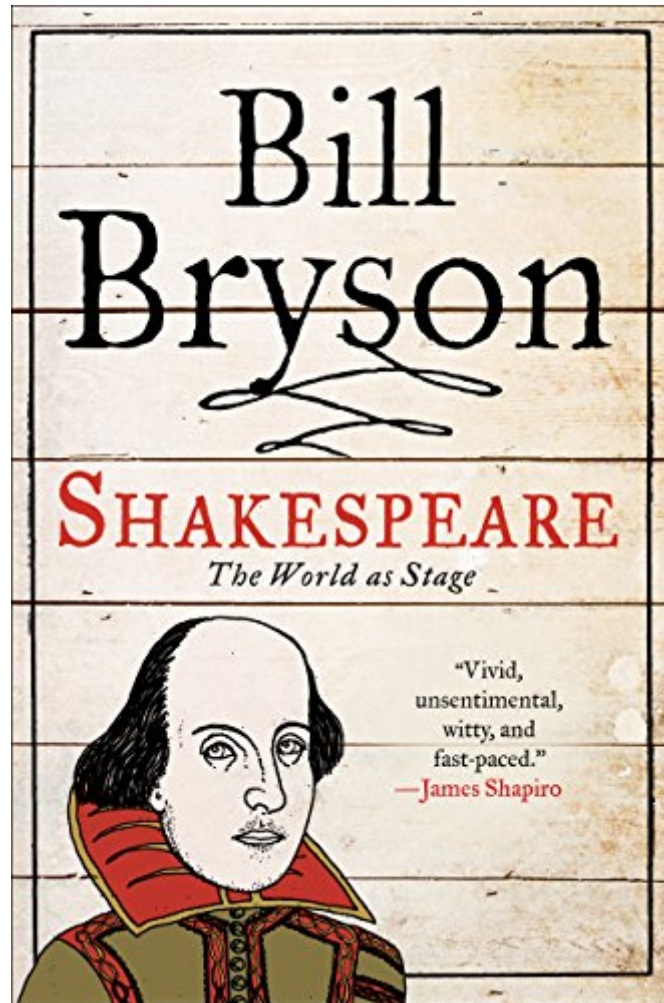


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# Shakespeare: The World As Stage (Eminent Lives Series)



## Synopsis

Bill Bryson's bestselling biography of William Shakespeare takes the reader on an enthralling tour through Elizabethan England and the eccentricities of Shakespearean scholarship—updated with a new introduction by the author to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. William Shakespeare, the most celebrated poet in the English language, left behind nearly a million words of text, but his biography has long been a thicket of wild supposition arranged around scant facts. With a steady hand and his trademark wit, Bill Bryson sorts through this colorful muddle to reveal the man himself. His Shakespeare is like no one else's—the beneficiary of Bryson's genial nature, his engaging skepticism, and a gift for storytelling unrivaled in our time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Bill Bryson is a fabulous writer and he weaves a tale even when the information is thin. I enjoyed his exploration of Shakespeare's life even while the book was focused on how little actually known about Shakespeare as a person. The context—the places where he lived, the theater of the time, the politics & religious conflicts, even the gossip and the clothes, take front and center because the facts are few. Shakespeare remains a mystery and Bill Bryson remains a favorite writer. He

debunks many of the myths and that alone makes the book worth reading.

I learned a great deal about London in the years of Shakespeare. Descriptions of the environment, the theater, and the intrigue of individuals involved were vivid. I am interested in the development of the English language. There was a great deal of new information about word usage, spelling and meanings of words. I haven't read anything by Bill Bryson I haven't enjoyed.

I found Bryson's book very entertaining and at the same time very careful to relate what we know of Shakespeare's life and what is a "good guess". The book is brief but complete and a very good read.

This is the 3rd Bill Bryson book I've read which makes me a fan of his writing style. He starts by telling us how little is known about Shakespeare and then proceeds with a colorful account of the time in which he lived adding what is actually known about the playwright. As this is the first book and will probably be the only book on this subject that I'll read, Bryson covers the subject concisely and enjoyably.

Bryson doesn't deal in speculation, just the known. Fast, fun read.

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