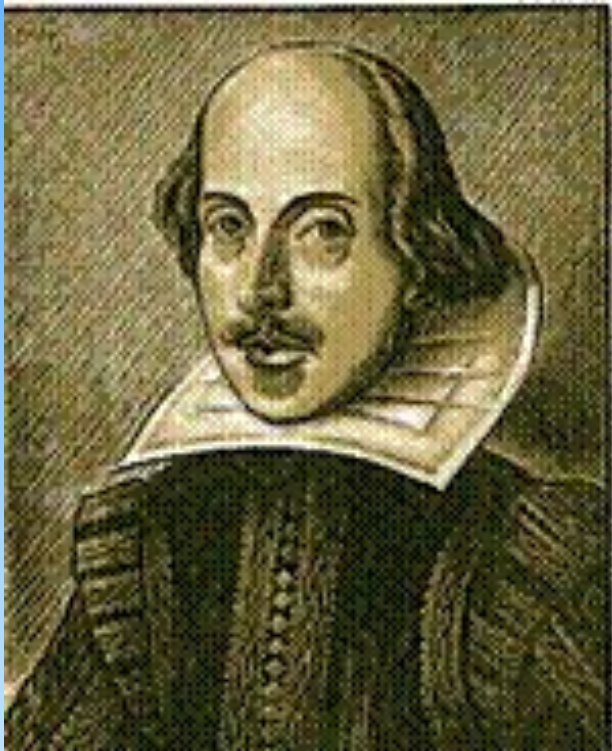


William Shakespeare – some biographical notes



The early years

- ◆ Born in April 1564 in Stratford on Avon
- ◆ His father - a fairly rich merchant
- ◆ His mother - a daughter of wealthy yeoman

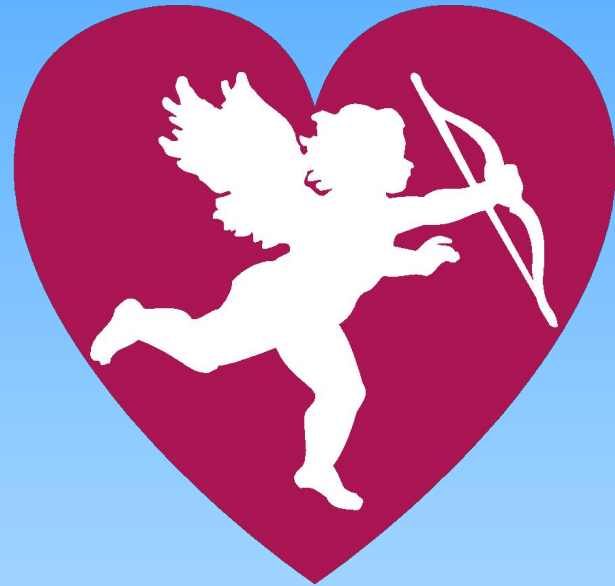


Shakespeare's schooling



Wife and Children

- ◆ Marriage to Anne Hathaway in 1582
- ◆ Anne was 26, he was 18
- ◆ 3 children
- ◆ The youngest, Hamnet died at the age of 11



London

- ◆ went to London at 21
- ◆ joined a travelling company of actors
- ◆ worked both as an actor and a writer



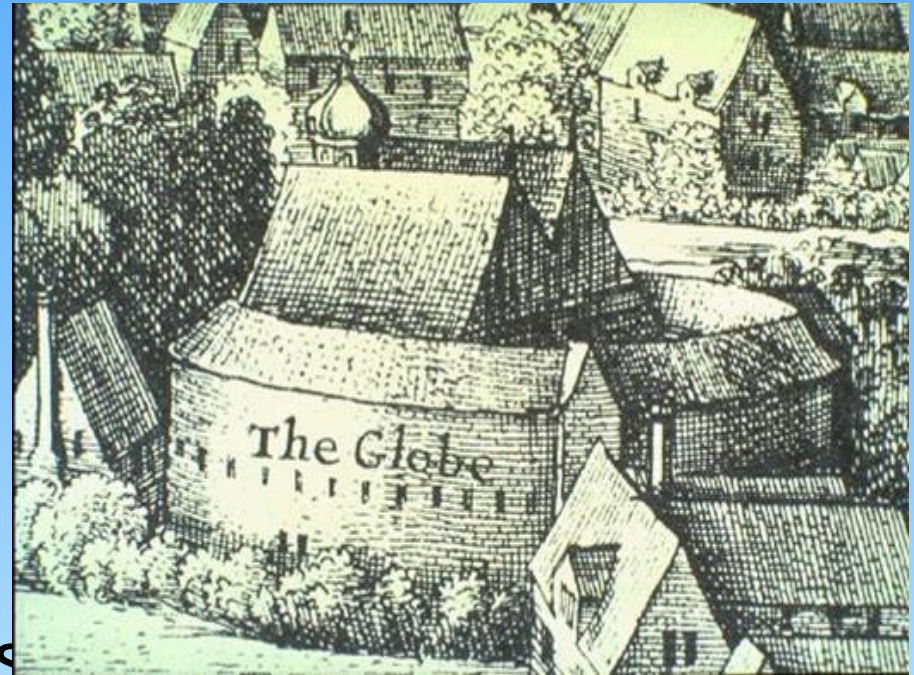
London Life in the 16th century

- Poor sewer system
- High crime rate
- But ...
- 200,000 inhabitants
- the cultural and political heart of England



The Globe Theatre

- ◆ opened in 1599
- ◆ Its successes had made Shakespeare a rich man
- ◆ He became one of the principal investors



Ups and downs

- Failures and successes
- The affair with the "Dark Lady"



The end of his life

- ❖ Return to Stratford in 1610
- ❖ Destruction of the Globe Theatre in 1613 (the Great Fire of London)
- ❖ In 1616 Shakespeare died on April, 23 (his birthday!)



Looking back

- Shakespeare wrote 37 plays ...
- ... and 154 sonnets...
- ... and an unknown number of long epic poems



"All's well that ends well"

