

## The Shakespeare Conspiracy

The Shakespeare Conspiracy Random House (UK)

Instead of asserting any alleged rivalry between Marlowe and Shakespeare, Sawyer examines the literary reception of the two when the writers are placed in tandem during critical discourse or artistic production. Focusing on specific examples from the last 400 years, the study begins with Robert Greene's comments in 1592 and ends with the post-9/11 and 7/7 era. The study not only looks at literary critics and their assessments, but also at playwrights such as Aphra Behn, novelists such as Anthony Burgess, and late twentieth-century movie and theatre directors. The work concludes by showing how the most recent outbreak of Marlowe as Shakespeare's ghostwriter accelerates due to a climate of conspiracy, including "belief echoes," which presently permeate our cultural and critical discourse.

The first of a four-part set, this volume takes the reader behind the scenes of the Lancastrian Court, bringing to life the murder of Richard II, the execution of the Archbishop of York and the battle for Shrewsbury. The main focus is on the life of Thomas Langley, the 15th century statesman.

For more than two hundred years after William Shakespeare's death, no one doubted that he had written his plays. Since then, however, dozens of candidates have been proposed for the authorship of what is generally agreed to be the finest body of work by a writer in the English language. In this remarkable book, Shakespeare scholar James Shapiro explains when and why so many people began to question whether Shakespeare wrote his plays. Among the doubters have been such writers and thinkers as Sigmund Freud, Henry James, Mark Twain, and Helen Keller. It is a fascinating story, replete with forgeries, deception, false claimants, ciphers and codes, conspiracy theories—and a stunning failure to grasp the power of the imagination. As *Contested Will* makes clear, much more than proper attribution of Shakespeare's plays is at stake in this authorship controversy. Underlying the arguments over whether Christopher Marlowe, Francis Bacon, or the Earl of Oxford wrote Shakespeare's plays are fundamental questions about literary genius, specifically about the relationship of life and art. Are the plays (and poems) of Shakespeare a sort of hidden autobiography? Do Hamlet, Macbeth, and the other great plays somehow reveal who wrote them? Shapiro is the first Shakespeare scholar to examine the authorship controversy and its history in this way, explaining what it means, why it matters, and how it has persisted despite abundant evidence that William Shakespeare of Stratford wrote the plays attributed to him. This is a brilliant historical investigation that will delight anyone interested in Shakespeare and the literary imagination.

Please note that the content of this book primarily consists of articles available from Wikipedia or other free sources online. Pages: 105. Chapters: 9/11 conspiracy theories, Afrocentrism, Baconian theory of Shakespeare authorship, Conspiracy theory, David Icke, Derbyite theory of Shakespeare authorship, Fringe science, Greater Bangladesh, List of Shakespeare authorship candidates, Marlovian theory, Moliere authorship question, Oxfordian theory of Shakespeare authorship, Prince Tudor theory, Pseudoarchaeology, Pseudohistory, Pseudoscience, RMS Titanic alternative theories, Sacred geometry, September 11 attacks

advance-knowledge conspiracy theories, Shakespeare authorship question. Excerpt: 9/11 conspiracy theories are conspiracy theories that disagree with the widely accepted account that the September 11 attacks were perpetrated solely by al-Qaeda, without any detailed advanced knowledge on the part of any government agency. Proponents of these conspiracy theories claim there are inconsistencies in the official conclusions, or evidence which was overlooked. In a 2008 global poll of 16,063 people in 17 countries, majorities in only nine countries believe al Qaeda was behind the attacks. 46% of those surveyed believed al-Qaeda was responsible for the attacks, 15% believed the U.S. government was responsible, 7% believed Israel was and another 7% believed some other perpetrator, other than al Qaeda, was responsible. The poll found that respondents in the Middle East were especially likely to name a perpetrator other than al-Qaeda. The most prominent conspiracy theory is that the collapse of the Twin Towers and 7 World Trade Center were the result of a controlled demolition rather than structural failure due to impact and fire. Another prominent belief is that the Pentagon was hit by a missile launched by elements from inside the U.S. government or that a commercial airliner was allowed to do so via an effective standdown of the American military. Possible...

... Reasoned, objective and most importantly fair.... a valuable addition to the existing canon of literature in this most fractious of subjects: fascinating, sometimes worrying and highly recommended.' - Phenomena Magazine 'Whether steeped in conspiracy lore or just a novice, you'll get a better handle on what's really going on in the world by reading Andy Thomas's Conspiracies.' - Nexus Magazine In today's environment, with trust in governments at an all-time low, conspiracy theories have found a new currency, and websites and social networking ensure they receive a wider and more rapid spread than ever before. But how do we separate truth from imagination? Was Princess Diana murdered, as many people think, despite all the official denials? Did NASA really go to the Moon, when anomalies in the photographic record suggest otherwise? Could 9/11 really have been set up by agencies within the USA itself? The author opens the conspiracy casebook by examining the mindset of those who believe in conspiracies, and considers whether the dismissive attitude towards them has been fair. Part Two looks into history to establish that when conspiracies do occur, credibility should therefore be given to belief in some of the alleged plots and cover-ups of today. This leads into a well-argued examination of some of the most popular conspiracies of our times, including theories over assassinations, UFO cover-ups, and widely voiced concerns over 9/11 and the 'New World Order'. Part Three draws the conclusion that while not all conspiracy theories can be proven, they do at least draw attention to paths not to take, and can be valuable in helping to create a better world where new trust and hope can be forged. Are we living in a world of control, of oppression, of habitual deception? Is this really how things are, or simply human nature massively distorted through a dark lens? The truth probably lies somewhere in the middle.

"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.

Few men have endured the indignity of having their very existence challenged as thoroughly as William Shakespeare, late of Stratford-upon-

Avon. From scholars to amateur enthusiasts, many cannot bring themselves to believe he wrote his own body of work. Playwright J. Ajlouny presents the arguments for and against, all statements and proofs drawn from the historical record. Everybody must decide for himself, but *The Trial of William Shakespeare* makes the controversy both intriguing and fun.

Printer's copy for this published work (Cincinnati: Peter G. Thomson), consisting mainly of the author's autograph but with many printed slips pasted in. The printed book shows many small variations, probably the result of proof reading, but appears not to contain additional listings. The life of William Shakespeare of Stratford-upon-Avon is shrouded in mystery. There is no record of his having received an education, buying a book, or writing a single poem or play. There is no evidence of any one having had a conversation with him or receiving a letter from him. No one in the Warwickshire town of Stratford seems to have known that William Shakespeare was a successful London playwright while he was alive. Even the monument at his burial site - the bust of a balding man with a quill and parchment - was an 18th-century replacement. The original depicted a figure with his hands on a malt-sack; a man whose profession was not a writer, but a dealer in grain.

What makes a secret worth dying for? That's what Christopher Klewe, a brash young professor from Virginia, finds out in Jeffrey Hunter McQuain's new thriller "*The Shakespeare Conspiracy*" when he stumbles upon the most shocking cover-up in literary history. On a rainy Halloween at Washington's Kennedy Center, a masked killer brutally stabs Klewe's best friend. Before dying, the victim deliberately drops his raincoat across a puddle and scrawls the letters "SoN" in his own blood. Investigating the murder scene, Klewe is joined by Zelda Hart, a married reporter for *The New York Times*. They learn the victim's ear was severed and find evidence of a 400-year-old secret society. When questioned by police, Klewe reveals the surprising question he's been researching: was Shakespeare black? Outside Kennedy Center, they meet a drunken security guard who saw the murder and swears that "Shakespeare did it." Klewe and Zelda grow less skeptical when a figure wearing a Shakespeare mask and wielding an Elizabethan dagger chases them into the Metro subway system toward Maryland. After being cornered in a remote Maryland cabin by the killer, the two escape to look for answers at Shakespeare and Company, a famous Paris bookstore, as well as in London's Globe Theater. As they solve each step of the mystery, though, they face new obstacles to overcome and more clues to unravel in their search for the truth. Pursued across two continents by murderers, the desperate Klewe and Zelda have only three days to solve the strangest mystery of Renaissance history. The evidence mounts up, drawn from actual anagrams hidden in Shakespeare's own words as well as historically accurate descriptions of Elizabethan paintings and observations made by the playwright's contemporaries. Their dangerous journey takes them ultimately to Stratford and the Bard's final resting place. There the words of the playwright's epitaph help thwart the deadly conspiracy. Once hailed as "a jaw-dropping premise" by the late columnist William Safire, "*The Shakespeare Conspiracy*" is the first novel by a published Shakespeare expert. It offers readers the twists of a thrill ride reminiscent of "*The Da Vinci Code*" as well as that novel's excitement of wondering whether its central secret just might be true. If so, this new thriller has the potential to expose the biggest literary conspiracy of all time, offering a whole new way of looking at the world's greatest writer, William Shakespeare.

The Shakespeare Authorship question - the question of who wrote Shakespeare's plays and who the man we know as Shakespeare was - is a subject which fascinates millions of people the world over and can be seen as a major cultural phenomenon. However, much discussion of the question exists on the very margins of academia, deemed by most Shakespearean academics as unimportant or, indeed, of interest only to conspiracy theorists. Yet, many academics find the Authorship question interesting and worthy of analysis in theoretical and philosophical terms. This collection brings together leading litera.

Do you remember 2020 and the Corona virus pandemic? California was shutdown like Blockbuster Video, and while spending time researching watching daytime TV, I noticed several ads promoting, "Latuda". What was is Latuda? I wondered. What is it used for? And of course, how much did it cost? The answer, the drug costs around \$1,500 for a 30-day supply and it is used to treat people with bipolar disorder. A little later that same day, I happened to be doom-scrolling on Twitter, and I saw a video of the actor Patrick Stewart. He was reading a Shakespeare sonnet. After listening to the woe and despair of the "real" author, I got to thinking, "Wow. It sounds like he could have used Latuda!" This got me to thinking about mental health symptoms and the "real" author of Shakespeare. What if the "real" author of the Shakespeare canon DID need Latuda? What if he had subconsciously exhibit signs of bipolar disorder in his plays, sonnets and poems? Would not this be like DNA evidence proving the "real" author of Shakespeare? Why not check and see? Here is what Shakey's Madness hopes to answer: 1. Why did he do it? If the "real" author was a nobleman, why would he give away his masterpieces to a commoner? 2. If William Shakespeare acted as a front for a nobleman, wouldn't there need to be a massive conspiracy to hide the secret? 3. Is there proof in the author's style, brilliance and personal imprimatur? Here is what people who have read "Shakey's Madness" say: -I thought Shakespeare was old and boring, but this book is remarkably interesting, and I could not put it down. -Well-written with a lot of factual information to back up the claims which is great! -I really enjoyed this read overall. Mr Boog does a great job of making an argument about who is the real "William Shakespeare". Shakey's Madness is very entertaining. -The best conspiracy-theory book on Shakespeare that I've read! I totally enjoyed it! Are you at all like me and you enjoy conspiracy theories and true crime stories? Have you heard that William Shakespeare may NOT have written his own plays? You haven't heard about it? You need to read Shakey's Madness by Robert Boog. He gives a good account as to who could have potentially written the plays instead of William Shakespeare! He has gone in depth with research and best of all, he provides his sources. Then he suggests for you to Google to see for yourself. He makes some really good points! Shakey's Madness, which is about the real author of WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE is well worth a read!!

In the fall of 1947, Will Shakespeare saw the world collapse around him. Shakespeare, a secret soldier for the Knights Templar, barely escapes the slaughter of his entire knighthood at the hands of a rogue militant arm of the Vatican in a small Montreal church. With orders to escort Templar business associate Dorothy Wilkinson back to her home in Bermuda, Will must locate and rescue the most important secret treasure in human history before it is devoured by a hurricane in the watery caves beneath her father's property. The spiraling quest sends Will and Dorothy into uncovering dark secrets that make up the origins of the knighthood as they confront the traps and puzzles that masterfully protect the world's most coveted treasure.

Two questions have always plagued historians: how could Christopher Marlowe, a known spy and England's foremost playwright, be suspiciously murdered and quickly buried in an unmarked grave, just days before he was to be tried for treason? How could William Shakespeare replace Marlowe as England's greatest playwright virtually overnight --when Shakespeare had never written anything before and was merely an unknown actor? The Shakespeare Conspiracy is a historical novel that intertwines the two mysteries and then puts the pieces together to offer the only possible resolution.

This edition first published in 1962. The Shakespeare Claimants is a critical survey of the great controversy that has raged over the authorship of the Shakespearean plays. It provides the general reader with an outline history of this controversy and with a full description and analysis of the main anti-Stratfordian arguments. This book concentrates on the four main claimants: Bacon, Oxford, Derby and Marlowe. The book contains an extensive bibliography and footnotes to guide the reader through the text.

'The Shakespeare Controversy', otherwise known as 'Who Wrote Shakespeare?', has been a literary problem for generations. Countless attempts have been made to show that someone other than Shakespeare, or some group of people, wrote the Plays and The Sonnets. Peck's method of solving this problem was to look for cipher (secret writing) that might reveal the real author. Rather than searching the thousands of lines of The Plays and The Sonnets for ciphers, he singled out the odd original epitaph on Shakespeare's tombstone as a possible source of a concealed message. The peculiarities of the inscription had coaxed others before him to grapple with its strange context. In this exciting book, the author has demonstrated the importance of mathematical probability in support of ciphers. The math is simplified by interesting explanations. With the ciphers, he then answers the question of authorship while tying Sir Francis Bacon to the Tudor family. When Clayton Lovell Stone's estranged girlfriend, Tracy Griffith, ends up murdered -- two men bludgeoned to death in the process -- and Stone receives a belated bloodied postcard with a manuscript page attached, he follows the trail of her killers and unearths a conspiracy hatched four hundred years ago to disguise the true authorship of the Shakespeare plays and keep the Queen on her throne and the true author's neck attached to the rest of his body. From Stratford-On-Avon, to the Shakespeare theater at Oxford University, to the tombs of Westminster Abby in London, Stone becomes immersed in the intrigue and tangle of a four-hundred-year-old Shakespeare conspiracy, and in a current conspiracy to keep the old one secret. This present day murder/mystery/adventure centers around actual historical evidence that Shakespeare was not, in fact, the author, and that the four-hundred-year-old conspiracy described actually happened.

What if Christopher Marlowe staged his own death, fled to the Continent and went on to write the works we now attribute to Shakespeare? 'About anyone so great as Shakespeare, it is probable that we can never be right; and if we can never be right, it is better that we should from time to time change our way of being wrong.' T. S. Eliot Mark Twain likened writing the biography of Shakespeare to reconstructing the skeleton of a brontosaurus - using 'nine bones and six hundred barrels of plaster of Paris'. We work with a handful of facts and a pile of conjecture. All biographies of Shakespeare, from the wayward to the academic, use the same few-score hard facts kneaded together with legend, then leavened by a dash of zeitgeist and a large dollop of author's imagination. Poems and plays are plundered for booty, even by those who profess scepticism as to the inferences that can be drawn about the life from the work. Like statistics, quotations can be turned to very different facts. This book is not, of course, an attempt to prove that Christopher Marlowe staged his own death, fled to the continent, and went on to write the work attributed to Shakespeare. bones around, viewing them from a different angle to build a different brontosaurus. It does so in a spirit of fun, and with the intention of a little saucy iconoclasm. Shakespeare's works are unassailable, and will survive any amount of subversion, but by playing with our commonplace history, Rodney Bolt argues that the quasi-religious idol the man has become is perhaps in need of the efforts of a wicked woodworm. Where other writers have looked at the evidence and deduced a story, Bolt has imagined a story, then supported it with the same sparse evidence. At this distance, the difference between deduction and speculation is paper thin. The point of the take is not only to question our view of history and the validity of biography, but to show how people travelled, how cultures crossed, and how art gets made.

Who really wrote the Shakespeare plays? This important literary and cultural controversy is livelier and more widely discussed than ever before. Here, nine leading experts offer their version of who wrote the plays. Why does this issue matter? Because a full understanding of the author can make a huge difference to our wider appreciation of the life and times, the literature, and the culture of the period. William Shakespeare is universally regarded as the greatest writer who ever lived. Every year sees vast amounts of critical, philosophical and contextual interpretations of his works. There is endless biographical analyses of his life in relation to this work. And yet, despite this vast output, Shakespeare remains an enigmatic figure. He remains a man who seems to have understood humanity so well but whose life as a writer is absent in records of the time. This truth has led to many questions about the real author behind the title-pages, the real nature of Shakespeare the man, and how this nature relates to Shakespeare the writer. In new essays especially written for this book nine leading 'Shakespearean' authors present their version of the man. Ros Barber, Barry Clarke, John Casson with William Rubinstein & David Ewald, William Leahy, Alan H. Nelson, Diana Price, Alexander Waugh and Robin Williams each offer their ideas. Each essay is founded in scholarly research and provides a positive case for why the Shakespeare Authorship Controversy needs to be taken seriously. These versions of Shakespeare are realistic and compelling. Each in its turn will provoke the reader to see various aspects of Shakespeare in a different light. And they will help us understand the enigmatic fascination that Shakespeare (and the authorship question) continues to generate.? For fifteen years Anne Hathaway kept a diary. It was no ordinary diary, as Anne, an excellent writer of poems and songs in her own right, was also the wife of the world's most famous poet and playwright, William Shakespeare. In its pages she reveals the man she knew and loved and their shared life full of triumph and tragedy. Pulitzer-prize nominated poet Sandra Hochman's imagining of Mrs. Shakespeare is both a thoughtful take on one of the greatest mysteries in Western literature and the story of two people who would change the English language forever.

Did Shakespeare write Shakespeare? This authoritative collection of essays brings fresh perspectives to bear on an intriguing cultural phenomenon.

Excerpt from *The Cryptography of Shakespeare*, Vol. 1 The controversy as to the identity of the author of the Shakespeare plays and poems has involved three kinds of evidence, historical, stylistic, and cryptographic; and in the already extensive literature to which the controversy has given rise this evidence must be carefully sifted from a mass of conjecture which is sometimes plausible and sometimes not. For a general introduction to the literature that deals with the historical evidence that the poet was not the actor William Shakespere the reader may refer to G. G. Greenwood: *The Shakespeare Problem Restated*. For a general introduction to the literature that deals with the historical and stylistic evidence that the poet was Francis Bacon the reader may refer to Walter Begley: *Is It Shakespeare?* and Bacon's *Nova*

Resuscitatio; R. M. Theobald: Shakespeare Studies in Baconian Light; W. S. Booth: The Droeshout Portrait of William Shakespeare; and J. P. Baxter: The Greatest of Literary Problems. The attempts that have been made to discover cryptographic evidence that Francis Bacon was the author of the Shakespeare plays and poems have been based on a variety of cryptographic methods. Among these methods are the "arithmetical cipher", as employed by Ignatius Donnelly in *The Great Cryptogram* and *The Cipher in the Plays and on the Tombstone*; the bi-literal cipher, as employed by Elizabeth Wells Gallup in *Francis Bacon's Bi-Literal Cypher*; the word cipher, as employed by Orville W. Owen in *Sir Francis Bacon's Cipher Story Discovered and Deciphered*; the "progressive anagram", as employed by an anonymous "Shake-spearean" in *Shakespeare Anagrams*; and a variation of this method which is employed by William Stone Booth in *Some Acrostic Signatures of Francis Bacon* and in *The Hidden Signatures of Francesco Colonna and Francis Bacon*, and which Mr. Booth sometimes, as in his first title, designates inaccurately as an acrostic method, and sometimes as the method of the "string cipher." About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at [www.forgottenbooks.com](http://www.forgottenbooks.com) This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

It is 1612. Robert Cecil, Chief Secretary to King James I, is dying. Now the threat from the Catholics has decayed, the Puritan majority are gaining an increasing stranglehold over English society. Parliament is starting to flex its muscles against the King whose court drifts shamelessly towards decadence and corruption. And the great period of Elizabethan and Jacobean drama has ended with the abrupt retreat from public life of William Shakespeare. Then Henry Gresham is asked by Cecil's protege, Chief Justice Sir Edward Coke, to trace a precious hand-written play manuscript that has gone missing, presumed stolen by a Cambridge bookseller. Gresham has no cause to realise that he is being used as live bait to draw out a murderous madman who is determined to destroy James I, a madman who was supposed to have died twenty years before, or that he is set to unravel the truth behind the authorship of one of the greatest plays the world has ever seen...

The Shakespeare Conspiracy Historical Fiction TWO QUESTIONS HAVE ALWAYS PLAGUED HISTORIANS: HOW COULD Christopher Marlowe, a known spy and England's foremost playwright, be suspiciously murdered and quickly buried in an unmarked grave — just days before he was to be tried for treason? HOW COULD William Shakespeare replace Marlowe as England's greatest playwright virtually overnight — when Shakespeare had never written anything before and was merely an unknown actor? Historians have noted that the Bard of

Stratford was better known at that time “for holding horses for the gentry while they watched plays.” The Shakespeare Conspiracy is a historical novel that intertwines the two mysteries and then puts the pieces together to offer the only possible resolution. The novel, a wild romp through gay 16th Century Elizabethan England, is a rapidly unfolding detective story filled with comedy, intrigue, murder and illicit love. And most importantly, all recorded events, persons, dates and documents are historically accurate. You will... Get the scandalous view of the real William Shakespeare, with his sexual peccadilloes, illegitimate children and mistresses... Wander through the gay world of Christopher Marlowe, when it was acceptable to be homosexual just so long as one stayed within one's own class — as did Kings like James I, Edward II, and others... Observe Inspector Henry Maunder matching wits with Christopher Marlowe's patron, Sir Thomas Walsingham — one cleverly hiding the facts and other cunningly discovering the truth... Watch the arguments unfold, showing the actual reasons that many historians believe that it could only have been Christopher Marlowe writing all those great works. It's a tale of murder, mayhem and manhunts in the underbelly of London as the Black Plague scourges the country and the greatest conspiracy plot of all time is hatched. It's... The Shakespeare Conspiracy! [www.ShakespeareConspiracy.com](http://www.ShakespeareConspiracy.com)

Excerpt from Lord Penzance on the Bacon-Shakespeare Controversy: A Judicial Summing-Up The author of this contribution to the Shakespearean discussion, the Right Hon. Sir James Plaisted Wilde, Baron Penzance, was of a family which included among its members many distinguished lawyers. The best known and most successful of these was Sir Thomas Wilde, Lord Truro, uncle of Lord Penzance, who held the offices of attorney-general, and lord chief justice of the common pleas, and subsequently that of lord chancellor during the administration of Lord John Russell in 1850-1852. Lord Penzance was born in 1816, was educated at Winchester College, and passing on to Trinity College, Cambridge, took his degree of B.A. in 1838, and M.A. in 1842. True to the instincts of his family he selected the law as his profession, and was, in due course, called to the bar by the benchers of the Inner Temple in November, 1839. He was created Q.C. in July, 1855, and was elected a bencher of his inn in January, 1856. His success on the northern circuit, which he joined soon after his call, was early and rapid. He showed a remarkable grasp of legal principles, and was endowed by nature with a remarkable facility for marshalling facts and for a clear expression of his views. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at [www.forgottenbooks.com](http://www.forgottenbooks.com) This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works. Few are aware that the actual identity of William Shakespeare, a pen name, represents our greatest cultural mystery. Even fewer realize that Will Shakspeare of Stratford-on-Avon was an uneducated businessman who never owned a book, knew no foreign languages, never traveled and never wrote a word of poetry or prose. Shakspeare was a front for a complete fraud perpetrated by England's leading politician, Robert Cecil, for reasons of power and greed. The astonishing strength of Conventional Wisdom has kept the ruse going for 400 years, perpetrated by professors of English who, blinded by traditional dogma, refuse to accept the remarkable and growing body of evidence in favor of Edward de Vere. Volume 8 of the Anthology Series, Building the Case for Edward de Vere As Shakespeare, documents the quickening pace of Oxfordian discoveries in the late 1990s and early 2000s. These present massive problems for professors of English to combat in a convincing manner. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, 1991: For present purposes, I shall confine my analysis to the Sherlock Holmes principle that sometimes the fact that a watchdog did not bark may provide a significant clue about the identity of a murderous intruder. This concern

directs our attention to three items of [the Shakespeare authorship controversy]. First, it is of interest that there is no mention of any library, or of any books at all, in his will, and no evidence that his house in Stratford ever contained a library. Second, his son-in-law s detailed medical journals . . . contain no mention of the doctor s illustrious father-in-law. Finally is the fact that is most puzzling to me the seven-year period of silence that followed Shakespeare s [Shakspere s] death in 1616. Until the First Folio was published in 1623, there seems to have been no public comment in any part of England on the passing of the greatest literary genius in the country s history. It does seem odd that not even a cocker spaniel or a dachshund made any noise at all when he passed from the scene. "

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