

and splits his domain between Regan and Goneril. He then banishes Kent and goes to live with Goneril. The king of France marries Cordelia despite her lack of dowry and title. Lear soon quarrels with Goneril over his entourage, which includes the banished yet loyal Kent in disguise, and leaves to live with Regan. Lear and Regan also argue, and she reduces the number of his retainers. Goneril arrives and the sisters dismiss Lear's courtiers altogether. Lear, driven to madness by their ill-treatment, wanders about in a storm and is led to shelter by the Earl of Gloucester, who is blinded by Regan and her husband because of his treachery. Gloucester's faithful son Edgar prevents his suicide, while his illegitimate son Edmund becomes Goneril's lover. Cordelia leads an army to rescue Lear from her sisters and is reconciled with him; Lear regains his sanity. Cordelia's forces are defeated by those of her sisters, and she and Lear are imprisoned. Regan has also become Edmund's lover, so she and Goneril fight and kill each other. Edgar mortally wounds Edmund, who has ordered Cordelia to be hanged. Lear dies of his grief.

This second quarto of *King Lear* was bound by the British Museum Bindery in nineteenth-century red sheep. SHAKSPERE. KING LEAR. LONDON. 1608. is lettered in gold up the spine. The edges of the boards and the title pages are gold tooled. The edges of the leaves are gilt. The 1608 date on the title page and spine is erroneous; this quarto was printed by William Jaggard in 1619 from the 1608 first quarto. There are no marks of ownership.

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