

William Shakespeare

Life and Biography

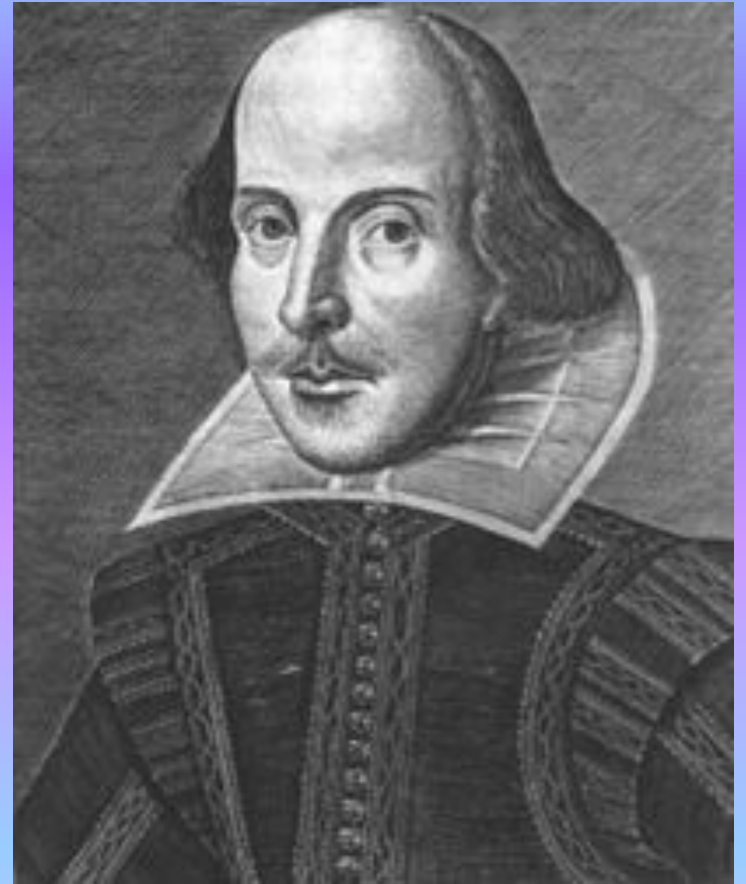
William Shakespeare



- The great poet and dramatist William Shakespeare is often called by people “Our national bard” and “the great Unknown”.

William Shakespeare

- He was born on April 23, 1564. Stratford-upon-Avon is a small town in the centre of Great Britain. It is famous as the place where William Shakespeare was born.



William Shakespeare



- **Young William Shakespeare studied at the Grammar school where boys learned Latin, Greek and other subjects. At that time there were no theatres in England. Groups of actors traveled from town and played in different places.**

William Shakespeare

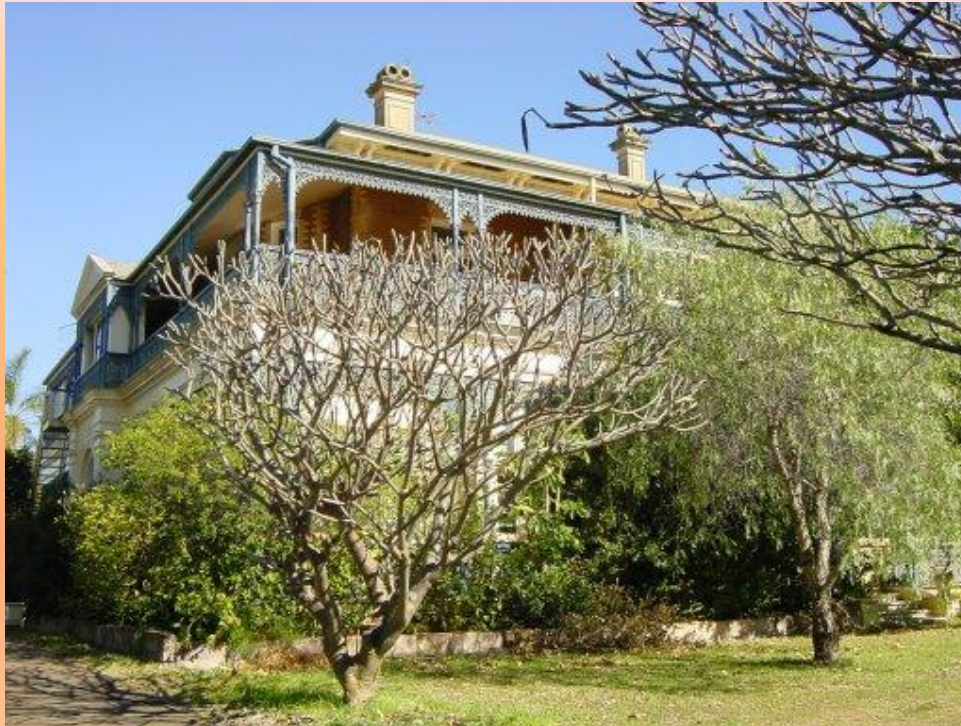


Sometimes actors came to Stratford. Young William went to see all shows and liked them very much. He wanted to become an actor. Sometimes he wrote little plays himself and staged them with his friends.

William Shakespeare

- Life in Stratford was very hard and when Shakespeare was 21 he went to London. In London he joined a group of actors.

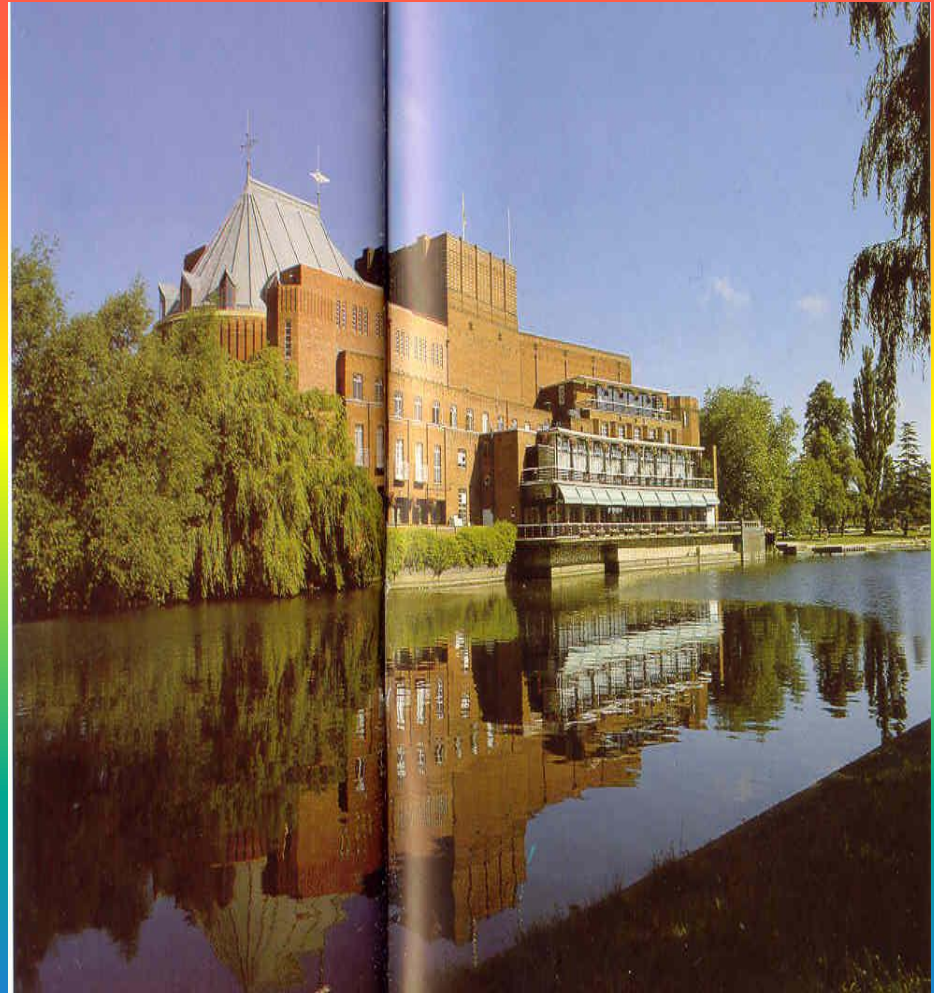
William Shakespeare



- The famous Globe Theatre was the centre of London's theatrical life. Shakespeare played on its stage and wrote plays for this theatre.

William Shakespeare

- Shakespeare wrote most of his plays for the Globe Theatre. The actors were often very good. They could play, sing and dance. Women's were played by boys or young men. Music was very important.



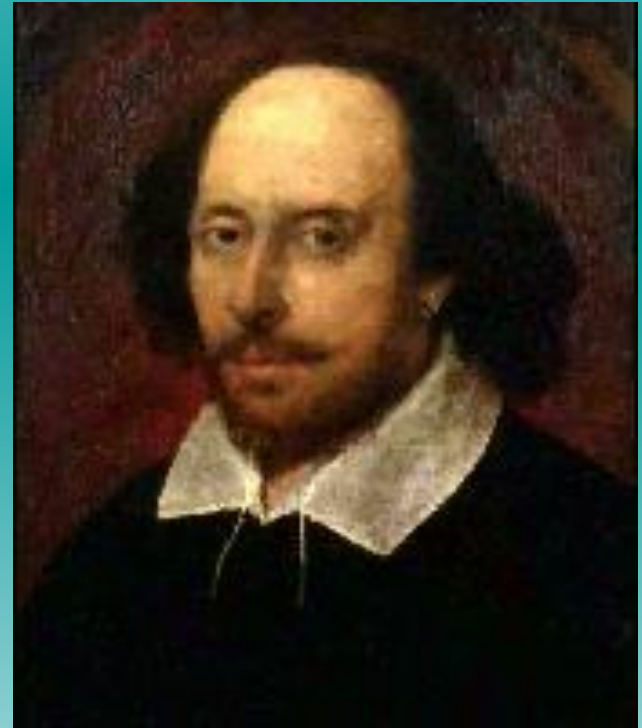
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- The people of London loved their theatre very much. Everybody went to the theatre in London. People had no newspaper, no radio, and no television in those days. That is why the theatre played a great part in their lives. The performance gave them great enjoyment. They came to hear the news, to learn something of the history of England or of some other country.



William Shakespeare

- At the same time, Shakespeare was an actor, a poet and a writer of drama. He wrote 154 sonnets, 2 poems and 37 plays, where he showed his creative genius. The first period (1590-1600) of his creative work consist of comedies and histories.



William Shakespeare

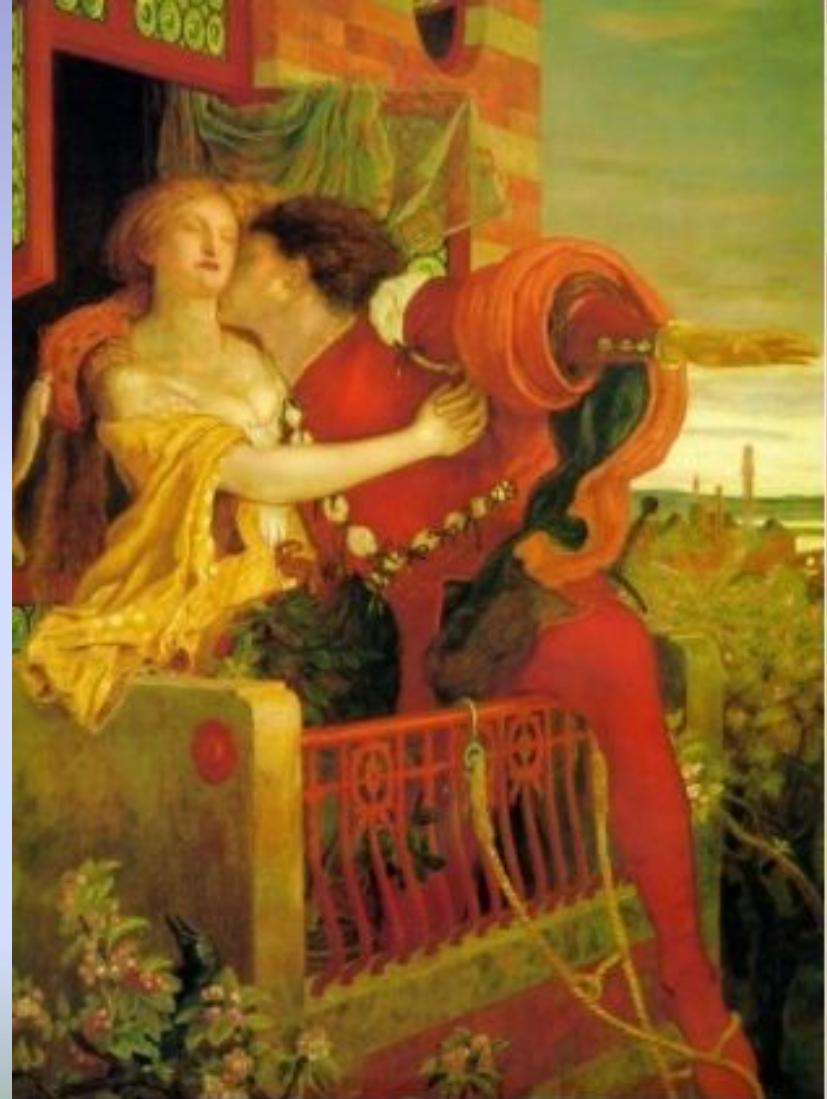
- In this period Shakespeare wrote such histories as "King Henry IV", "King Henry V" and others. Here the author showed historical events and dramatic characters.



Grant Goodman, Elias Escobedo and Stephen Reynolds

William Shakespeare

- **“Romeo and Juliet”** is one of Shakespeare’s best plays. It is the tragedy, but it was written in the first period of his creative work. This play is full of love, youth and humanism.

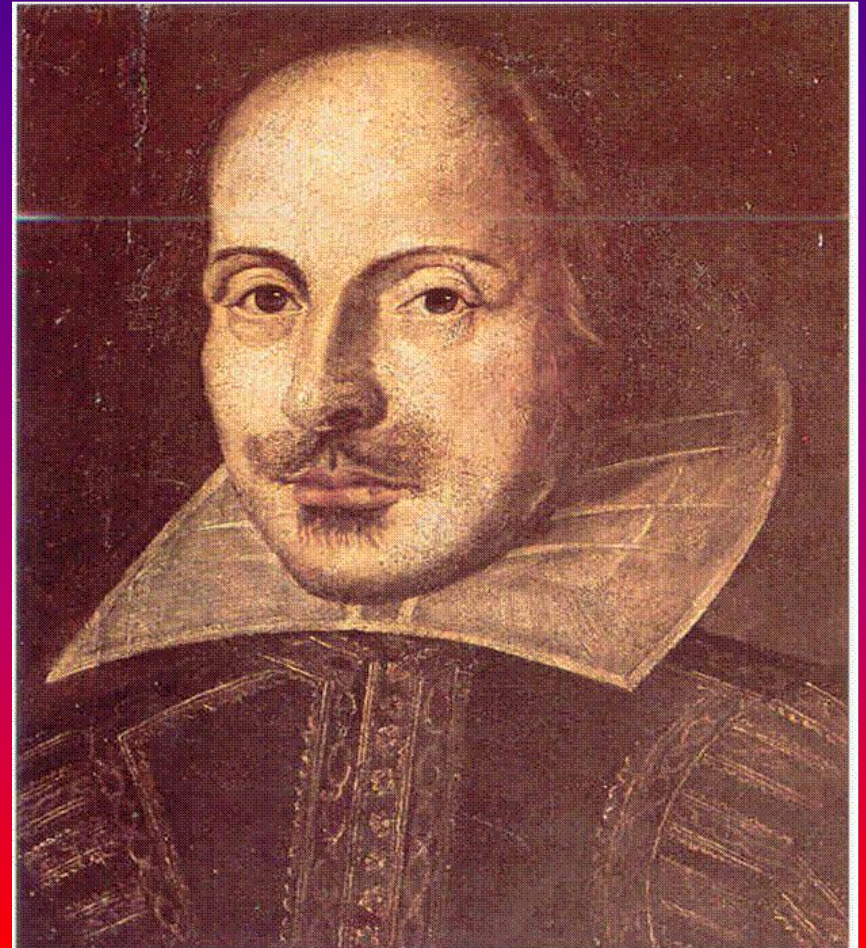


William Shakespeare

- **All of Shakespeare's famous tragedies appeared between 1600 and 1608. It was a period of his literary work. In the plays of this period the dramatic reaches his full maturity. He presents great humans problems. This period began with the tragedy "Hamlet", which was a great success.**

William Shakespeare

- Shakespeare's plays of the third period (1609-1611) are called Romantic Dramas: "The Tempest", "The winter's tale".



William Shakespeare

In 1612 Shakespeare left London. He decided to live in Stratford. Since that time Shakespeare didn't act any more and since 1613 he no longer wrote plays. Nobody knows that Shakespeare did during the last years of his life. Shakespeare died on April 23, 1616, and he was buried in this church in Stratford.



William Shakespeare

- **William Shakespeare is the greatest of all playwrights and poets of all times. His first sonnet was published in 1609. A sonnet is a poem which consist of 14 lines with a moral at the end. Shakespeare's sonnets are full of love, harmony and music.**



William Shakespeare

- **1. Who was William Shakespeare?**
- **2. When & where was he born?(on April 23,1564)**
- **3. What was his father?**
- **4.What did he love at school?**
- **5.What did he earn his living?**
- **6.Why did he become famous?**
- **7. How many children did he have?**
- **8. Why did he go to London?**
- **9. What did he do in London?**
- **10.What was the theatre's name, in which W.Shakespeare played?**
- **11.What his plays do you know?**
- **12.When did W.Shakespeare die?**



1. What country did Romeo and Juliet live in?
2. What city did Romeo and Juliet live in?
3. What was Romeo's surname?
4. What was Juliet's surname?
5. How old was Romeo?
6. How old was Juliet?
7. Who was Hamlet?
8. What country was he from?
9. Who told the famous monologue «To be or not to be»?
10. Was Hamlet a hero?
11. What other characters of this play do you remember?
12. Why is this play a drama?
13. What famous Russian actors did play the role of Hamlet in Russian theatres?