</i>	Dekker	Paul's (2) and Chamberlain's	6520.7	Edward White (1)	Address 'To the World' (unsigned; by Dekker)
1604	<i>The Malcontent</i>	Marston	[Queen's Revels]	17479	William Aspley	Dedication to Jonson (by Marston, in Latin); address to the reader (by Marston)
1605	<i>Philotas</i> (in <i>Certain Small Poems</i> , 1605)	Daniel	[Queen's Revels]	6239	Simon Waterson and Edward Blount	Dedication to Prince Henry (by Daniel), for the play, plus other collection paratexts
1605	<i>Sejanus</i>	Jonson	[King's]	14782	Thomas Thorpe	Address to reader (by Jonson), 8 commendatory verses (by 'Georgius Chapmannus', 'Hugh Holland', 'Cygnus', 'Th.R.', 'Iohannes Marstonius', 'William Strachey', 'Φίλος [a friend]', 'Ev.B.')
1606	<i>Parasitaster</i>	Marston	Queen's Revels	17483	William Cotton	Address to reader (by Marston)

1606	<i>The Wonder of Women, or Sophonisba</i>	Marston	[Queen's Revels]	17488	John Windet (printer); William Cotton (bookseller)	Address to reader (by Marston); unsigned note in lieu of errata
1607	<i>The Whore of Babylon</i>	Dekker	Prince's	6532	Nathaniel Butter	Address to reader (by Dekker)
1607	<i>Cupid's Whirligig</i>	Sharpham	King's Revels	22380	Arthur Johnson	Dedication to Robert Hayman (by Sharpham)
1607	<i>The Travels of the Three English Brothers</i>	Day, W. Rowley, Wilkins	Anne's	6417	John Wright (1)	Dedication to Shirley family from the dramatists (one state only)
1607	<i>The Devil's Charter</i>	Barnes	King's	1466/ a	John Wright (1)	Dedication to William Herbert (1st Baron Powis) and William Pope (Earl of Down) by Barnes (variant issue has different dedication)
1607	<i>The Fleece</i>	Sharpham	Queen's Revels	22384	Francis Burton	Address to reader from stationer (unsigned; Burton)
1607	<i>Volpone</i>	Jonson	[King's]	14783	Thomas Thorpe	Dedication and address to Oxford and Cambridge (by Jonson); 10 commendatory verses ('E. B.'; 'I. D.'; 'T. R.' (2); 'F. B.'; 'D. D.'; 'I. C.'; 'G. C.'; 'E. S.'; 'I. F.'; variant contains additional verses by 'N.F.')
1608	<i>The Family of Love</i>	Anon	King's Revels [Admiral's first]	17879	John Helme	Address to reader (unsigned; from dramatist)
1608	<i>Law Tricks</i>	Day	Queen's Revels	6416	Richard Moore	Address to reader (from the Book; probably Day)
1608	<i>Humour out of Breath</i>	Day	King's Revels	6411	John Helme	Dedication to Signior No-body (by Day)
1608	<i>The Rape of Lucrece</i>	Heywood	Anne's	13360	John Busby (1) and Nathaniel Butter	Address to reader (by Heywood)
1608	<i>The Conspiracy and Tragedy of Charles Duke of Byron</i>	Chapman	[Queen's Revels]	4968	Thomas Thorpe	Dedication to Thomas Walsingham and his son (by Chapman)
1608	<i>The Dumb Knight</i>	Markham and Machin	King's Revels	17399	John Bache	Address to reader (by Machin)
1609	<i>Troilus and Cressida</i>	Shakespeare	[Chamberlain's]	22332	Richard Bonian and Henry Walley	Address to reader (by Bonian and Walley) in one issue
1609	<i>The Two Maids of More-Clacke</i>	Armin	King's Revels	773	Thomas Archer	Address to reader (by Armin)
[1610? ]	<i>The Faithful Shepherdess</i>	Fletcher	[Queen's Revels]	11068	Richard Bonian and Henry Walley	Dedications to Walter Aston; William Skipwith; Robert Townshend (all by Fletcher); address to reader (Fletcher); 4 commendatory verses (by Beaumont, Chapman, Field, Jonson)
1611	<i>The Golden Age</i>	Heywood	Anne's	13325	William Barrenger	Address to the reader (by Heywood)

1611	<i>Catiline His Conspiracy</i>	Jonson	[King's]	14759	Walter Burre	Dedication to William Herbert, 3rd Earl of Pembroke (by Jonson; two addresses to reader (by Jonson); 3 commendatory verses (by Beaumont, Fletcher, Field)
1611	<i>The Roaring Girl</i>	Dekker and Middleton	Prince's	17908	Thomas Archer	Address to reader (by Middleton)
1612	<i>A Woman is a Weathercock</i>	Field	Queen's Revels	10854	John Budge	Dedication to 'any Woman that hath beene no Weather-Cocke' (by Field); address to reader (by Field); commedatory verse (Chapman)
1612	<i>A Christian Turned Turk</i>	Daborn	[children's, unknown]	6184	William Barrenger	Address to reader (unsigned; by Daborn)
1612	<i>The Widow's Tears</i>	Chapman	[Queen's Revels]	4994	John Browne (1)	Dedication to John Reed of Mitton (by Chapman)
1612	<i>The Alchemist</i>	Jonson	[King's Men]	14755	Walter Burre	Dedication to Lady Mary Wroth (by Jonson); address to reader (unsigned; probably Jonson); 1 commendatory verse (by George Lucy)
1612	<i>If It Be Not Good, The Devil Is In It</i>	Dekker	Anne's	6507	John Trundle	Dedication to Queen Anne's Men (by Dekker)
1612	<i>The White Devil</i>	Webster	Anne's	25178	Thomas Archer	Address to the reader (unsigned; by Webster)
1613	<i>The Revenge of Bussy D'Ambois</i>	Chapman	[Queen's Revels]	4989	Thomas Snodham (printer); John Helme (bookseller)	Dedication to Thomas Howard, 1st earl of Berkshire (by Chapman)
1613	<i>The Brazen Age</i>	Heywood	[Anne's]	13310	Samuel Rand	Address to reader (unsigned; by Heywood)
1613	<i>The Knight of the Burning Pestle</i>	[Beaumont]	[Queen's Revels]	1674	Walter Burre	Dedication to Robert Keysar, manager of the Children of the Revels (by Burre)
1613	<i>The Silver Age</i>	Heywood	[Anne's]	13365	Nicholas Okes	Address to reader (by Heywood)
1614	<i>Greene's Tu Quoque</i>	Io [shua?] Cooke	Anne's	5673	John Trundle	Address to reader (by Heywood); 1 commendatory verse from 'W.R.'; couplet on Greene's death (by 'W.R.')
1615	<i>The Valiant Welshman</i>	R.A. [Anton? Armin?]	Prince's [Prince Charles's Men first]	16	Robert Lownes	Address to reader (unsigned; by the dramatist)
1615	<i>Cupid's Revenge</i>	Fletcher [and Beaumont]	Queen's Revels	1667	Josias Harrison	Address to reader (by Printer, likely meaning Harrison)
1615	<i>The Four Prentices of London</i>	Heywood	Anne's [Admiral's first]	13321	John Wright (1)	Address to the 'honest and hie-spirited Prentises the Readers' (by Heywood)
1616	<i>The Works</i>	Jonson	[multiple]	14751 /2	William Stansby	9 commendatory verses for volume (by Selden, Ed. Heyward, Chapman, Holland, Day, Bolton, Beaumont), plus individual paratexts for each play
1617	<i>A Fair Quarrel</i>	Middleton and W. Rowley	Prince Charles's	17911	John Trundle	Dedication to Robert Grey, Groom of the Bedchamber (by Rowley)

1619	<i>A King and No King</i>	Beaumont and Fletcher	King's	1670	Thomas Walkley	Dedication to Henry Neville (d. 1629) by Walkley
1620	<i>The Two Merry Milkmaids</i>	I.C.' [John Cumber?]	Red Bull (1)	4281	Laurence Chapman	Address to reader (by Printer, prob. meaning Chapman)
1620	<i>Swetnam the Woman-Hater Arraigned by Women</i>	Anon	Anne's	23544	Richard Meighen	Address to reader (couplet, unsigned)
1620	<i>The World Tossed at Tennis</i>	Middleton and W. Rowley	Prince Charles's	17909	George Purslowe	Dedication to Charles Howard, 3rd Baron Howard of Effingham and Mary Howard, Lady Effingham (by Middleton); address to reader (by 'Simplicite'; prob. dramatists)
1622	<i>Otello</i>	Shakespeare	King's	22305	Thomas Walkley	Address to reader (by Walkley)
1622	<i>Herod and Antipater</i>	Markham and Sampson	Red Bull (1)	17401 /2	Matthew Rhodes	Address to reader (by Rhodes); one issue replaces this address with a dedication to Thomas Finch (by Sampson)
1622	<i>The Heir</i>	May	Red Bull (1)	17713	Thomas Jones (2)	Commendatory verse (by Thomas Carew)
1623	<i>Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i>	Shakespeare	[multiple]	22273	Isaac and William Jaggard, Edward Blount, John Smethwick, William Aspley	Dedication to William and Philip Herbert (by Heminge and Condell); 2 addresses to reader (by Heminge and Condell; Jonson); 4 commendatory verses (Jonson, Holland, Digges, Mabbe)
1623	<i>The Duke of Milan</i>	Massinger	King's	17634	Edward Blackmore	Dedication to Lady Catherine Stanhope (by Massinger); commendatory verse (by W.B.)
1623	<i>The Devil's Law Case</i>	Webster	Anne's	25173	John Grismand (1)	Dedication to Thomas Finch, 2nd Earl of Winchilsea (by Webster); address to reader (unsigned; by Webster)
1623	<i>The Duchess of Malfi</i>	Webster	King's	25176	John Waterson	Dedication to George Berkeley, 8th Baron Berkeley (by Webster); three commendatory verses (by Middleton, W. Rowley, Ford)