

# The Life and Times of William Shakespeare

## Shakespeare's Childhood

📁 Born on \_\_\_\_\_ in Stratford-on-Avon in England during the reign of \_\_\_\_\_.

📁 Father: \_\_\_\_\_

📁 Mother: \_\_\_\_\_

📁 Family was well-to-do

📁 Shakespeare was educated at a good grammar school but has no \_\_\_\_\_ record.

## ??? The Lost Years ???

? From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ there is little information about Shakespeare.

? He may have worked for his \_\_\_\_\_ or become a \_\_\_\_\_ at the local grammar school.

## Shakespeare's Marriage

♥ Married Anne Hathaway in 1582 at the age of \_\_\_\_\_

♥ Anne was \_\_\_\_\_ years older than Shakespeare and \_\_\_\_\_ at the time of their marriage.

♥ The couple had \_\_\_\_\_ children

♥ Susanna

♥ Judith (twin)

♥ Hamnet (twin--died at the age of nine)

## The London Times

🕒 Shakespeare moved from Stratford to \_\_\_\_\_ in the early \_\_\_\_\_

🕒 He became the stage manager of \_\_\_\_\_, the only theater in London at the time.

⌚ Soon after, he joined The Theatre's \_\_\_\_\_ and performed in many plays.

⌚ With the opening of more theaters, Shakespeare left The Theater and joined the \_\_\_\_\_ acting company.

### **The Writer**

🗑️ During his early years in London, Shakespeare made quite a name for himself, not only as an actor but as a skilled \_\_\_\_\_.

🗑️ There was quite a bit of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ among the playwrights at the time.

🗑️ In \_\_\_\_\_, Shakespeare's first known play, \_\_\_\_\_, was produced.

🗑️ It was highly \_\_\_\_\_, setting "box office records."

### **The Actor**

🗑️ Shakespeare was well-known for his acting skills and appeared as Macduff in *Macbeth* and the Ghost in *Hamlet*

🗑️ When he joined the Lord Chamberlain's Men and opened the \_\_\_\_\_, Shakespeare also became a full profit sharer with the other owners, which was unheard of at the time.

🗑️ When Queen Elizabeth died, \_\_\_\_\_ gave his full support to Shakespeare's company, which soon became known as \_\_\_\_\_

### **The "Afterlife"**

† In \_\_\_\_\_, at the height of his \_\_\_\_\_ and popularity, Shakespeare left his acting career and moved back to Stratford-on-Avon.

† In \_\_\_\_\_, The Globe caught fire and burned to the ground.

† Shakespeare \_\_\_\_\_ in his hometown in 1616, allegedly on April 23, his \_\_\_\_\_.

† Shakespeare has come to be known as one of the \_\_\_\_\_ writers in the English Language.

- † His deep understanding of \_\_\_\_\_ and his incredible talent for making characters \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ make his work so memorable.
- † Many of his readers see themselves or someone they know in Shakespeare's characters.

### **The Globe**

- 🎬 In 1598, with several other actors, Shakespeare commissioned an open-air amphitheater to be built on the \_\_\_\_\_ in London; it was called The Globe.
- 🎬 The majority of Shakespeare's plays were performed here.
- 🎬 Prices ranged from \_\_\_\_\_ pennies.
  - 🎬 \$.01—stand in yard around stage
  - 🎬 \$.02—seats in 2nd- or 3rd-floor galleries
  - 🎬 \$.03—seats in 1st-floor galleries
  - 🎬 An extra penny bought you a \_\_\_\_\_
- 🎬 Plays performed at The Globe included realistic \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ including:
  - 🎬 \_\_\_\_\_ and battle noises
  - 🎬 Pig's bladder filled with blood for \_\_\_\_\_
  - 🎬 Actor's \_\_\_\_\_ on rigging suspended from the \_\_\_\_\_
- 🎬 Costumes were \_\_\_\_\_ but did not often fit the time period.
- 🎬 For example, *Julius Caesar* was most likely performed in Elizabethan doublets instead of \_\_\_\_\_.

### **The Repertory System**

- ✓ In the repertory system, a different play is presented every \_\_\_\_\_ to please the \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ An actor is assigned several roles.
  - ✓ For example, one actor may be responsible for learning the parts of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and Macduff all at the same time.
- ✓ On \_\_\_\_\_ afternoon, the company may perform *Hamlet*, have a break

for \_\_\_\_\_ on Tuesday (maybe), and perform *Julius Caesar* on Wednesday afternoon.

### Conventions and Terms

- ☞ **Poetry:** Characters in Shakespeare's plays often express themselves in \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☞ **Soliloquy:** Characters also may speak \_\_\_\_\_ on stage to express their \_\_\_\_\_ directly to the audience.
- ☞ \_\_\_\_\_: a remark meant to be heard by the \_\_\_\_\_ and perhaps one other character but no one else on stage.
- ☞ **Anachronisms:** Objects or ideas that are \_\_\_\_\_. The clock in *Julius Caesar* is an example.
- ☞ \_\_\_\_\_: a drama which tells the story of an important series of events in the life of a person of \_\_\_\_\_. These events end in an unhappy catastrophe, often brought about by a \_\_\_\_\_ in the character. Tragedies are meant to arouse the emotions of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☞ **Comedy:** a play that begins with some sort of \_\_\_\_\_ or obstacle that ends \_\_\_\_\_ because the hero or heroine is able to overcome the obstacle to get what he or she wants. Comedies are generally amusing.
- ☞ \_\_\_\_\_: In a tragedy, the hero usually brings about his own \_\_\_\_\_ because of a flaw or "frailty." Often bad \_\_\_\_\_, bad character, inherited \_\_\_\_\_, or any other causes of error can be a tragic flaw.
- ☞ \_\_\_\_\_: Any person or thing that is used to \_\_\_\_\_ another character or thing (For example, in *Julius Caesar*, Cassius, who is scheming and ambitious, is a foil to Brutus, who is idealistic and unselfish).



*"This above all: to thine own self be true,  
And it must follow, as the night the day,  
Thou canst not then be false to any man."*

- William Shakespeare