[eBooks] Shakespeare The Biography Peter Ackroyd

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Shakespeare - Peter Ackroyd 2005 Sheds new light on the life of the great Elizabethan playwright and poet, reassessing Shakespeare's work within the context of sixteenth-century London and Stratford-upon-Avon, as well as his lasting legacy for world literature.

A Brief Guide to William Shakespeare - Peter Ackroyd 2013-02-07 An accessible and entertaining journey through the life, times, and work of the Bard - Enigma. Master of language. The greatest comedian in history? The most famous writer in the world. But isn’t he a little bit boring? This is an essential guide for anyone who has previously avoided the Bard, and is the perfect introduction for first time students or seasoned theatre lovers. The book contains a full commentary of all the plays by bestselling and renowned writer Peter Ackroyd as well as full descriptions of the cast and the drama; not forgetting the best speeches, and the wit and wisdom from across the works. There is also an opportunity to explore the poems and a complete set of sonnets, as well as an investigation of who the dark lady might have been. Contains: The complete sonnets; the greatest speeches; the best lines. Perfect for students struggling through their first play or for theatre lovers anywhere. Entertaining, accessible, Shakespeare without the boring bits.

Alfred Hitchcock - Peter Ackroyd 2016-04-26 Alfred Hitchcock was een vreemd kind. Hij was dik en eenzaam, ging gebukt onder angsten en brandde van ambitie. Zijn kindertijd rook naar de vis uit de winkel van zijn vader. Bang om uit zijn slaapkamer te komen droomde hij over reizen terwijl hij in treinboekjes bladerde, en hij bedacht een complete trip door Europa. Hoe groeide deze angstige jongen uit tot een van de grootste filmregisseurs ooit? Peter Ackroyd kruip in de huid van de man die alles probeerde te beheersen maar daar in zijn eigen leven nauwelijks in slaagde, en laat zien wat er schuliging achter de films.

Het proces tegen Elizabeth Cree - Peter Ackroyd 1999 Een variétéartiest raakt in de laatste decennia van de negentiende eeuw betrokken bij een reeks gruwelijke moorden in Londen, die door een mysterieuze ‘golem’ gepleegd zouden zijn.

Thames - Peter Ackroyd 2008-11-04 In this perfect companion to London: The Biography, Peter Ackroyd once again delves into the hidden byways of history, describing the river’s endless allure in a journey overflowing with characters, incidents, and wry observations. Thames: The Biography meanders gloriously, rather like the river itself. In short, lively chapters Ackroyd writes about connections between the Thames and such historical figures as Julius Caesar and Henry VIII, and offers memorable portraits of the ordinary men and women who depend upon the river for their livelihoods. The Thames as a source of artistic inspiration comes brilliantly to life as Ackroyd invokes Chaucer, Shakespeare, Turner, Shelley, and other
writers, poets, and painters who have been enchanted by its many moods and colors.

Wilkie Collins-Peter Ackroyd 2015-10-06 A gripping short biography of the extraordinary Wilkie Collins, author of The Moonstone and The Woman in White, two early masterpieces of mystery and detection. Short and oddly built, with a head too big for his body, extremely nearsighted, unable to stay still, dressed in colorful clothes, Wilkie Collins looked distinctly strange. But he was nonetheless a charmer, befriended by the great, loved by children, irresistibly attractive to women—and avidly read by generations of readers. Peter Ackroyd follows his hero, "the sweetest-tempered of all the Victorian novelists," from Collins’ childhood as the son of a well-known artist to his struggling beginnings as a writer, his years of fame, and his lifelong friendship with that other great London chronicler, Charles Dickens. In addition to his enduring masterpieces, The Moonstone—often called the first true detective novel—and the sensational The Woman in White, he produced an intriguing array of lesser known works. Told with Ackroyd's inimitable verve, this is a ravishingly entertaining life of a great storyteller, full of surprises, rich in humor and sympathetic understanding.

New grub street-George Robert Gissing 2015-06-19 ‘Schrijven _ was dat niet de vreugde en het voorrecht van iemand die een dringende boodschap voor de wereld had?’ verzucht een van de personages in New Grub Street, de opzienbarende roman van George Gissing. Een boek uit 1891, maar angstaanjagend actueel. Een onthutsende verkenning van de literatuur nadat de schrijvers uit de tempel zijn verdreven en op de markt moeten zien te overleven. De belangrijkste personages zijn allemaal schrijvers: Edwin Reardon, een waarachtig literair talent maar door financiële omstandigheden gedwongen prulromans te schrijven; Alfred Yule, toonbeeld van wrok en rancune; en Jasper Milvain, een jongeman die de tijd verstaat en met glans slaagt, maar dan wel door alle literaire idealen te verraden. New Grub Street is een ironische, maar vooral ontroerende roman, die uitnodigt tot discussie, juist in een tijd waarin schrijvers harders dan ooit moeten strijden voor hun plaats, en waar men in de literatuur wanhoping zoekt naar rechtvaardiging. George Robert Gissing (1857-1903) publiceerde tussen 1880 en 1903 23 romans. Desondanks leefde hij in armoede en kwam de grote erkenning pas na zijn dood. ‘Een onovertroffen monument voor de worstelingen en misère van het schrijversbestaan.’ Geerten Meijsing ‘Het indrukwekkendste boek van Gissing. Engeland heeft weinig betere romanschrijvers voortgebracht.’ George Orwell ‘Gissings naturalisme heeft een kervende waarachtigheid; meedogenloos in zijn oordelen, maar fraai in zijn aandacht voor detail. Ik heb van een roman nog nooit zoveel geleerd over het werkelijke leven van dag tot dag in het Londen van de late negentiende eeuw.’ Janet Daley, the Times ‘George Gissings portret van het harde leven in de literaire wereld is nu nog net zo relevant als het was in de negentiende eeuw.’ the Guardian

Shakespeare-Peter Ackroyd 2015-10-12T00:00:00+02:00 Il romanzo della vita di Shakespeare: così può essere definita questa monumentale biografia che penetra così a fondo nel mondo e nelle vicende più salienti dell’esistenza del genio inglese da apparire più come l’opera di un scrittore coevo che quella di un biografo del ventunesimo secolo. Shakespeare nacque a Stratford il 23 aprile del 1564 e morì nella stessa piccola città inglese nel 1616. Gli amici di Stratford furono i suoi amici di sempre, le persone che accompagnarono l’intera sua esistenza. Lavorò in teatro, recitando nelle prime sale londinesi e riscrivendo e componendo per una serie di compagnie determinate quali «The Queen’s Men», «The Lord Chamberlain’s Men» e «The King’s Men». Un piccolo mondo, preciso, costante. Peter Ackroyd ci accompagna innanzitutto nel paesaggio di questo mondo. Percorre le strade di Stratford e Londra, a cavallo tra Cinquecento e Seicento, come se appartenesse pienamente a quel tempo. Descrive l’ambiente teatrale come se fosse uno spettatore elisabettiano e assistesse alle prime rappresentazioni delle tragedie e delle commedie. Scrive dello Shakespeare attore, drammaturgo e poeta, e dunque della sua cerchia di impresari, attori e coautori e della loro «comunanza di sentimenti». Ritesse, insomma, non solo la tela dell’epoca di Shakespeare, ma ne ravviva i colori e le sfumature come se fossero appena dipinti. La biografia non è perciò né una ricostruzione accademica né didascalica della vita di Shakespeare, ma un vero e proprio romanzo, il libro di uno scrittore su uno scrittore, un’opera brillante che avvive e intrattiene. «Chiunque ami Shakespeare non può che amare questo libro». Observer «Una perfetta ricostruzione dell’epoca elisabettiana». The Bookseller

Nine Lives of William Shakespeare - Graham Holderness 2011-10-06

Albion - Peter Ackroyd 2007-12-18 With his characteristic enthusiasm and erudition, Peter Ackroyd follows his acclaimed London: A Biography with an inspired look into the heart and the history of the English imagination. To tell the story of its evolution, Ackroyd ranges across literature and painting, philosophy and science, architecture and music, from Anglo-Saxon times to the twentieth-century. Considering what is most English about artists as diverse as Chaucer, William Hogarth, Benjamin Britten and Virgina Woolf, Ackroyd identifies a host of sometimes contradictory elements: pragmatism and whimsy, blood and gore, a passion for the past, a delight in eccentricity, and much more. A brilliant, engaging and often surprising narrative, Albion reveals the manifold nature of English genius.

Alfred Hitchcock - Peter Ackroyd 2016-10-25 Alfred Hitchcock rigorously controlled his public image, drawing certain carefully selected childhood anecdotes into full focus and blurring out all others. In this gripping short biography, Peter Ackroyd wrests the director’s chair back from the master of control to reveal a lugubriously jolly man fond of practical jokes, who smashed a once-used tea cup every morning to remind himself of the frailty of life. Iconic film stars make cameo appearances throughout Hitchcock’s story, just as the director did in his own films: Grace Kelly, Cary Grant, James Stewart and, perhaps most famously of all, Tippi Hedren, who endures cuts and bruises from a fearsome flock of real birds. Perceptive and intelligent, Alfred Hitchcock is a fascinating look at one of the most revered directors of the twentieth century.

Shakespeare and Biography - David Bevington 2010-06-10 This book explores the representation of issues including sex, gender, politics, religion, family relationships, and death in biographies of Shakespeare, from Nicholas Rowe’s in the early 18th century to recent biographies by Stephen Greenblatt, James Shapiro, Jonathan Bate, Germaine Greer, Katherine Duncan-Jones, Park Honan, and René Weis.

The Lambs of London - Peter Ackroyd 2005 From the author of "Chatterton" and "Shakespeare: A Biography" comes a gripping novel set in London that re-imagines an infamous 19th-century Shakespeare forgery. Charles and Mary Lamb, who will in time achieve lasting fame as the authors of "Tales from Shakespeare for Children," are still living at home, caring for their dotty and maddening parents. Reading Shakespeare is the siblings’ favorite reprieve, and they are delighted when an ambitious young bookseller comes into their lives claiming to possess a ‘lost’ Shakespearea play. Soon all of London is eagerly anticipating opening night of a star-studded production of the play not knowing that they have all been duped by charlatan and a fraud.

J.M.W. Turner - Peter Ackroyd 2007-12-18 In this second volume in the Ackroyd’s Brief Lives series, bestselling author Peter Ackroyd brings us a man of humble beginnings, crude manners, and prodigious talents, the nineteenth-century painter J. M. W. Turner. Joseph Mallord William Turner was born in London in 1775. His father was a barber, and his mother came from a family of London butchers. "His speech was recognizably that of a Cockney, and his language was the language of the streets." As his finest
paintings show, his language was also the language of light. Turner's landscapes—extraordinary studies in light, colour, and texture—caused an uproar during his lifetime and earned him a place as one of the greatest artists in history. Displaying his artistic abilities as a young child, Turner entered the Royal Academy of Arts when he was just fourteen years old. A year later his paintings appeared in an important public exhibition, and he rapidly achieved prominence, becoming a Royal Academician in 1802 and Professor of Perspective at the Academy from 1807–1837. His private life, however, was less orderly. Never married, he spent much time living in taverns, where he was well known for his truculence and his stinginess with money. Peter Ackroyd deftly follows Turner's first loves of architecture, engraving, and watercolours, and the country houses, cathedrals, and landscapes of England. While his passion for Italy led him to oil painting, Turner's love for London remained central to his heart and soul, and it was within sight of his beloved Thames that he died in 1851. His dying words were: “The sun is God.” Also available in ACKROYD'S BRIEF LIVES Chaucer Literary Biography—Michael Benton 2015-05-26 Literary Biography: An Introduction illustrates and accounts for the literary genre that merges historical facts with the conventions of narrative while revealing how the biographical context can enrich the study of canonical authors. Provides up-to-date and comprehensive coverage of issues and controversies in life writing, a rapidly growing field of study Offers a valuable biographical and historical context for the study of major classic and contemporary authors Features an interview with Wilfred Owen’s biographer, Dominic Hibberd; a gallery of literary portraits with commentaries; close readings that illustrate the differences between fiction and biography; speculation about likely future developments; and detailed suggestions for further reading

Milton in America—Peter Ackroyd 2012-04-25 When Peter Ackroyd, one of Britain's undisputed literary masters, writes a new novel, it is a literary event. With his last novel, The Trial of Elizabeth Cree, "as gripping and ingenious a murder mystery as you could hope to come across," in the words of the San Francisco Chronicle, he reached a whole new level of critical and popular success. Now, with his trademark blending of historical fact and fictive fancy, Ackroyd has placed the towering poet of Paradise Lost in the new Eden that is colonial America. John Milton, aging, blind, fleeing the restoration of English monarchy and all the vain trappings that go with it (“misrule” in his estimation), comes to New England, where he is adopted by a community of fellow puritans as their leader. With his enormous powers of intellect, his command of language, and the awe the townspeople hold him in, Milton takes on absolute power. Insisting on strict and merciless application of puritan justice, he soon becomes, in his attempt at regaining paradise, as much a tyrant as the despots from whom he and his comrades have sought refuge, more brutal than the "savage" native Americans. As always, Ackroyd has crafted a thoroughly enjoyable novel that entertains while raising provocative questions—this time about America's founding myths. With a resurgence of interest in the puritans (in the movie adaptations of The Scarlet Letter and the forthcoming The Crucible), Milton in America is particularly relevant. It is also entirely absorbing—in short, vintage Ackroyd.

The Casebook of Victor Frankenstein—Peter Ackroyd 2009-10-06 A New York Times Notable Book and Providence Journal Best Book of the Year From the incomparable Peter Ackroyd: a brilliant re-imagination of the classic tale that has enthralled readers for nearly two centuries. Victor Frankenstein, a researcher, and the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley form an unlikely friendship as first-years at Oxford. Shelley challenges the conventionally religious Frankenstein to consider his atheistic notions of creation and life—concepts that become an obsession for the young scientist. As Victor begins conducting anatomical experiments to reanimate the dead, he at first uses corpses supplied by the coroner. But these specimens prove imperfect for Victor’s purposes... Filled with the literary lights of the day, including Percy Shelley, Godwin, Lord Byron, and Mary Shelley herself, and penned in period-perfect voice, The Casebook of Victor Frankenstein is sure to become a classic of the twenty-first century.

Poe—Peter Ackroyd 2009-01-20 Gothic, mysterious, theatrical, fatally flawed, and dazzling, the life of Edgar Allan Poe, one of America’s greatest and most versatile writers, is the ideal subject for Peter Ackroyd. Poe wrote lyrical poetry and macabre psychological melodramas; invented the first fictional detective; and produced pioneering works of science fiction and fantasy. His
innovative style, images, and themes had a tremendous impact on European romanticism, symbolism, and surrealism, and continue to influence writers today. In this essential addition to his canon of acclaimed biographies, Peter Ackroyd explores Poe’s literary accomplishments and legacy against the background of his erratic, dramatic, and sometimes sordid life. Ackroyd chronicles Poe’s difficult childhood, his bumpy academic and military careers, and his complex relationships with women, including his marriage to his thirteen-year-old cousin. He describes Poe’s much-written-about problems with gambling and alcohol with sympathy and insight, showing their connections to Poe’s childhood and the trials, as well as the triumphs, of his adult life. Ackroyd’s thoughtful, perceptive examinations of some of Poe’s most famous works shed new light on these classics and on the troubled and brilliant genius who created them.

The Fall of Troy - Peter Ackroyd 2008-11-11 In The Fall of Troy, acclaimed novelist and historian Peter Ackroyd creates a fascinating narrative that follows an archaeologist’s obsession with finding the ruins of Troy, depicting the blurred line between truth and deception. Obermann, an acclaimed German scholar, fervently believes that his discovery of the ancient ruins of Troy will prove that the heroes of the Iliad, a work he has cherished all his life, actually existed. But Sophia, Obermann’s young Greek wife, has her suspicions about his motivations — suspicions that only increase when she finds a cache of artifacts that her husband has hidden, and when a more skeptical archaeologist dies from a mysterious fever. With exquisite detail, Ackroyd again demonstrates his ability to evoke time and place, creating a brilliantly told story of heroes and scoundrels, human aspirations and follies, and the temptation to shape the truth to fit a passionately held belief.

Een minuut stilte - Siegfried Lenz 2010 Tussen een lerares en een leerling ontstaat een intense relatie.

Shakespeare and His Biographical Afterlives - Paul Franssen 2020-04-09 New Shakespeare biographies are published every year, though very little new documentary evidence has come to light. Inevitably speculative, these biographies straddle the line between fact and fiction. Shakespeare and His Biographical Afterlives explores the relationship between fiction and non-fiction within Shakespeare’s biography, across a range of subjects including feminism, class politics, wartime propaganda, children’s fiction, and religion, expanding beyond the Anglophone world to include countries such as Germany and Spain, from the seventeenth century to present day.

Reinventing the Renaissance - S. Brown 2013-05-12 The plays of Shakespeare and his contemporaries has inspired interpretations in every genre and medium. This book offers perspectives on the ways in which practitioners have used Renaissance drama to address contemporary concerns and reach new audiences. It provides a resource for those interested in the creative reception of Renaissance drama.
**Shakespeare Survey 70: Volume 70** - Peter Holland 2017-12-07
The seventieth volume in the annual series of volumes devoted to Shakespeare study and production. The articles are drawn from the World Shakespeare Congress, held 400 years after Shakespeare's death, in July/August 2016 in Stratford-upon-Avon and London. The theme is 'Creating Shakespeare'.

**De Condottiere** - Georges Perec 2014-12-17
Het romandebuut van Georges Perec, De Condottiere, begint als een misdaadverhaal waarin schilderijenvervalser Gaspard Winckler zijn opdrachtgever Anatole Madera vermoordt. Via een zelf gegraven gang vlucht hij vervolgens uit het atelier, waar hij tevergeefs heeft geprobeerd een schilderij van Antonello da Messina te evenaren. Terloops krijgen we te horen over het trieste verleden van Winckler, zijn scholing als vervalser, zijn onderwerping aan het misdaadsyndicaat dat hem emplooi geeft en zijn tamelijk schimmige liefdesaffaires met twee vrouwen. Wanneer hij zich later verschanst bij zijn vriend Streten nemen de gesprekken met hem, cirkelend rond het misdrijf dat hij heeft gepleegd, bij vlagen de vorm aan van een verhoor.

**Adam en Evelyn** - Ingo Schulze 2009
Kleermaker Adam die te veel van de vrouwen houdt die hij kleedt, geeft toch het meeste om zijn vriendin Evelyn, die echter in 1989 (na die Wende) uit jaloezie naar Hongarije vertrekt.

**Shakespeare and Biography** - Katherine Scheil 2020-09-23
From Shakespeare's religion to his wife to his competitors in the world of early modern theatre, biographers have approached the question of the Bard's life from numerous angles. Shakespeare & Biography offers a fresh look at the biographical questions connected with the famous playwright's life, through essays and reflections written by prominent international scholars and biographers.

Biographies are one of the most popular and best-selling of the literary genres. Why do people like them? What does a biography do and how does it work? This Very Short Introduction examines different types of biographies, why certain people and historical events arouse so much interest, and how they are compared with history and fiction.

**The Fictional Lives of Shakespeare** - Kevin Gilvary 2017-12-12
Modern biographies of William Shakespeare abound; however, close scrutiny of the surviving records clearly show that there is insufficient material for a cradle to grave account of his life, that most of what is written about him cannot be verified from primary sources, and that Shakespearean biography did not attain scholarly or academic respectability until long after Samuel Schoenbaum published William Shakespeare A Documentary Life in 1975. This study begins with a short survey of the history and practice of biography and then surveys the very limited biographical material for Shakespeare. Although Shakespeare gradually attained the status as a national hero during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, there were no serious attempts to reconstruct his life. Any attempt at an account of his life or personality amounts, however, merely to "biografiction". Modern biographers differ sharply on Shakespeare’s apparent relationships with Southampton and with Jonson, which merely underlines the fact that the documentary record has to be greatly expanded through contextual description and speculation in order to appear like a Life of Shakespeare.

**Alsof het voorbij is** - Julian Barnes 2011-10-29
In 'Alsof het voorbij is' van Julian Barnes heeft de tijd Tony Webster ingehaald: ineens is hij een man van middelbare leeftijd, die met weemoed terugkijkt op zijn schooljaren. Hij heeft vriendschappen, een carrière en een huwelijk gehad, een best makkelijke scheiding. Hij heeft zeker nooit geprobeerd iemand pijn te doen. Maar het geheugen is niet perfect. Het kan altijd verrassen, zoals een brief van een advocaat zal bewijzen. 'Alsof het voorbij is' is het verhaal van een man die voorgoed afscheid neemt van de beloftes van zijn jeugd.

**Shakespeare and Renaissance Literary Theories** - Professor Michele
Throwing fresh light on a much discussed but still controversial field, this collection of essays places the presence of Italian literary theories against and alongside the background of English dramatic traditions, to assess this influence in the emergence of Elizabethan theatrical convention and the innovative dramatic practices under the early Stuarts. Contributors respond anew to the process of cultural exchange, cultural transaction, and generic intertextuality involved in the debate on dramatic theory and literary kinds in the Renaissance, exploring, with special emphasis on Shakespeare's works, the level of cultural appropriation, contamination, revision, and subversion characterizing early modern English drama. Shakespeare and Renaissance Literary Theories offers a wide range of approaches and critical viewpoints of leading international scholars concerning questions which are still open to debate and which may pave the way to further groundbreaking analyses on Shakespeare's art of dramatic construction and that of his contemporaries.

A polemical attack on the ways recent Shakespeare biographers have disguised their lack of information.

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare contains the recognized canon of the bard’s plays, and his sonnets and poems. The texts were edited by the late Professor Peter Alexander, making it one of the most authoritative editions, recognized the world over for its clarity and scholarship.

Step back in time and discover the sights, sounds and smells of London through the ages in this enthralling journey into the capital's rich, teeming and occasionally hazardous past. Let time traveller Dr Matthew Green be your guide to six extraordinary periods in London's history - the ages of Shakespeare, medieval city life, plague, coffee houses, the reign of Victoria and the Blitz. We'll turn back the clock to the time of Shakespeare and visit a savage bull and bear baiting arena on the Bankside. In medieval London, we'll circle the walls as the city lies barricaded under curfew, while spinning further forward in time we'll inhale the 'holy herb' in an early tobacco house, before peering into an open plague pit. In the 18th century, we'll navigate the streets in style with a ride on a sedan chair, and when we land in Victorian London, we'll take a tour of freak-show booths and meet the Elephant Man. You'll meet pornographers and traitors, actors and apothecaries, the mad, bad and dangerous to know, all desperate to show you the thrilling and vibrant history of the world's liveliest city.

The Routledge Handbook of Shakespeare and Memory introduces this vibrant field of study to students and scholars, whilst defining and extending critical debates in the area. The book begins with a series of "Critical Introductions" offering an overview of memory in particular areas of Shakespeare such as theatre, print culture, visual arts, post-colonial adaptation and new media. These essays both introduce the topic but also explore specific areas such as the way in which Shakespeare's representation in the visual arts created a national and then a global poet. The entries then develop into more specific studies of the genre of Shakespeare, with sections on Tragedy, History, Comedy and Poetry, which include insightful readings of specific key plays. The book ends with a state of the art review of the area, charting major contributions to the debate, and illuminating areas for further study. The international range of contributors explore the nature of memory in religious, political, emotional and economic terms which are not only relevant to Shakespearean times, but to the way we think and read now.

"The history of the Shakespeare controversy is presented in this revised edition of the 1992 work, with new information and additional chapters. Part I documents and assesses the important theories on the authorship question. Part II is an annotated bibliography, arranged chronologically, of the works that deal with the controversy from its vague beginnings to the present" - Provided by publisher.
Shakespeare and Biography - David Bevington 2010-06-10 OXFORD

SHAKESPEARE TOPICS General Editors: Peter Holland and Stanley Wells

Oxford Shakespeare Topics provide students and teachers with short books on important aspects of Shakespeare criticism and scholarship. Each book is written by an authority in its field, and combines accessible style with original discussion of its subject. Shakespeare and Biography is not a new biography of Shakespeare. Instead, it is a study of what biographers have said about Shakespeare, from the first formal biography in the early 18th century by Nicholas Rowe to Stephen Greenblatt, James Shapiro, Jonathan Bate, Germaine Greer, Katherine Duncan-Jones, Park Honan, René Weis, and others who have written recent biographical accounts of England’s greatest writer. The emphasis is on what sort of issues these biographers have found especially interesting in relation to sex and gender, politics, religion, pessimism, misanthropy, jealousy, aging, family relationships, the end of a career, the end of life. How has Shakespeare's contemplation of these issues changed and grown, and in what ways do those changes reflect new cultural developments in our world as it continues to reinterpret Shakespeare?

The Book of Shakespearian Useless Information - Bruce Montague

2016-03-03 This book commemorates the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death on 23 April 1616. Four centuries later, sales of his works are second only to the Bible. Yet, in common with the authors of the Holy Book, little is known about the poet and playwright, and the few facts that have emerged over the course of several hundred years are largely speculative - when they aren't complete b*llocks. An entry from the diary written by the Revd John Ward, vicar of Stratford-upon-Avon from 1662 to 1681, is instructive, for he recorded tales passed on to him by people who had known Shakespeare. In one, he mentions that 'the Bard' held his fifty-second birthday party at New Place in Stratford and that 'Shakespeare, [the poet Michael] Drayton and Ben Jonson had a merry meeting, and it seems, drank too hard, for Shakespeare died of a feavour there contracted.' But if the date of his death is known, the actual day of his birth remains conjecture. As does so much else . . . This amusing but instructive book assembles many of the legends, the lies, the imputations, and a host of uncommon facts from the late Tudor and early Jacobean period, loosely arranged in chronological order to establish William Shakespeare in his literary and historical setting. In doing so, it shows us the man and his time, thereby illuminating the greatest playwright who ever lived.

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare - William Shakespeare

2006 Contains the complete text of Shakespeare's plays, poems, and sonnets, including a glossary of over 2500 entries, explaining the meaning of obsolete words and phrases.