



OVERVIEW OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

2. Beginning of English Drama



ENGLISH DRAMA

3 major sources:

- 1) religious ceremonies
- 2) folk plays
- 3) Greek and Latin drama

Tropes: sung or recited dialogues used in church ceremonies

MYSTERY PLAYS



MORALITY PLAYS

Morality Plays

- Show the dilemmas faced by the average person trying to lead a moral life
- Characters are often abstractions that represent qualities of human nature (Charity, Greed, Lust)
- Eventually evolved into the form of drama popular in Shakespeare's time.



INTERLUDES

HENRY MADWALL

JOHN HEYWOOD

CHRONICLE PLAYS

JOHN BALE



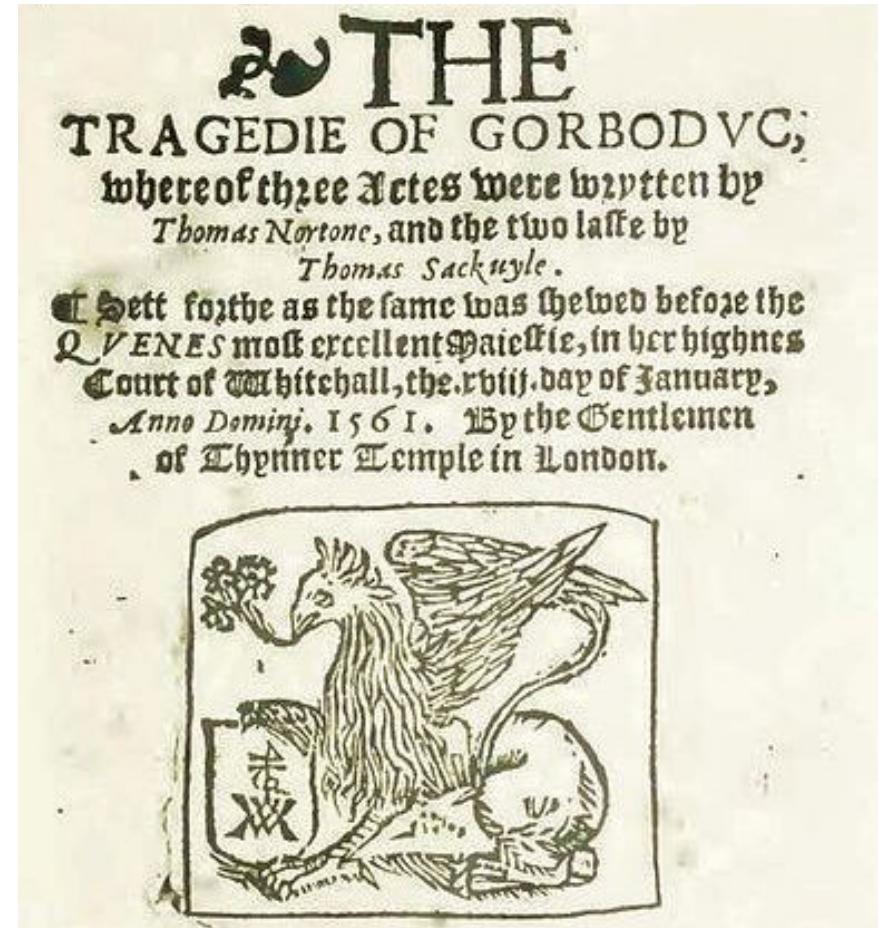
Dance of the Wodehouses.
Jean Froissart, *Chroniques*, Vol. IV, part 2, c1470-2.
British Library MS Harley 4380. f. 1.

ELIZABETHAN DRAMA

Roman playwrights: Seneca,
Plautus, Terentius

Nicholas Udall: *Ralph Royster
Doyster*, 1553

Thomas Norton and Thomas
Sackville: *Gorboduc*, 1565



SHAKESPEARE'S OLDER CONTEMPORARIES: UNIVERSITY WITS

John Lyly: *The Woman in the Moon*

George Peele: *The Old Wifes Tale*, 1595

Robert Greene: *The Honorable History of Friar Bacon*

Blank-verse tragedy

Thomas Kyd: *Spanish Tragedy*

Christopher Marlowe: *The Famous Tragedy of the Rich Jew of Malta*

- *The tragical History of Doctor Faustus*

SHAKESPEARE'S CONTEMPORARIES

Ben Johnson: *Volpone, or the Fox*, 1605

John Marston: *Malcontent*, 1604

Thomas Haywood: *A Woman Killed with Kindness*, 1603

Thomas Dekker: *The Honest Whore*

Thomas Middleton

Philip Massinger

John Ford

