

Tartuffe PDF (Limited Copy)

Molière



More Free Book



Scan to Download

Tartuffe Summary

"Hypocrisy Unveiled: The Deception Within"

Written by Books1

More Free Book



Scan to Download

About the book

In the dazzling world of 17th-century French comedy, Molière's "Tartuffe" unfolds like a symphony of wit, deception, and social satire. This timeless masterpiece delves deep into the labyrinth of human gullibility, exposing the perils of blending blind faith with naivety. Meet Orgon, a well-meaning but misguided protagonist, who falls under the mesmerizing influence of Tartuffe, an imposter cloaked in piety and virtue. As Molière artfully peels back the layers of deception, the intricate dynamics of family, religion, and trust are humorously explored, leading audiences on a roller-coaster of laughter and reflection. Bursting with clever repartees and moral undertones, "Tartuffe" is a comedy that challenges conventions and invites introspection—drawing readers into the vivid interplay of farce and reality, where nothing is quite what it seems.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

About the author

Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, universally known by his stage name Molière, was an iconic French playwright and actor whose work has overshadowed the boundaries of time and class. Born on January 15, 1622, in Paris, Molière belonged to an affluent family and was initially destined to inherit the family tapestry business. However, drawn to the allure of theater, he abandoned this path to form "L'Illustre Théâtre" at age 21. Facing multiple challenges, including a stint in debtor's prison, Molière's fortitude led him to tour the provinces, where he honed his craft. Upon his return to Paris, with the patronage of Louis XIV, he became the king's official playwright and produced a litany of exceptional plays that married sharp wit with profound societal reflection. Renowned for his work in comedy, Molière's genius lay in his ability to blend humor with a critical eye on hypocrisies and follies, as exemplified in classics such as "Tartuffe," "The Misanthrope," and "The Misérables." His works continue to resonate, reflecting Molière's timeless brilliance and deep understanding of the human condition.

More Free Book



Scan to Download



Try Bookey App to read 1000+ summary of world best books

Unlock **1000+** Titles, **80+** Topics

New titles added every week

- Brand
- Leadership & Collaboration
- Time Management
- Relationship & Communication
- Business Strategy
- Creativity
- Public
- Money & Investing
- Know Yourself
- Positive Psychology
- Entrepreneurship
- World History
- Parent-Child Communication
- Self-care
- Mind & Spirituality

Insights of world best books



Free Trial with Bookey



Summary Content List

Chapter 1: Scene 1

Chapter 2: Scene 2

Chapter 3: Scene 5

Chapter 4: Scene 6

Chapter 5: Scene 2

Chapter 6: Scene 3

Chapter 7: Scene 4

Chapter 8: Scene 3

Chapter 9: Scene 6

Chapter 10: Scene 7

Chapter 11: Scene 1

Chapter 12: Scene 3

Chapter 13: Scene 5

Chapter 14: Scene 1

Chapter 15: Scene 3

Chapter 16: Scene 4

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 17: Scene 6

Chapter 18: Scene 7

Chapter 19: Scene 8

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 1 Summary: Scene 1

In the opening scene of this particular chapter, a diverse group of characters is introduced, establishing the household dynamics and the conflict revolving around the titular character, Tartuffe. The scene begins with Madame Pernelle, distinguished as a critical and overbearing matriarch, preparing to leave the house. Her entourage includes her servant, Flipotte, with whom she displays impatience and a quick temper. Madame Pernelle criticizes everyone within the household, reflecting her dissatisfaction and disapproval of their behaviors.

Elmire, the daughter-in-law, courteously attempts to placate Madame Pernelle, but her efforts are dismissed as Madame Pernelle accuses the household of disrespect and disruptiveness. The servants and children, including Dorine, Damis, and Mariane, each have attempts to reason or defend themselves rebuffed. Madame Pernelle is particularly scathing towards her family, criticizing their actions while promoting adherence to Tartuffe, the household's dominant new influence she speaks highly of.

Tartuffe, though absent from this scene, is revealed through the dialogue as a pious and seemingly controlling figure whose devout nature and influence on the father, Orgon, are contentious points. Madame Pernelle stands firmly in support of Tartuffe, insisting his guidance is heaven-sent and that he seeks only to correct their sinful ways. Damis, Elmire's son, expresses his strong



disapproval of Tartuffe's overbearing presence and anticipates an eventual conflict with him.

As the conversation unfolds, Cleante, the voice of reason, tries to suggest that they must not live in fear of idle talk and should instead focus on their innocence. Dorine, the outspoken maid, describes her disdain towards Tartuffe's influence and the hypocrisy of such a figure who seems to use religion as a tool for manipulation. She offers a sharp critique of society's morals, juxtaposing Tartuffe's outward piety with inner corruption. Madame Pernelle, nevertheless, remains oblivious and defensive, unwilling to consider any criticism against Tartuffe.

Throughout the scene, the household's lively banter highlights the tension between perceived virtue and true morality, setting a tone of satire and humor. This discord serves as a catalyst for the unfolding events, laying the groundwork for the upheaval that Tartuffe's character is bound to incite among the family, hinting at the broader themes of deception and false appearances that Molière's "Tartuffe" is renowned for.



Critical Thinking

Key Point: The danger of blindly following authority

Critical Interpretation: Through the exchanges in the opening scene, Molière skillfully demonstrates the perils of surrendering one's own judgments and moral compass to an authoritarian figure without question. As you navigate life's various relationships, it's crucial to recognize the potential for manipulation that can arise from blindly placing trust in proclaimed virtue, much like Madame Pernelle's unfaltering support for Tartuffe. Her unwavering advocacy highlights the necessity of maintaining discernment and questioning intentions, particularly when confronted with individuals who wield influence under the guise of moral superiority. In your journey, cultivate the courage to challenge misguided influences and prioritize genuine integrity over appeasing external authorities. This practice can guide you towards making informed decisions that truly resonate with your values, ensuring your actions align with authenticity rather than deceitful pretenses.



Chapter 2 Summary: Scene 2

In Scene 2 of Molière's play, we find Cléante and Dorine in conversation, expressing their frustration and bemusement over the behavior of their family members who have become beguiled by Tartuffe, a pious-looking but unscrupulous impostor. Cléante mentions an incident where he chose not to escort an unnamed older lady, likely Madame Pernelle, fearing her sharp tongue and unnecessarily hostile demeanor.

Dorine sarcastically remarks on how this lady would chide Cléante for considering her "old," revealing her touchy nature. The conversation shifts to highlight Madame Pernelle's unreasonable anger and her blind adoration for Tartuffe. However, Dorine notes that Madame Pernelle's obsession is minor compared to her son, Orgon's.

Orgon, once esteemed for his valor and dedication to the king, has completely surrendered his judgment to Tartuffe's influence. He idolizes Tartuffe excessively, treating him with affection that surpasses even the love for his own family. Tartuffe occupies the most honored place at the dinner table, indulging in excess while Orgon watches admiringly, mistaking gluttony for grace. Orgon perceives Tartuffe's simplest actions as profound, his words as wise, and his presence as divine, ignoring the fact that Tartuffe manipulates his trust to swindle him of his wealth under the guise of virtue.



Even Tartuffe's lackey, a conceited servant, takes liberties, lecturing others with pretentious airs and tearing into anything he deems inappropriate. For instance, he condemned a woman's mixing of a decorative scarf with a religious text, portraying the family's growing fanaticism under Tartuffe's misleading sanctity.

This scene illustrates the theme of deception and highlights how Tartuffe, exploiting religious pretense, ensnares Orgon and his mother in his web, disrupting the family with his hypocritical morality and controlling influence.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Critical Thinking

Key Point: The Importance of Critical Thinking

Critical Interpretation: This scene of 'Tartuffe' serves as a reminder of the essential role critical thinking plays in our lives. As you navigate your daily encounters, it's easy to fall prey to those who wear masks of virtue, exploiting your trust for their gain. Through Dorine's and Cléante's observations, you're invited to reflect on the significance of questioning appearances and intentions. Their dialogue reveals how unchecked admiration can cloud judgment, leading to blind allegiance that may jeopardize personal integrity and family unity. Thus, this chapter encourages you to champion discernment and maintain skepticism when faced with seemingly pious individuals who may have ulterior motives.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 3 Summary: Scene 5

In this scene, the three characters—Orgon, his brother-in-law Cléante, and the maid Dorine—uncover key dynamics among the family members and the pious imposter, Tartuffe, with revealing comic irony.

Orgon greets Cléante and expresses eagerness to catch up on family matters during his absence. Cléante hints at underlying tensions, but Orgon gets straight to inquiring about the family's well-being, particularly focusing on his wife and Tartuffe, a man he reveres as a spiritual guide.

Dorine provides a detailed account of the recent days, highlighting the pronounced contrast between Orgon's wife's suffering and Tartuffe's indulgent lifestyle. She reports that Orgon's wife has been ill with a severe headache and fever but doesn't miss the opportunity to describe Tartuffe as robust and healthy, which Orgon responds to only with sympathy for Tartuffe, blind to his hypocrisy.

Dorine's elaboration includes vivid descriptions: while Orgon's wife was too nauseous to eat and sleepless from the fever, Tartuffe dined extravagantly, consumed substantial meals, and slept soundly, indifferent to his hostess's misery. Even when Dorine explains that his wife's condition improved only after a medical procedure, Orgon remains fixated on Tartuffe, demonstrating his misplaced adoration.



The maid concludes by sarcastically noting Tartuffe’s ability to restore his spirits with wine, again in stark contrast to his mistress's ailments. The scene ends with Dorine informing Orgon that she will relay his concern for his wife—implying how his attentiveness is comically misplaced towards Tartuffe—highlighting his naivety and the hold that Tartuffe has over him.

This scene sets the stage for the later unraveling of Tartuffe’s deception and Orgon’s gradual awakening to his favorite's deceit, establishing Cléante and Dorine as voices of reason in the unfolding narrative.

Character	Action	Significance
Orgon	Greets Cléante and inquires about family, focusing on his wife and Tartuffe.	Reveals his preference and blind devotion towards Tartuffe compared to his family.
Cléante	Hints at family tensions.	Acts as a subtle voice of reason, sensing underlying issues with Tartuffe.
Dorine	Describes the contrast between Orgon’s wife’s illness and Tartuffe’s indulgence.	Illustrates the dynamic of hypocrisy and misplaced sympathy in Orgon's behavior.
Tartuffe	Lives indulgently and robustly amidst the family's struggles.	Embodies the deceptive and hypocritical nature of the character.
Orgon's Wife	Ill with severe headache and fever yet overlooked by Orgon.	Represents the ignored voice of suffering within the family due to Tartuffe's influence.



Critical Thinking

Key Point: Misplaced Faith and Awareness

Critical Interpretation: In Chapter 3 of 'Tartuffe' by Molière, you witness how Orgon's blind adoration for Tartuffe eclipses his concern for his ailing wife. This key dynamic unveils the pivotal theme of misplaced faith and the importance of awareness in one's relationships. Tartuffe stands as a symbol for those who exploit trust, offering a valuable lesson in being vigilant and critically discerning in whom you place your confidence. The characters Cléante and Dorine serve as beacons of wisdom, reminding you to see beyond surface appearances and question actions against words. Tap into this insight, and let it inspire you to evaluate the alliances in your life, placing faith in those who truly align with integrity rather than facade. Cultivate attentiveness to the quieter voices of truth, even when they may initially be lost in the clamor of deceit.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 4: Scene 6

In Scene 6, the dialogue between Orgon and Cléante in Molière's "Tartuffe" unfolds with Cléante attempting to reason with his brother-in-law, Orgon, about his blind devotion to Tartuffe. Tartuffe is a character portrayed as a pious and humble man, but whose sincerity and intentions are questionable. Orgon, however, is completely smitten by Tartuffe's apparent devotion, recounting how Tartuffe's expressions of humility and piety have transformed his own worldview. He describes Tartuffe as someone who shows passionate prayers in church, humbles himself publicly, and expresses his unworthiness when given charity.

Cléante tries to highlight the risk of confusing genuine devotion with hypocrisy. He critiques Orgon's extreme affection for Tartuffe and questions the wisdom of ignoring the differences between authentic faith and deceitful fervor. Cléante emphasizes the importance of distinguishing true religious figures from those who exploit faith for personal gain. His perspective points to the dangers of failing to see through people's pretenses, especially when religion is manipulated to cover selfish motives.

Despite Cléante's arguments, Orgon remains adamant, dismissing his brother-in-law's criticisms as atheistic and asserting his conviction in Tartuffe's righteousness as unwavering. The conversation then pivots to another topic: the marriage of Orgon's daughter, which had been promised to



Valère. Cléante reminds Orgon of his commitment, but Orgon's evasive responses suggest he may have other intentions—reflecting his indecision or possible influence by Tartuffe's schemes.

As Cléante is left with uncertainty about Orgon's plans, he realizes the urgency to inform Valère of the precarious situation. This scene captures the central conflict: Orgon's misguided faith in Tartuffe and its potential consequences on his family and their lives.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Why Bookey is must have App for Book Lovers



30min Content

The deeper and clearer interpretation we provide, the better grasp of each title you have.



Text and Audio format

Absorb knowledge even in fragmented time.



Quiz

Check whether you have mastered what you just learned.



And more

Multiple Voices & fonts, Mind Map, Quotes, IdeaClips...

Free Trial with Bookey



Chapter 5 Summary: Scene 2

In Scene 2 of Molière's play, we witness a family confrontation that unveils tensions between personal desires, societal expectations, and familial duty. Orgon, the patriarch, is in conversation with his daughter Mariane and the family's outspoken maid, Dorine. The scene revolves around Orgon's insistence that Mariane should marry Tartuffe, a seemingly devout and impoverished man who has ingratiated himself with Orgon, rather than Valère, to whom she is already promised.

Orgon opens the scene by expressing how he believes Tartuffe's noble character and piety are worthy of admiration and insinuates that Mariane should confirm this by accepting him as her future husband. Mariane, confused and incredulous, seeks clarity from her father, only to be met with firm insistence that he has settled the matter. Orgon is resolved to incorporate Tartuffe into the family, despite Mariane's silent dismay and apparent hesitation.

Dorine enters the fray with her characteristic boldness and skepticism. She challenges the absurdity of Orgon's decision, suggesting that Tartuffe's financial desperation and supposed piety do not make him a suitable match for Mariane. Dorine's arguments strike at the heart of societal norms, suggesting that a forced marriage devoid of genuine affection could lead to moral and social ruin.



Orgon, undeterred by resistance, dismisses Dorine's arguments and remains committed to his decision, attempting vainly to persuade them that Tartuffe's present misfortunes are noble sacrifices that reflect his spiritual dedication. Orgon views this as an opportunity to support a pious man who, he believes, will bring divine blessings. The tension heightens as Dorine fearlessly counters, warning of the reputational dangers and personal unhappiness Mariane might face if compelled to wed a man she does not love.

Despite Dorine's relentless counterpoints, Orgon is determined to maintain control, emphasizing his paternal authority over Mariane. Nonetheless, the discord leaves him frustrated, and he exits the scene to compose himself, leaving unresolved tension and underlying defiance in his wake.

This scene critically highlights themes of authority, deception, and the struggle between personal autonomy and societal duties. Orgon's blind reverence for Tartuffe sets the stage for the unfolding drama, questioning the true nature of piety and virtue within the play.



Chapter 6 Summary: Scene 3

In Scene 3, we encounter a tense discussion between Mariane and Dorine, set in a time when a father's authority in arranging his daughter's marriage was rarely questioned. Mariane is troubled by her father's plan to wed her to Tartuffe, a man she does not love. Dorine, her sharp-witted maid, is exasperated by Mariane's passive acceptance of this unwanted betrothal.

As the scene unfolds, Dorine challenges Mariane's lack of opposition, encouraging her to assert her personal autonomy by arguing that love is a personal matter—one cannot love by proxy. She suggests that Mariane should directly convey to her father that marrying Tartuffe should be his responsibility if he finds him so captivating, playfully suggesting that since her father is so enamored with Tartuffe, he might as well marry him himself.

Mariane, however, is torn. Though she deeply loves Valère, her desired suitor, she feels duty-bound by her father's wishes and is afraid to go against him. Dorine, deeply skeptical of genuine love without courage, questions whether Mariane truly loves Valère if she refuses to fight for him.

The conversation escalates as Mariane defensively reaffirms her love for Valère but reveals that her only plan to avoid the oppressive match is to resort to despair—hinting at drastic measures like suicide, which ironically frustrates Dorine even further.



Dorine sarcastically mocks the idea of Mariane marrying Tartuffe, painting a ludicrous picture of what Mariane's life might be like, surrounded by Tartuffe's simple circle of friends and relatives. She humorously imagines dreary social engagements, blatantly contrasting Mariane's passionate love for Valère with the dull prospects of a life with Tartuffe.

In the end, Dorine's compassion shines through her sassy facade as she relents and admits she will help Mariane avoid this forced marriage. Mariane's declaration of despair softens Dorine's resolve, indicating her intent to collaborate in finding a solution. Their dialogue closes on a glimmer of hope as Dorine vouches to find a way to prevent the union just as Valère, Mariane's beloved, enters the scene, potentially adding another layer to the plot.

This passage cleverly foreshadows the conflict between personal desires and societal expectations while introducing the central tension around Tartuffe—a character whose true nature will unfold as the story progresses.



Critical Thinking

Key Point: Challenge societal expectations to protect personal happiness

Critical Interpretation: In this chapter, you're invited to witness the clash between societal norms and individual desires. It's a vivid reminder of the courage needed to challenge imposed expectations when they obstruct personal happiness. As Dorine urges Mariane to assert her own will, you're inspired to reflect on the roles you play in your own life. Are there instances where you might hesitate to confront social pressures that stifle your true desires? Mariane's hesitation and Dorine's bold challenges compel you to consider whether fear might hold you back from pursuing what you genuinely cherish. Embrace the essence of Dorine's advice: don't allow societal norms to dictate your life's direction if they lead away from joy and fulfillment. This narrative encourages you to be an active player rather than a passive participant, actively shaping your story and prioritizing your own happiness and well-being over unrealistic societal expectations. Through Dorine's witty yet insightful guidance, you're empowered to adopt a more passionate and assertive stance toward your own personal aspirations.



Chapter 7 Summary: Scene 4

In this scene from Molière's comic play, we witness a tense and emotional exchange between Valère, Mariane, and Dorine. Valère, a young man in love with Mariane, is shocked to learn of her father's plan to marry her off to the hypocritical Tartuffe—a man who pretends to be pious but is actually deceitful.

Valère directly confronts Mariane about the news. She confirms that her father indeed has arranged this unwelcome marriage, but she remains unsure about how to respond to the proposal. In a moment of pride and frustration, Valère advises her, with apparent sarcasm, to marry Tartuffe. Mariane, in a similar display of wounded pride, pretends to agree wholeheartedly with his suggestion. This leads to a heated argument where each accuses the other of betrayal and indifference.

Dorine, Mariane's maid, who is more astute and sensible, watches this exchange from a distance, hoping to see how it unfolds. She eventually intervenes, attempting to mediate between them. Dorine understands that both Valère and Mariane are too proud and emotional to see through their misunderstandings. She brings them face to face and, with some effort, reconciles them by making them hold hands, highlighting their mutual affection despite their quarrel.



Dorine then shifts the focus to the urgent problem at hand: how to thwart Mariane's impending marriage to Tartuffe. She suggests that Mariane should feign consent temporarily but employ various tactics to delay the marriage—such as suddenly falling ill or citing superstitions as excuses—while Valère should rally his friends to persuade her father otherwise. Dorine trusts that if they can create enough delay, the foolish plan might unravel on its own.

The scene ends with Dorine gently but firmly nudging both lovers to take action: Valère must work through his connections, while Mariane should keep her father's whims at bay, all without getting caught together. As they each go their separate ways, Valère is left encouraged by Mariane's assurance that despite her father's plans, she will belong to no one but him. The scene maintains its humorous tone through Dorine's witty remarks and the lovers' ongoing complaints, as she ushers them off in different directions to execute their plans.



Chapter 8: Scene 3

In this scene from Molière's play, we find Elmire, the wife of Orgon, speaking privately with Tartuffe, a man who has ingratiated himself into their household under the guise of piety. Tartuffe begins the conversation by expressing his pious hopes for Elmire's health, which she modestly acknowledges before steering the conversation towards a more personal matter.

As they sit and talk, Tartuffe takes the opportunity to subtly express his romantic interest in Elmire, despite his religious pretense. Elmire, aware of Tartuffe's manipulation and underhandedness, remains outwardly polite but deflects his advances. She questions him about the rumor that her husband, Orgon, plans to break his promise to marry their daughter Mariane to Valere, instead arranging her marriage to Tartuffe.

Tartuffe hints that Orgon indeed mentioned such plans, but he also confesses to Elmire that his true affection is for her, cloaking it in the guise of an admiration for her heavenly beauty that he argues does not contradict his spiritual devotion. Elmire listens to Tartuffe's declarations of love, which he presents as an unavoidable human weakness, and challenges whether she should inform her husband of his indiscretions.

Tartuffe responds by appealing to Elmire's generosity and discretion,



confident she won't betray him. He capitalizes on her silence by suggesting his pursuit of her would be discreet, unlike other men's boastful tendencies. Elmire, demonstrating her cunning, hints that she might not tell her husband but asks in return that Tartuffe support Valere's marriage to Mariane, implying she wants him to give up his pursuit of her daughter.

This exchange reveals Tartuffe's duplicitous nature and sets the stage for Elmire's strategic maneuvering to protect her family from his schemes. Elmire's astuteness ensures she can navigate Tartuffe's advances while maintaining the upper hand.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Positive feedback

Sara Scholz

...tes after each book summary
...understanding but also make the
...and engaging. Bookey has
...ding for me.

Fantastic!!!



I'm amazed by the variety of books and languages
Bookey supports. It's not just an app, it's a gateway
to global knowledge. Plus, earning points for charity
is a big plus!

Masood El Toure

Fi



Ab
bo
to
my

José Botín

...ding habit
...o's design
...ual growth

Love it!



Bookey offers me time to go through the
important parts of a book. It also gives me enough
idea whether or not I should purchase the whole
book version or not! It is easy to use!

Wonnie Tappkx

Time saver!



Bookey is my go-to app for
summaries are concise, ins
curated. It's like having acc
right at my fingertips!

Awesome app!



I love audiobooks but don't always have time to listen
to the entire book! bookey allows me to get a summary
of the highlights of the book I'm interested in!!! What a
great concept !!!highly recommended!

Rahul Malviya

Beautiful App



This app is a lifesaver for book lovers with
busy schedules. The summaries are spot
on, and the mind maps help reinforce wh
I've learned. Highly recommend!

Alex Walk

Free Trial with Bookey



Chapter 9 Summary: Scene 6

In Scene 6 of this dramatic work, we witness a fraught confrontation involving Orgon, his son Damis, and the central character Tartuffe. Orgon, head of the household, is struggling to reconcile opposing narratives concerning Tartuffe, a man who has wormed his way into Orgon's trust. Tartuffe has positioned himself as a pious and humble figure, but suspicions about his hypocritical nature have been raised by other family members.

Orgon enters the scene astounded by what he is hearing and confronts Tartuffe, who launches into an exaggerated confession of guilt. Despite Tartuffe's self-deprecating admission of being a "wicked" and "miserable sinner," Orgon refuses to believe any allegations against him. He is swept away by Tartuffe's display of feigned humility. Tartuffe's self-flagellating declaration that he is the "greatest criminal that ever lived" is a manipulative ploy, one aimed at intensifying Orgon's protective instincts towards him.

Damis tries to expose Tartuffe's hypocrisy, but Orgon silences him with growing anger, perceiving Damis's attempt to tarnish Tartuffe's supposed virtue as rebellious and ungrateful. Despite Damis's insistence on Tartuffe's deceit, Orgon is obstinate in his allegiance to Tartuffe and continues to misinterpret Tartuffe's pretense for genuine integrity.

In a dramatic twist designed to assert his authority over the family and to



solidify Tartuffe's position, Orgon resolves to marry his daughter to Tartuffe, a decision he makes partly out of spite towards his discontented family. This resolution is a clear demonstration of Orgon's obstinacy and his determination to cling to his misguided trust. He challenges Damis's defiance with escalating threats, eventually disowning and banishing his son from the household for refusing to apologize to Tartuffe.

This scene starkly highlights the theme of deception and betrayal wrapped in religious hypocrisy and familial conflict, common in classic comedic works exploring the gullibility and misplaced loyalties of individuals when confronted with charismatic deceit.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 10 Summary: Scene 7

In Scene 7 of *Tartuffe* by Molière, we see the manipulative character Tartuffe conversing with Orgon, the head of the household who has been thoroughly deceived by Tartuffe's false piety and sanctity. The scene begins with Orgon defending Tartuffe against an unseen accusation, demonstrating how deeply he trusts Tartuffe, whom he believes to be a "saintly man of God." Tartuffe, skilled in deceit, feigns distress over the alleged insults and tries to appear magnanimous by asking for forgiveness for those who slander him.

Orgon, emotionally overwhelmed, immediately regrets harshly dismissing his son, Damis, who had earlier tried to expose Tartuffe's true nature. Orgon's reaction underscores his misguided devotion to Tartuffe. Tartuffe takes advantage of the situation, suggesting that perhaps he should leave the house to avoid causing Orgon further trouble and strife. Orgon vehemently rejects this idea, insisting that he will never doubt Tartuffe's integrity and will not listen to the accusations against him.

In a calculated move, Tartuffe expresses concerns that Orgon's wife, Elmire, could be a source of deceit, subtly planting the seeds of doubt. Nevertheless, he maintains that in order to avoid scandal and protect Orgon's honor, he should distance himself from Elmire, while actually doing the opposite of pulling away.



Orgon, wrapped up in his blind loyalty, insists that Tartuffe should remain close—so much so that it would provoke the household's critics. In his zeal, he declares that he will make Tartuffe his heir, elevating him above even his own family members, and immediately plans to transfer all his property to him, formalizing this decision with legal documents.

Tartuffe humbly accepts, hiding his triumph behind a facade of submission to "Heaven's will," which further fools Orgon into believing in Tartuffe's righteousness. The scene is a masterful demonstration of Tartuffe's cunning and Orgon's susceptibility to manipulation, driving the narrative toward its impending conflicts and complications.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 11 Summary: Scene 1

In this scene from "Tartuffe," a play by Molière, we witness a heated exchange between Cléante and Tartuffe, two pivotal characters. Cléante is a voice of reason and serves as the moral compass, while Tartuffe is portrayed as a hypocritical religious figure who manipulates others under the guise of piety.

The scene begins with Cléante addressing Tartuffe about the current scandal that has gripped the town. There is tension in the household as Damis, the son of the family, has accused Tartuffe of wrongdoings. Cléante suggests that even if Damis's accusations are false, a true Christian should forgive and work towards reconciliation rather than seeking vengeance, highlighting the importance of familial harmony over petty quarrels.

Tartuffe, feigning humility, claims he harbors no ill will towards Damis and would gladly forgive him. However, he insists that if Damis stays, he must leave, arguing that his continued presence would only lead to further scandal. Tartuffe suggests that his departure would prevent people from suspecting him of scheming to secure silence from his accuser and acting from guilty motives.

Cléante challenges Tartuffe's reasoning, criticizing his justification as mere pretension. He argues that true religious faith does not involve taking God's



role in delivering punishment but rather commands forgiveness and moral integrity. Cléante further accuses Tartuffe of using piety as an excuse to seize the family estate, which, by rights, belongs to Damis.

Tartuffe counters by claiming that he has no desire for worldly possessions and that he only accepts the estate to ensure it is used for virtuous purposes, insinuating that others may misuse it. Cléante, unimpressed, urges Tartuffe to reconsider forgoing the estate for the rightful heir's sake. He suggests that Tartuffe's refusal to leave the family home gracefully not only injures the family but also casts doubt on Tartuffe's integrity.

The scene ends with Tartuffe excusing himself for religious devotions, leaving Cléante exasperated. This interaction unveils Tartuffe's manipulative nature and his exploitation of religious rhetoric for personal gain, setting the stage for further conflict and the unraveling of his deception.



Critical Thinking

Key Point: True faith prioritizes forgiveness over vengeance.

Critical Interpretation: In this pivotal interaction from 'Tartuffe,' the character Cléante underscores a timeless truth: genuine faith should always champion forgiveness over the need for revenge. As you navigate life's challenges, consider how embracing forgiveness can lead to reconciliation and peace, rather than perpetuating cycles of hostility and resentment. In moments of personal conflict or disagreement, let go of the desire for retaliation. Instead, choose the higher path of healing and understanding. By doing so, you cultivate an environment of compassion and mutual respect, fostering harmonious relationships and personal growth.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 12: Scene 3

In this scene, Orgon has gathered his family together to announce his decision regarding his daughter Mariane's marriage. Orgon, the head of the household, plans to fulfill a contract that he believes will bring happiness to Mariane, although it involves marrying her off to a man she despises. Mariane, in great distress, pleads with her father, Orgon, to reconsider his decision. She implores him not to force her into a marriage that would make her miserable, even suggesting she would prefer the austere life of a convent over such misery. Her plea is met with Orgon's determination to stand firm and unyielding, dismissing her wishes as foolishness.

Dorine, the family's outspoken and perceptive maid, tries to interject, but Orgon harshly silences her. Cleante, Orgon's sensible brother-in-law, offers to provide counsel. However, Orgon rejects Cleante's advice, insisting that he chooses not to follow it. Elmire, Orgon's strong-willed wife, is exasperated by Orgon's blind admiration for the man they suspect is manipulating him, Tartuffe. She confronts Orgon, expressing disbelief at his stubbornness despite the evidence against Tartuffe's virtuous facade.

Orgon dismisses Elmire's warnings, insinuating that her calm demeanor during Tartuffe's inappropriate advances is suspicious. Elmire argues that not every threat to a woman's virtue requires a dramatic response. She prefers a composed and quiet approach to rebuffing unwanted advances, opposing



those who react with outrage and aggression.

Elmire challenges Orgon's disbelief and proposes a plan to expose Tartuffe's true nature. She suggests that Orgon hide and witness Tartuffe's misconduct with his own eyes, asserting that if Orgon were to see it for himself, he wouldn't be able to dispute the truth.

Intrigued yet still skeptical, Orgon agrees to Elmire's plan. Elmire instructs Dorine to summon Tartuffe, confident that his vanity will lead to his downfall. As Dorine goes to fetch Tartuffe, Elmire prepares Cleante and Mariane to withdraw, setting the stage for the revelation of Tartuffe's duplicity.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Read, Share, Empower

Finish Your Reading Challenge, Donate Books to African Children.

The Concept



This book donation activity is rolling out together with Books For Africa. We release this project because we share the same belief as BFA: For many children in Africa, the gift of books truly is a gift of hope.

The Rule



Earn 100 points



Redeem a book



Donate to Africa

Your learning not only brings knowledge but also allows you to earn points for charitable causes! For every 100 points you earn, a book will be donated to Africa.

Free Trial with Bookey



Chapter 13 Summary: Scene 5

In this scene from Molière's play **Tartuffe**, Elmire arranges a private meeting with Tartuffe, a man who has ingratiated himself with her family under the guise of piety. Elmire's husband, Orgon, who is oblivious to Tartuffe's true nature, hides under the table to eavesdrop, hoping to prove his family's accusations against Tartuffe unfounded.

Elmire begins by reassuring Tartuffe that she is glad their previous confrontation did not cause a permanent rift, despite Damis, Orgon's son, having accused Tartuffe of making advances toward her. Elmire deliberately feigns affection for Tartuffe to entice him to reveal his intentions, suggesting she was sincere in preventing his marriage to her stepdaughter since she harbors affection for him.

Tartuffe, initially skeptical of Elmire's sudden change of heart, expresses his desire for tangible proof of her feelings, casting doubt on her words without such confirmation. Elmire, in turn, coughs loudly to grab Orgon's attention, hoping to demonstrate Tartuffe's duplicity.

As Elmire continues to express her supposed affection, Tartuffe becomes increasingly emboldened, believing his charm has persuaded her, and downplays the moral implications by claiming that secret sins are not truly sinful. His attempts to justify his advances further demonstrate his



manipulation and hypocrisy.

Elmire's persistent cough not only signals Orgon but intensifies as she plays along with Tartuffe's demands, pretending to relent to his insistence for proof. She suggests opening the door to ensure no one is eavesdropping, cunningly orchestrating the scene for Orgon to witness Tartuffe's betrayal himself.

Throughout the scene, Elmire cleverly maneuvers to expose Tartuffe's hypocritical nature while thwarting his advances, hoping to finally convince her husband of the deception. Tartuffe, blinded by his desires, fails to perceive the trap, highlighting his moral failings and the impending unraveling of his facade.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Critical Thinking

Key Point: In moments of deception, wit and strategy can be powerful tools.

Critical Interpretation: In the intricate dance of deception between Elmire and Tartuffe, you learn the value of clever strategy and perceptiveness. Faced with Tartuffe's manipulative nature, Elmire uses her wit to turn the situation in her favor. Rather than confronting directly or forcefully, she orchestrates a scenario where the truth reveals itself, showcasing her intelligence and strategic thinking. This scene inspires you to approach challenges with a calm mind, trusting that logic and insight can unravel complicated situations. By observing Elmire, you realize that sometimes, outsmarting manipulators involves setting the stage for truth to unveil itself without forcing it.



Chapter 14 Summary: Scene 1

Summary of Scene 1:

In this scene, we find Orgon and Cléante engaged in a tense discussion about a pressing issue concerning a mysterious box. Orgon, clearly agitated, confesses that the box is a source of deep despair for him. This box was entrusted to Orgon by his friend Argas, who is currently in trouble and in exile. Argas's life and property seemingly depend on the documents contained within the box.

Orgon reveals that, due to a moral dilemma, he confided in someone we later understand to be Tartuffe, entrusting him with the box for safekeeping. Tartuffe, a seemingly pious man, used his cunning to convince Orgon that by doing so, Orgon would maintain a clear conscience and could deny any knowledge of the box if questioned.

Cléante, Orgon's brother-in-law, warns Orgon that he has acted too hastily by giving the box to Tartuffe. Cléante suggests that Tartuffe now holds significant power over Orgon and advises a more cautious approach to deal with the situation.

Reacting passionately, Orgon expresses his disillusionment with people's



supposed devoutness. He feels betrayed by Tartuffe, whom he had generously taken in, believing in his piety. Orgon's reaction is to reject all seemingly pious individuals.

Cléante, attempting to reason with Orgon, urges him to maintain balance and not to judge all devout people based on this single negative experience with Tartuffe. Cléante advises Orgon to differentiate true virtue from its counterfeit and to avoid rash decisions, ultimately recommending that Orgon steer clear of both deception and unwarranted cynicism.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 15 Summary: Scene 3

In Scene 3 of Molière's play, a heated discussion takes place between several family members and household servants regarding the deceitful actions of Tartuffe, a cunning and manipulative character who has ingratiated himself with the family under the guise of piety. Orgon, the head of the family, recounts his outrage and betrayal, explaining how he welcomed Tartuffe into his home, treated him like family, and even planned to give him his daughter's hand in marriage, only to discover Tartuffe's treachery when he attempted to seduce Orgon's wife, Elmire. Despite witnessing these events firsthand, Orgon finds himself at odds with his disbelieving mother, Madame Pernelle, who refuses to accept Tartuffe's guilt and insists that such virtuous men are often targets of envy and slander. This refusal prompts Orgon's frustration as he tries to convince her of Tartuffe's true nature and intentions.

Dorine, the outspoken maid, is quick to point out the irony of Orgon's situation, reminding him that he had previously dismissed their warnings about Tartuffe's character. Cleante, Orgon's brother-in-law, advises the family to focus their energies on protecting themselves from Tartuffe's potential retaliation rather than engaging in futile arguments. Meanwhile, Orgon's children, Damis and Mariane, express their disbelief at Tartuffe's audacity, while Cleante warns them against underestimating Tartuffe's ability to manipulate situations to his advantage.



Amidst the commotion, Elmire laments her role in the unfolding events, suggesting that had she known the extent of Tartuffe's deceit, she might have handled the situation differently. The scene ends abruptly with the entrance of Monsieur Loyal, whose unexpected visit signals more trouble for the family, leaving Orgon even more stressed and anxious as he prepares to face a new challenge.

This scene highlights the widespread conflict and chaos caused by Tartuffe's manipulations, emphasizing themes of hypocrisy, deception, and the difficulties in distinguishing true virtue from pretense.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 16: Scene 4

In Scene 4, we encounter a tense exchange between Orgon and Mr. Loyal, a court bailiff from Normandy, who arrives with a court order. The scene sets quite a dramatic turn of events as Mr. Loyal, representing the interests of Mr. Tartuffe, comes to inform Orgon that he must vacate his house. Mr. Loyal bears news that the house—and indeed all Orgon's goods—now belong to Tartuffe, due to a contract that Orgon had previously signed, unwittingly granting Tartuffe control over his estate.

Dorine, the astute maid of Orgon's household, initially intercepts Mr. Loyal at the back of the stage. Despite her attempt to keep him away, Mr. Loyal insists his visit is advantageous to Orgon and claims it won't be unwelcome. When he finally gains an audience with Orgon, he reveals his mission under the guise of civil manners, attempting to placate the household with assurances of adherence to legal and respectful procedures.

The revelation shocks Orgon and his family. Orgon, caught off guard, grapples with the reality that the man he regarded as a friend has now betrayed him to this extent. His brother-in-law, Cleante, advises Orgon to remain calm and potentially accept any reconciliatory gestures Mr. Loyal may offer. However, Mr. Loyal is unyielding and insists on the presence of his men to ensure the court's orders are adhered to, although he kindly offers to postpone the moving until the next day.



Orgon is left feeling utterly betrayed and humiliated by Tartuffe's action, as emotions run high amongst his family. Damis, Orgon's impulsive and hotheaded son, threatens Mr. Loyal, unable to contain his anger. Dorine makes her disdain for Mr. Loyal's actions clear, hinting at the irony of his character's name. Cleante, in an attempt to diffuse the situation, instructs Mr. Loyal to leave them in peace after handing over the official papers.

The chapter ends with Mr. Loyal departing, leaving Orgon furious and frustrated, feeling helpless in the face of Tartuffe's treachery. The tension between the characters highlights the dire consequences of Orgon's previous decisions and sets up the conflict's dramatic progression, illustrating how Tartuffe's manipulation continues to unravel the family.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





World's best ideas unlock your potential

Free Trial with Bookey



Scan to download



Chapter 17 Summary: Scene 6

In Scene 6, a group of characters including Valère, Orgon, Madame Pernelle, Elmire, Cléante, Mariane, Damis, and Dorine gather to address a pressing issue. Valère, a trusted friend, arrives with troubling news for Orgon, the head of the household. He reveals that a close friend, risking the secrecy typically demanded by state affairs, has informed him of an impending danger to Orgon.

Valère explains that Orgon's houseguest, Tartuffe, who has long deceived Orgon with false piety, has manipulated the situation to accuse Orgon of treason. Specifically, Tartuffe has presented a private strong-box, belonging to a state criminal, to the prince. Tartuffe claims that Orgon, by keeping this box, has failed in his duties as a subject of the state. A warrant for Orgon's arrest has been issued, and the danger is imminent. Tartuffe himself is accompanying the officer to ensure Orgon's capture.

Cléante, Orgon's brother-in-law and often the voice of reason, points out that Tartuffe's actions are merely a ploy to secure control over Orgon's property. Orgon, shocked and disillusioned, acknowledges the malicious nature of people. Valère insists that any delay could be disastrous and offers his carriage and a thousand louis to aid Orgon's escape, pledging to guide him to safety and remain until it is secure.



Orgon expresses his deep gratitude to Valère for his help and resolves to leave at once, wishing to repay Valère for his loyalty in the future. Cléante urges Orgon to hurry, as the assembled family begins to organize the escape plan to ensure that Orgon avoids arrest and finds refuge.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Critical Thinking

Key Point: Loyalty and Trust of True Friends

Critical Interpretation: In this pivotal chapter, Valère's loyalty is a beacon of hope amidst betrayal and impending danger. Despite the risk and potential repercussions, he selflessly steps forward, trusting his friendship with Orgon and offering both material and emotional support. In life, true friends are those who stand by your side in your darkest hours, offering aid without seeking personal gain. This chapter inspires us to value, nurture, and prioritize relationships founded on genuine trust and loyalty. By doing so, we cultivate a support system that serves as a refuge in challenging times, guiding us to safety through the storms of deceit and adversity.



Chapter 18 Summary: Scene 7

In Scene 7 of the play, the tension reaches its climax as Orgon, the head of a household, confronts Tartuffe, a scheming con-man pretending to be a pious and devout man. Tartuffe has managed to deceive Orgon and ingratiate himself with the family, ultimately manipulating Orgon into transferring his estate to him. This scene opens with Tartuffe stopping Orgon, as he is about to be arrested under the orders of the prince. Orgon, feeling betrayed, denounces Tartuffe as a traitor.

Tartuffe, unperturbed by Orgon's insults, adopts a facade of virtue, claiming he is merely fulfilling his duty. The other family members, including Cleante, Damis, Mariane, and Elmire, express their disdain and skepticism about Tartuffe's deceitful nature. They question the sincerity of Tartuffe's motives, accusing him of cloaking his selfish actions under the guise of religious piety and duty toward the prince.

The climax unfolds when Tartuffe believes he will see Orgon taken away while he reigns victorious. However, a dramatic twist occurs when the Officer, who was to arrest Orgon, reveals his true mission: arresting Tartuffe himself. It turns out that the prince, a character representing reason and justice, has seen through Tartuffe's duplicity. The prince's wisdom and discernment have uncovered Tartuffe's true character and criminal past, which includes a history of deceit and betrayal.



The Officer assures Orgon that the prince has nullified the transfer of Orgon's estate to Tartuffe, thus restoring Orgon's property and reputation. Furthermore, Orgon's recent loyalty to the prince and assistance in upholding his rights are acknowledged and honored by this turn of justice. The scene concludes with relief and rejoicing among Orgon's family and friends, each expressing gratitude for the prince's timely intervention and the restoration of peace and justice.

The scene underscores themes of deception, justice, and the triumph of true virtue over false piety, while highlighting the importance of wisdom and discernment in leadership, embodied by the prince who is able to recognize Tartuffe's true nature.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Critical Thinking

Key Point: Discernment in Leadership

Critical Interpretation: In life, it is crucial to develop the ability to see beyond the facade others present, much like the prince in 'Tartuffe.' This scene in Chapter 18 acts as a powerful reminder to hone your judgment and discernment. Many individuals will masquerade under the guise of virtue or competence, intent on leading you astray or manipulating situations to their advantage. It is your responsibility to question intentions and ensure actions align with values. Learn to harness discernment as a core leadership trait, distinguishing truth from deceit, to foster an environment where genuine integrity and ethical conduct can flourish. This ability not only protects you but also empowers others around you, enabling authentic connections and enduring trust.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 19 Summary: Scene 8

In Scene 8 of Molière's "Tartuffe," the resolution of the play's conflicts brings a sense of closure and anticipation for the characters' future. The scene gathers several characters—Madame Pernelle, Orgon, Elmire, Mariane, Cleante, Valere, Damis, and Dorine—for a final reflection on the play's events.

Cleante, the voice of reason and morality throughout the play, advises Orgon not to indulge in vengeance against Tartuffe, the hypocritical antagonist who has wronged him. Instead, Cleante suggests leaving Tartuffe to deal with the consequences of his actions. He proposes that they hope for Tartuffe's reform and the prince's forgiveness rather than nurturing resentment.

Orgon, who has been duped by Tartuffe's false piety but now sees the truth, agrees with Cleante. He resolves to express gratitude to the prince for his magnanimity, indicating a return to sanity and order in his household. Moreover, Orgon looks forward to celebrating the union of Mariane, his daughter, with Valere, the sincere lover, thereby restoring both familial harmony and personal redemption.

This final scene reflects Restoration themes, commonly found in French literature of the time, emphasizing forgiveness, gratitude, and social order. It restores a sense of justice and happiness under positive governance. It



contrasts with the preceding tension and deception, ensuring the audience experiences a satisfying resolution.

The ebook ends with an acknowledgment from Julie, the operator of the website Global Grey, where this ebook was published. She addresses readers regarding the book's acquisition and encourages support for her initiative, underlining the ethical considerations surrounding digital content.

The accompanying notes offer historical context, such as the reference to La Fronde, a series of civil wars in France during the minority of Louis XIV, and the tendencies in 17th-century dramatic verse, providing further insights into Molière's stylistic decisions.

Overall, this culminating scene resolves the play's complex web of deceit and virtue, emphasizing the restoration of moral and social order amidst the chaos sown by Tartuffe's manipulations.

More Free Book



Scan to Download