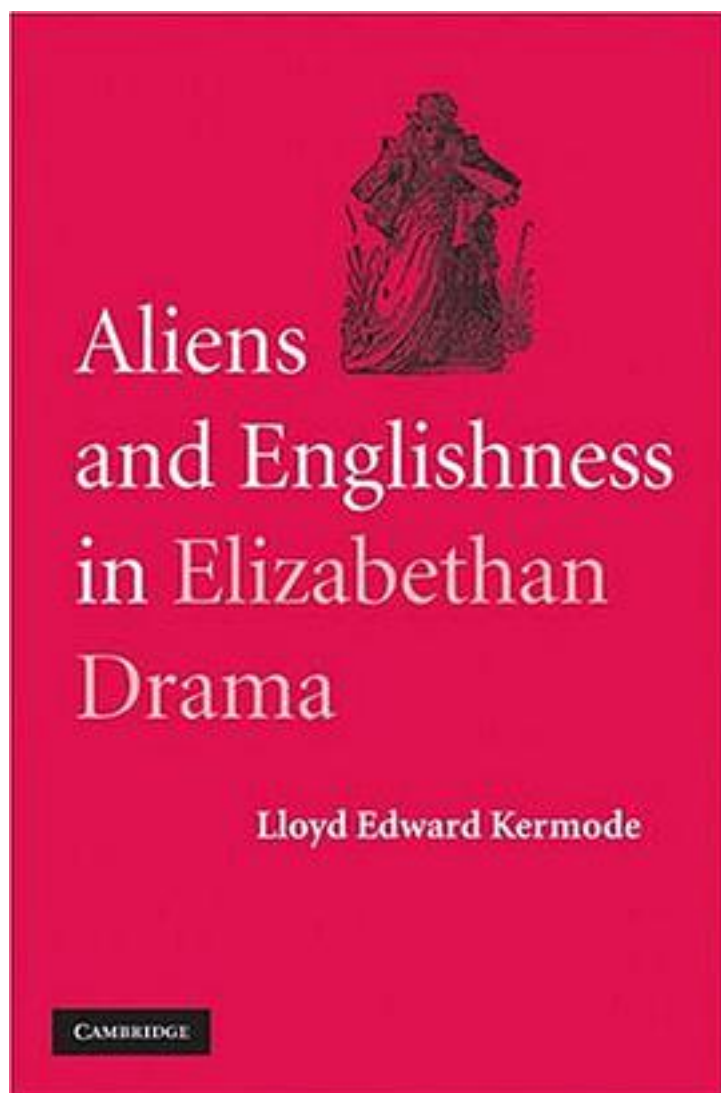


Aliens and Englishness in Elizabethan Drama



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Covering a wide variety of plays from 1550-1600, including Shakespeare's second tetralogy, this book, first published in 2009, explores moral, historical, and comic plays as contributions to Elizabethan debates on Anglo-foreign relations in England. The economic, social, religious, and political issues that arose from inter-British contact and Continental immigration into England are reinvented and rehearsed on the public stage. Kermode uncovers two broad 'alien stages' in the drama: distinctive but overlapping processes by which the alien was used to posit ideas and ideals of Englishness. Many studies of English national identity pit Englishness against the alien 'other' so that the native self and the alien settle into antithetical positions. In contrast, *Aliens and Englishness* reads a body of plays that represent Englishness as a state of ideological, invented superiority - paradoxically stable in its constant changeability, and brought into being by incorporating and eventually accepting, and even celebrating, rather than rejecting the alien.

作者介绍:

目录:

[Aliens and Englishness in Elizabethan Drama_ 下载链接1](#)

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