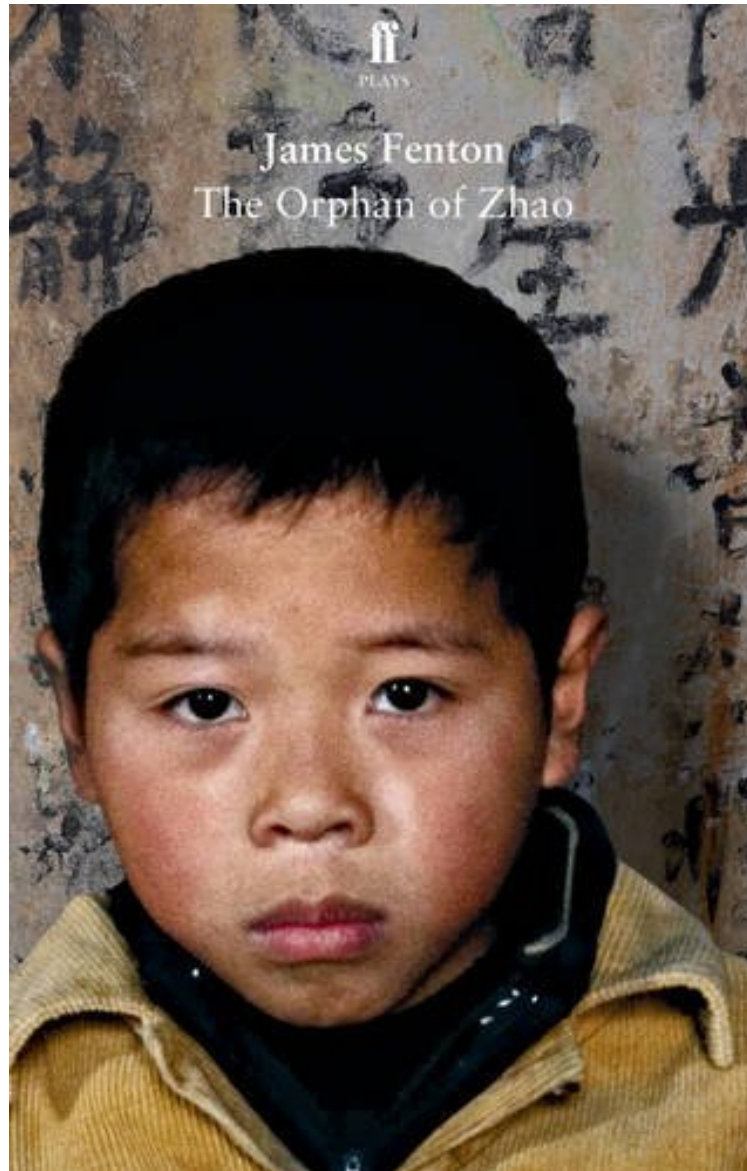


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## The Orphan of Zhao

*James Fenton*

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**James Fenton : The Orphan of Zhao** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Orphan of Zhao:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. a beautiful and moving bookBy tribecanAn exquisitely told tale, in verse and prose, of the violent world of the emperor's court in China, and how a lord's cruelty was finally avenged. Written by the greatest living British poet, and a remarkable work.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Avoid the Kindle versionBy A. ChenThe Kindle version has no formatting. I was reading and couldn't understand

what was going on until I realized that the character names and the dialogue are all merged together and it takes some work to decipher who is speaking and what they're saying. Get the print version.

In the aftermath of the massacre of a clan, an epic story of self-sacrifice and revenge unfolds as a young orphan discovers the shattering truth behind his childhood. Sometimes referred to as the Chinese Hamlet and tracing its origins to the 4th century BC, *The Orphan of Zhao* was the first Chinese play to be translated in the West. James Fenton's adaptation of *The Orphan of Zhao* premiered with the RSC at the Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon in November 2012.

**About the Author** James Fenton was born in Lincoln in 1949 and educated at Magdalen College, Oxford where he won the Newdigate Prize for poetry. He has worked as political journalist, drama critic, book reviewer, war correspondent, foreign correspondent and columnist. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and was Oxford Professor of Poetry for the period 1994-99. In 2007, James Fenton was awarded the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry. He is editor of *The New Faber Book of Love Poems*. *Yellow Tulips: Poems 1968-2011* was published by Faber and Faber in 2012.