

The description and manner of the poysoning of king Iohn
 by a Monke of Swinstead Abbey in Lincolnshire.



Foxe, John. *Actes and monuments*. London: John Day, 1563. Folger STC 11222.

In the sixteenth century, it was believed that King John's death in 1217 was caused by poisoning, as depicted in this illustration of John Foxe's *Actes and monuments*. This work of Protestant martyrology, like many sources of the time, incorrectly depicts King John as the victim of a murderous monk. Today, scholars believe King John died of dysentery. Shakespeare's play ends with John's death by poison.

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