

Dédicace de Freewill

Auteur : Cheke, Henry

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Les folios

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2 Fichier(s)

Mots clés

[lecture](#), [lien au sujet](#), [piété de la dédicataire](#), [savoir de la dédicataire](#)

Informations éditoriales

Titre complet de la pièce*A Certain Tragedy written first in Italian by F.N. B. entitled Freewill and translated into English by Henry Cheke*

Auteur de la pièce

- Cheke, Henry
- Negri, Francesco

Date1573

Lieu d'éditionLondres, Royaume-Uni

ÉditeurJugge, Richard

LangueAnglais

Source[Google Books](#)

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- Tragédie

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Informations sur la notice

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Contributeurs Lochert, Véronique (Responsable du projet)

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To the ryght honourable and vertuous La- dy, the Lady Cheynie of Toddington



Am not ignorant
(my good Lady) how much
tyme you do dayly bestowe
in readyng good bookes,
whereby you doo not onely
profite greatlye in knowe-
ledge, but also cōfirme your
selfe moste strongly in the
profession of true religion.
This vertue being the roote
of all other good thynges,
doth spreade so far, and ta-
keth so deepe hold in you; as

it bringeth forth great and plentyfull desertes of prayse, wherof I
choose rather to be a true reporter when so euer I am asked, then
with my rude stile to debase a thyng woorthy so hygh commendati-
on. Neyther am I ashamed in this poynt to confesse myne owne
weakenesse, (for I knowe few haue atteyned to that excellencie as
the; coulderightly commend vertue) neyther yet can I but be sory,
that nature hauyng geuen me iudgement to thynke truly of your
true nobilitie, hath denyed me ablenesse to speake woorthyly of it. My
greefe is the greater, because I acknowledge mee selfe moste bounde
thereunto of all others, as one beyng not onely well acquainted with
your vertuous behauiour, and so a true witnesse of the same, but also
hauyng receiued great benefites at your handes, and so forced by

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ductie

duetie to be a wylling reporter of your good. After. But in this I rest
 satisfied, that although I am, as sufficient, sayser of your vertues,
 yet your Ladyshyps good behauiour shal be an open testimonie of my
 true opinion; and the worlde shal see, that albeit I want cunning to
 commend worthily; yet I want not good wyll to speake what I
 thynke truely. These thynges considered, to whom coulde I, eyther
 in respect of duetie, or other wyse, offer this simple translation of a
 good booke, more fitly then to your Ladyshyp, to whom I confesse my
 selfe to owe more, then I can hope to recompence, and yet no more
 then I am ready to perfourme? The rather I am moued hereunto,
 because I know howe much your Ladyshyp doth abhorre the vayne
 superstition of wicked papistrie, and therefore I nothing suspect your
 good acceptyng of this booke, wherein is set forth in manner of a
 Tragedie, the deuylishe deuise of the Popishe religion, whiche pre-
 tendeth holynesse onely for gayne, and treadeth Christe vnder foote,
 to set vp wicked Mammon. The papistical opinion of free wil, is here
 likewise excellently confuted, and our election manifestly prooued
 to proceede from the free grace of God, wherby the filthy bunche of
 Popishe good woorkes is cut of, and made good for nothyng, but for
 the fire. Thus hauing assured hope of your Ladyshyps accustomed
 curtesie, that you wyl fauourably receiue vnto your defence this see-
 ly gift of mine, I wyl not enter into excuse of my bolde attempt
 in translating it, submitting mee selfe to the censure of the
 wyse and honest, who I knowe wyl with your Ladyshyp
 haue respect to my good meaning, and shadowe such
 faultes as they fynde, with their gentle inter-
 pretation. Thus God blesse your Lady-
 shyp, and make you happy in al
 your doynge.

Your Ladyshyps for euer to
 commaunde. H. C.