

Dédicace de Freewill

Auteur : Cheke, Henry

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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

Date 1573

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Éditeur Jugge, Richard

Langue Anglais

Source [Google Books](#)

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- Traduction
- Tragédie

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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 bestowre
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 trae 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 foorth great and plentyfull deſartes of prayſe, wherof I
choose rather to be a true reporter when ſo ener I am asked, then
with my rude ſtyle to debase a thyng worthy ſo bygh commendati-
on. Neyther am I aſhamed in this poyn̄ to confeſſe myne o'ne
weakenesse, (for I knowe few haue attayned to that excellencie aſ
they could ryghtly commend vertuo) neyther yet can I but be ſory,
that nature bauyng geuen me iudgement to thynke truely of your
tr̄ue nobilitie, hath denyed me ablenesse to ſpeakē worthyly of it. My
grefe is the greater, because I acknowledge mee ſelfe moſte bounde
therunto of all others, no one beyng not onely well acquainted with
your vertuous behauour, and ſo a true witneſſe of the ſame, but also
bauyng received great benefites at your handes, and ſo forced by

duetie to be a wyllyng reporter of your good ryghtes. But in this I rest
satisfid, that yelbough I am, a suffyngayster of your vertues,
yet your Ladyships good charites shalbe an open testimonie of my
true opinion; and the worlde shal see, that albeit I want curuyng to
commende worthyly, yet I want not good wyl to shaker what I
thynde 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 Ladysyps, 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 therfore I nothing suspect your
good acceptyng of this booke, wheriu is set foorth in manner of a
Tragedie, the deuyly foraine of the Popishe religion, whiche pre-
tendeth holynesse onely for gayne, and treadeth Christe under foote,
to set vp wicked Mammon. The papistical opinion of free wil, is here
lyke wyse excellently confuted, and our election manifestly provoued
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. I bryshawng assured hope of your Ladysyps accustomed
curtesie, that you wyl fauourably receive vnto your defence this see-
ly gift of mine, I wyl not enter into excuse of my bolde attempt
in translating it, submitting me selfe to the censure of the
wyse and honest, who I knowe wyl with your Ladyshyp
baine respect to my good meaning, and shadome such
faultes as they finde, with theyr gentle inter-
pretation. Thus God blesse your Ladyshyp, and make you happy in al
your doynges.

Your Ladyships for ever to
commaunde, H. C.