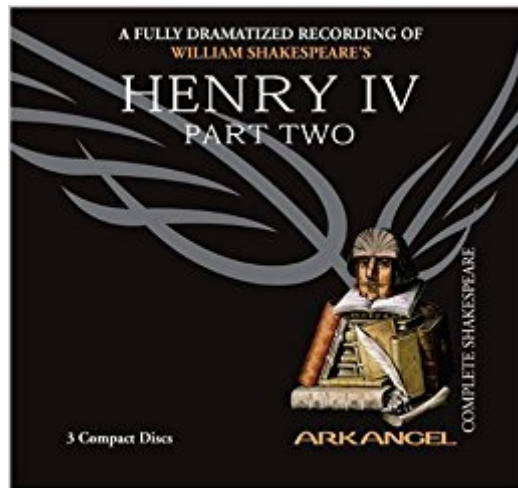


The book was found

Henry IV , Part Two (Arkangel Complete Shakespeare)



Synopsis

[Full-Cast Audio Theater Dramatization. Hal is played by Jamie Glover and King Henry by Julian Glover. Richard Griffiths is Falstaff.] In Henry IV: Part Two Prince Hal parts from his past to fulfill his royal destiny in this essential conclusion to Henry IV, Part 1. Rebellion still simmers in England and King Henry's health is failing. Prince Hal has proved his courage but the king still fears that his son's pleasure-loving nature will bring the realm to ruin. Meanwhile, Falstaff and his ribald companions waste the nights in revelry, anticipating the moment when Hal will ascend the throne. Falstaff is in Gloucestershire when news arrives that the king has died. Has the dissolute old knight's hour come at last?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In Henry the Fourth part 1 we find Prince Hal, King Henry IV's heir, consorting with Falstaff and other brigands. All the while Henry Percy, known as Hotspur, is leading a rebellion. Prince Hal rises to the occasion, redeems himself on the battlefield, kills Hotspur but lets his friend Falstaff take the credit. But the rebellion isn't put down...This is a sequel, plain and simple. The plot is virtually the same as that of Henry IV part 1: the errant son isn't living up to his father's expectations and to his responsibilities as heir to the throne. He consorts with friends of dubious character, but then in time he fights to put down the rebellion against his father. Shakespeare does take us to King Henry IV's death and shows us Prince Hal become King Henry V, thus concluding the story. But the sequel feels unnecessary, after all if Prince Hal redeemed himself in part 1, where is the dramatic motive to have him do so again in part 2?But this is a Shakespeare sequel. The end in part 1 was good

natured and Falstaff remained friends with the prince. The prince and the king have reconciled, but the king's advisers still suspect the prince. The Lord High Justice in particular, being fond of law and order, is not too happy at the thought of serving a king with a possibly criminal past. All ends well though. The Lord High Justice is of course nervous upon Henry V's accession, but the king wisely keeps him in his position. Having served his father so well, to the point of courting his own displeasure and risking his life in order to uphold the law, Henry V predicts he will serve his new king with the same integrity. And then for good measure, Henry V finally and fully repudiates Falstaff and his band.

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