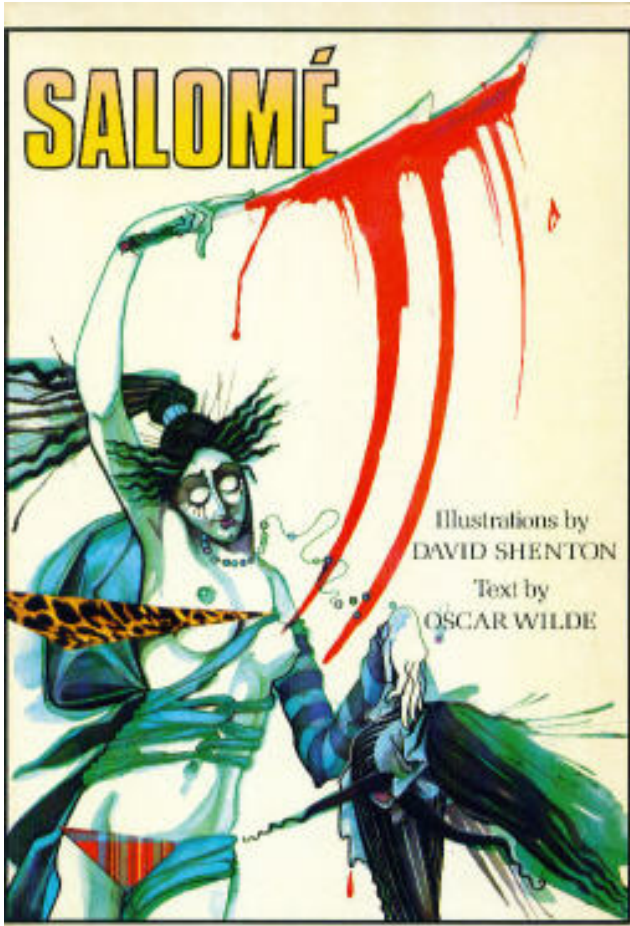

Oscar Wilde

Salome



Title: Salome

Author: Oscar Wilde

Format: Paperback

Language: English

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Description

Written originally in French in 1892, Wilde's one-act tragedy *Salome* enacts the biblical tale of a wanton woman's erotic dance and the martyrdom of John the Baptist. This volume reprints the complete text of the first English edition (1894) with illustrations by Aubrey Beardsley, plus "A Note on *Salome*" by Robert Ross.

Insightful reviews

Soham Chakraborty: This will be difficult for me to review, plainly because I don't know anything of biblical characters or the theme. So, putting that apart, I can only try to understand Wilde's usual sorcery with words and the dark and misty environment that he creates with them. There are several long segments spoken by Salome and then by Herod which are exceptionally delicate - full with metaphors - conveying a very potent message to the recipients. Salome speaks about how she fell in love with Jokanaan, which is in fact, a camouflage. A closer look indicates that Salome, who was a stunningly beautiful girl, compared with the moon, never had seen any man who was not intrigued by her beauty. But, Jokanaan wasn't, he was stoic.

Then, on the birthday of king Herod, the king asked Salome to dance the seven veils. And as we get to know about king's gazes turning all over Salome, a hint of the incestuous desire of the king comes into picture. Salome agrees to dance and the king takes an oath to give her anything she wants. What Salome wanted was the head of Jokanaan. Here comes the second part of the long segments, where king Herod frantically tries to dissuade Salome but she sticks to her demand. And after Jokanaan has been beheaded, she kisses him, agonizing over the motionless eyes, the pale lips. Perhaps it indicates of her desire to hold a man who paid no attention to her beauty. And when king departs from the scene, he orders Salome to be killed as well, which was perfectly practiced by the soldiers. It might be interpreted as Salome's love being united with Jokanaan's indignation or something else which I can't fathom.

After I read, I did a little search over the internet and I still can't figure out Wilde's intention or interpretation of the play. What struck me most is the feverish elegance and hysterical charm of words that Salome and Herod produced.

P.S - As said, I have no concrete knowledge about biblical characters. Please pardon if I hit any wrong chord.

Lau: -Reseña Pendiente-

Lavinia: As one can easily guess, Wilde gives his own interpretation of the biblical story of Salome / John the Baptist. Even more than the play itself (actually a lot more) I like love Aubrey Beardsley's illustrations. In fact I love Aubrey Beardsley. Period.



Check out the rest of the illustrations [here](#) .

Emilian Kasemi: darkish and intense!(view spoiler)[SALOME: [Holding the severed head of lokanaan.] Ah! thou wouldst now not undergo me to kiss thy mouth, lokanaan. Well! i'll kiss it now. i'm going to chunk it with my tooth as one bites a ripe fruit. Yes, i'll kiss thy mouth, lokanaan. I stated it; did I no longer say it? I stated it. Ah! i'll kiss it now. yet wherefore dost thou now not examine me, lokanaan? Thine eyes that have been so terrible, so jam-packed with

rage and scorn, are close now. Wherefore are they shut? Open thine eyes! elevate up thine eyelids, lokanaan! Wherefore dost thou no longer examine me? paintings thou fearful of me, lokanaan, that thou wilt no longer examine me? And thy tongue, that used to be like a crimson snake darting poison, it strikes no more, it speaks no words, lokanaan, that scarlet viper that spat its venom upon me. it's strange, is it not? How is it that the pink viper stirs no longer? Thou wouldst have none of me, lokanaan. Thou rejectedest me. Thou didst converse evil phrases opposed to me. Thou didst undergo thyself towards me as to a harlot, as to a girl that may be a wanton, to me, Salome, daughter of Herodias, Princess of Judaea! Well, I nonetheless live, yet thou artwork dead, and thy head belongs to me. i will do with it what I will. i will be able to throw it to the canines and to the birds of the air. That which the canine leave, the birds of the air shall devour. Ah, lokanaan, lokanaan, thou wert the fellow that I enjoyed on my own between men! All different males have been hateful to me. yet thou wert beautiful! Thy physique was once a column of ivory set upon ft of silver. It was once a backyard filled with doves and lilies of silver. It used to be a tower of silver decked with shields of ivory. there has been not anything on the earth so white as thy body. there has been not anything on the planet so black as thy hair. within the complete international there has been not anything so purple as thy mouth. Thy voice was once a censer that scattered unusual perfumes, and whilst I appeared on thee I heard unusual music. Ah! wherefore didst thou no longer examine me, lokanaan? With the cloak of thine hands, and with the cloak of thy blasphemies thou didst cover thy face. Thou didst placed upon thine eyes the masking of him who could see God. Well, thou hast noticeable thy God, lokanaan, yet me, me, thou didst by no means see me. If thou hadst noticeable me thou hadst enjoyed me. I observed thee, and that i enjoyed thee. Oh, how I enjoyed thee! i like thee yet, lokanaan. i like merely thee. i'm athirst for thy beauty; i'm hungry for thy body; and neither wine nor apples can appease my desire. What shall I do now, lokanaan? Neither the floods nor the good waters can quench my passion. i used to be a princess, and thou didst scorn me. i used to be a virgin, and thou didst take my virginity from me. i used to be chaste, and thou didst fill my veins with fire. Ah! ah! wherefore didst thou no longer examine me? [She kisses the head.] Ah! i've got kissed thy mouth, lokanaan, i've got kissed thy mouth. there has been a sour flavor on thy lips. used to be it the flavor of blood? Nay; yet possibly it was once the flavor of love. they are saying that love hath a sour taste. yet what matter? what matter? i've got kissed thy mouth. (hide spoiler)][["br"]>["br"]>

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Santosh Kashyap: ...I dont recognize what Wilde had in his brain ahead of scripting this book...it seems to be extra as a retold tale and fully lacks components of sophisticated wits & humour, Wilde is understood for...

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