

# Unveiling the Timeless Masterpiece: Ben Jonson's Volpone Revised Edition New Mermaids



## Volpone: Revised Edition (New Mermaids) by Ben Jonson

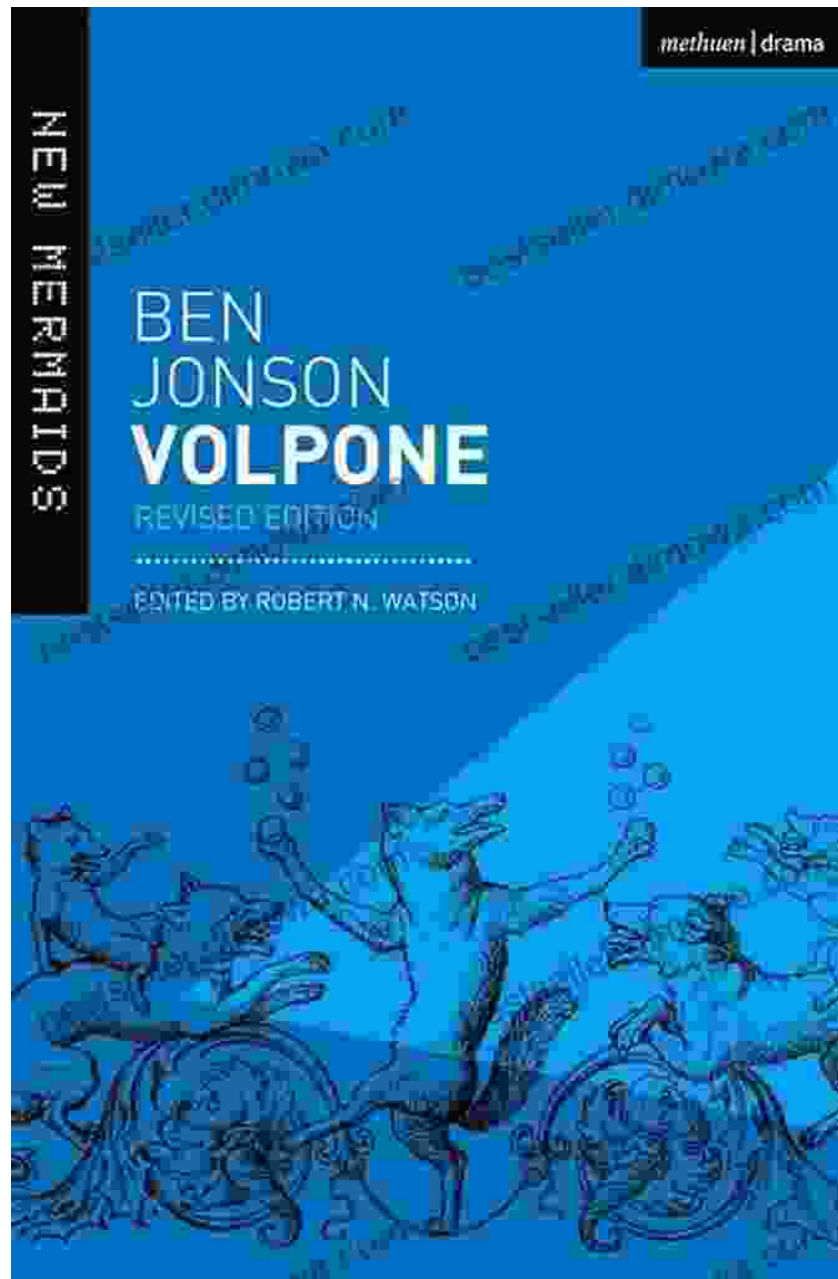
★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2797 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 214 pages
Hardcover	: 416 pages
Item Weight	: 3.04 pounds
Dimensions	: 6.65 x 1.69 x 9.49 inches

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In the vibrant tapestry of Renaissance literature, Ben Jonson's *Volpone* Revised Edition New Mermaids stands as a captivating masterpiece that has captivated audiences for centuries. This revised edition offers a fresh perspective on Jonson's classic comedy of humours, inviting readers to delve into the intricate world of greed, deception, and the complexities of the human condition.

## **A Cast of Unforgettable Characters**

Volpone is a play that pulsates with unforgettable characters, each embodying a distinct facet of human nature. The titular character, Volpone, is a wealthy Venetian nobleman who feigns illness to attract fortune-seekers who vie for his inheritance. His cunning servant, Mosca, serves as his accomplice, his sly wit and manipulative nature orchestrating the play's intricate web of deception.

Among the dupes who fall prey to Volpone's machinations are Corvino, a jealous husband who believes Volpone holds the cure to his wife's infertility; Voltore, a greedy lawyer; and Corbaccio, a miserly old man. Each character's insatiable desires and flawed personalities provide a rich tapestry of human folly and ambition.

## **Greed and Deception Unmasked**

At its core, Volpone is a scathing satire on the corrosive effects of greed and deception. Jonson mercilessly exposes the lengths to which people will go to acquire wealth and status, regardless of the consequences. The play's central plot revolves around Volpone's elaborate scheme to trick his victims into believing he is on the brink of death, leading them to shower him with lavish gifts and promises.

Through the character of Mosca, Jonson masterfully weaves a web of deceit that ensnares the greedy and gullible. Mosca's cunning manipulation highlights the ease with which people can be misled by their own desires, becoming blind to the truth that lies before them.

## **Exploring the Human Condition**

Beyond its satirical elements, *Volpone* also offers a profound exploration of the human condition. Through its larger-than-life characters and intricate plot, the play delves into themes of power, manipulation, and the nature of good and evil. Jonson's characters embody the extremes of human behaviour, from the depravity of Volpone to the compassion of Celia, a virtuous young woman who becomes entangled in the play's web of deception.

The play's enduring appeal lies in its ability to resonate with audiences across time and cultures. Its universal themes of greed, deception, and the struggle between good and evil continue to captivate and provoke readers, offering a timeless reflection on the complexities of human nature.

## A Masterpiece Reborn: The New Mermaids Edition

The Revised Edition New Mermaids edition of *Volpone* offers a fresh and insightful perspective on this classic work. Edited by leading Jonson scholar David Bevington, this edition features a



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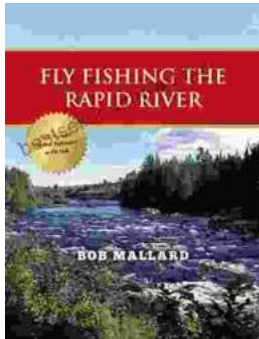
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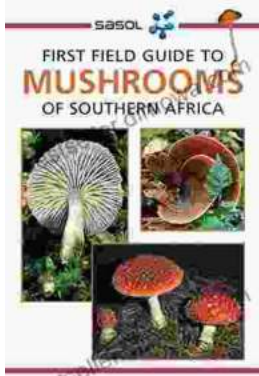
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