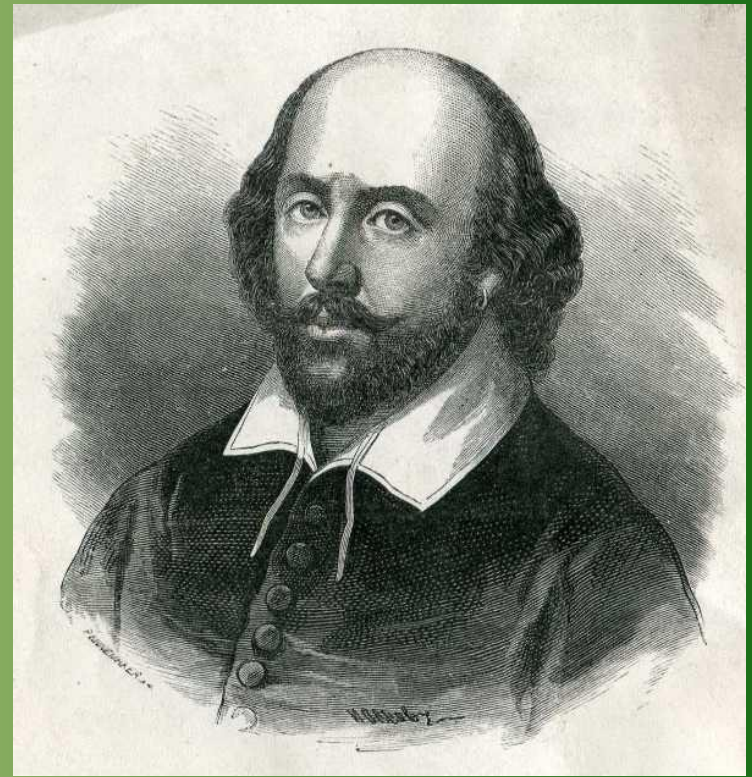


WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

William
Shakespeare
was born on
April 23, 1564.



His father, John Shakespeare, moved to Stratford-on-Avon about 1550 and became a tradesman. His wife, the writer's mother, Mary Arden, was the daughter of a rich farmer.

The future poet attended a free grammar school in Stratford where he studied Latin. By nature William was a boy of remarkable powers of observation.

When Shakespeare was only 18, he married Anna Hathaway, the daughter of a farmer from a village not far from Stratford. Within three years three children were born to them, and soon after the young father left his native town for London.



Shakespeare became famous after writing his plays:



"The Taming of the Shrew" - 1596

"A Midnight Dream" - 1596

"Much Ado about nothing" — 1598

"Romeo and Juliet" - 1595

"Hamlet" - 1601

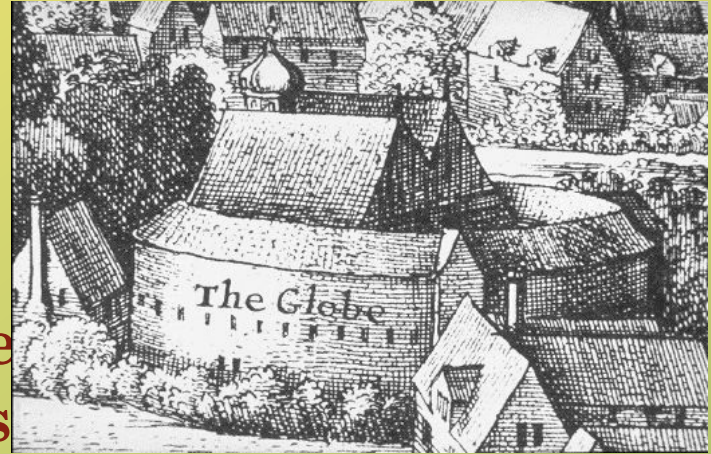
"Othello" - 1604

"King Lear" - 1605

"Macbeth" — 1606



In all he was the author of over thirty plays and a great many poems. When in 1599 a new theatre, "The Globe", was opened in Blackfriars, Shakespeare became one of the partners in its management. As an actor he did not continue to be a success. Being tired of this work he did not appear on the stage after





Although Shakespeare made London his home, he often visited Stratford where his family lived. In 1611 he returned to Stratford twenty-six years after he had left it.

Shakespeare died on April 23, 1616, and was buried in a fine old church at Stratford.



Works of Shakespeare divided into 3 periods:

1) 1590 - 1600 - "optimistic"

Written comedy, which was the main topic of faith in the life and power of man

"The Taming of the Shrew," "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "Much Ado About Nothing," "Twelfth Night" and others.

2) 1600 - 1608 - "tragic"

Created masterpieces in the genre of tragedy "Hamlet," "King Lear," "Macbeth"

3) 1609 - 1612 - "romantic"

Tragicomedy with a happy ending "Winter's Tale," "The Tempest"

Total written 37 plays, 2 poems and sonnets 154

