

Published in 2016, *It Ends with Us* is a romance novel, the first in a duology. The novel tells the story of Lily Bloom, a young woman from an abusive home who struggles to find her way in the world without recreating the patterns of violence from her youth. Moving between Lily's present and diary entries from her adolescence, the novel explores the complex nexus of love and abuse. The novel won the 2016 Goodreads Choice Award for Best Romance and has been optioned for a feature film.

First performed around 1600, *Hamlet* tells the story of a prince whose duty to revenge his father's death entangles him in philosophical problems he can't solve. [Shakespeare's](#) best-known play is widely regarded as the most influential literary work ever written. Read a [character analysis of Hamlet](#), the [plot summary](#), and [important quotes](#).

Act I

Scene i

Two guards at Elsinore Castle see the ghost of the recently dead King Hamlet. Horatio decides to tell Hamlet.

[Read a full Summary & Analysis of Act I: Scene i.](#)

Scene ii

Gertrude and King Claudius, who are recently married, ask Hamlet to stay in Denmark a while longer. Horatio tells Hamlet about the ghost.

[Read a full Summary & Analysis of Act I: Scene ii.](#)

Scene iii

Laertes counsels his sister Ophelia not to fall in love with Hamlet, and their father Polonius agrees. Polonius advises Laertes on how to conduct himself at school.

Scene iv

Hamlet waits with Horatio and Marcellus for the ghost to appear. When it does appear, Hamlet runs after it, and the others follow.

[Read a full Summary & Analysis of Act I: Scenes iii & iv.](#)

Scene v

The ghost of Hamlet's father says that Claudius murdered him with poison, and that he wants Hamlet to kill Claudius, but spare Gertrude. Hamlet swears he will and tells his companions that he will pretend to be insane to get to the truth.

Act II

Scene i

Polonius sends money to his son Laertes, and Ophelia tells her father that Hamlet is behaving strangely.

[Read a full Summary & Analysis of Act I: Scene v & Act II: Scene i.](#)

Scene ii

Claudius and Gertrude try to determine the cause of Hamlet's strange behavior, summoning help from two of his old friends, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern. A troupe of actors arrive. Hamlet plans to use the troupe to test Claudius.