

## Shakespeare: Recommended Reading

This list is for general interest. It is not meant to be a complete academic bibliography.

### ***Interred With Their Bones***

Carrell, Jennifer Lee. *Interred With Their Bones*. New York: Dutton, 2007.

- A long-lost work by Shakespeare, newly found. A killer who stages the Bard's murders as flesh-and-blood realities. And a desperate race to find literary gold—and just to stay alive...

## William Shakespeare of Stratford

### Biographies

#### Delicious Orthodox Lives

Ackroyd, Peter. *Shakespeare: The Biography*. New York: Nan A. Talese—Doubleday, 2005.

Bryson, Bill. *Shakespeare: The World as Stage*. New York: HarperCollins-Eminent Lives, 2007.

Greenblatt, Stephen. *Will in the World: How Shakespeare Became Shakespeare*. New York and London: Norton, 2004.

Honan, Park. *Shakespeare: A Life*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Nicholl, Charles. *The Lodger Shakespeare: His Life on Silver Street*. New York: Viking, 2008.

Shapiro, James. *A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare: 1599*. New York: HarperCollins; London: Faber, 2005.

#### Decidedly Unorthodox

Asquith, Clare. *Shadowplay: The Hidden Beliefs and Coded Politics of William Shakespeare*. New York: Public Affairs, 2005.

- Argues not only that Shakespeare was Catholic, but that his plays were a subtle form of resistance to a Protestant police state

Phillips, Graham, and Martin Keatman. *The Shakespeare Conspiracy*. London: HB Century, 1994.

- Shakespeare as a spy, involved with Raleigh's atheistic "School of Night" and a plot to kill the queen

Twain, Mark. "Is Shakespeare Dead?" 1909. Available in reprinted editions and collections of essays.

- Twain's rollicking "Anti-Biography" of Shakespeare appears in chapters 3-8.

#### About Ann Hathaway (Shakespeare's Wife)

Greer, Germaine. *Shakespeare's Wife*. New York: Harper, 2008.

### Pictures, Documents, and Art:

Cooper, Tarnya. *Searching for Shakespeare*. New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press;

London: National Portrait Gallery Publications, 2006.

- Gorgeous picture book exploring Shakespeare's portraits as well as other paintings, documents, books, and objects illuminating Shakespeare's life and career in the theater

Martineau, Jane, ed. *Shakespeare in Art*. London and New York: Merrell, 2003.

- Shakespeare's works through the eyes of artists. Another beautiful picture book

Schoenbaum, S[amuel]. *William Shakespeare: A Documentary Life*. New York: Oxford University Press in association with the Scolar Press, 1975.

- a scholarly collection of all the documents pertaining to William Shakespeare

Schoenbaum, S[amuel]. *William Shakespeare: A Compact Documentary Life*. Rev ed. New York and London: Oxford University Press, 1987.

- geared more toward the lay reader than the larger academic version above. Look through the documents and decide for yourself!

## Editions

There are many fine editions of Shakespeare's works in print, including the Arden, New Cambridge, Norton, Oxford, and Riverside editions. While writing *Interred With Their Bones*, I relied on:

*The Oxford Shakespeare: The Complete Works*. General eds. Stanley Wells and Gary Taylor. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2005

*Shakespeare's Sonnets*. Ed. Stephen Booth. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1977.

*The Arden Shakespeare: The Poems*. Ed. E.T. Prince, ed. London and New York: Routledge, 1988.

*The First Folio of Shakespeare, 1623*. Prepared and introduced by Doug Mosten. New York and London, Applause, 1995.

### The First Folio

West, Anthony James. *The Shakespeare First Folio: The History of the Book*. 2 vols. London and New York: Oxford University Press, 2001-2003.

## Literary Criticism

Bloom, Harold. *Shakespeare: the Invention of the Human*. New York: Riverhead, 1998.

Dobson, Michael, and Stanley Wells, eds. *The Oxford Companion to Shakespeare*. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Garber, Marjorie. *Shakespeare After All*. New York: Pantheon, 2004.

- Exquisite readings of the plays by one of the best Shakespeare professors around (I'm biased. She was my dissertation director).

Vendler, Helen. *The Art of Shakespeare's Sonnets*. Cambridge, Mass: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1997.

## Authorship Controversy

### Overviews

McCrea, Scott. *The Case for Shakespeare: The End of the Authorship Question*.

Westport, Connecticut and London: Praeger, 2005.

- In defense of the man from Stratford

Michell, John. *Who Wrote Shakespeare?* London: Thames and Hudson, 1996.

- An excellent, entertaining, non-partisan look at the controversy

## **Edward de Vere, seventeenth Earl of Oxford**

### Biographies

Anderson, Mark. *"Shakespeare" By Another Name: The Life of Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford, the Man Who Was Shakespeare.* Foreword by Sir Derek Jacobi. New York: Gotham, 2005.

- From the Oxfordian point of view

Nelson, Alan H. *Monstrous Adversary: The Life of Edward de Vere, 17<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford.* Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2003.

- From the Stratfordian point of view

### The Case for Oxford (in chronological order)

Looney, J. Thomas. *"Shakespeare" Identified in Edward de Vere, Seventeenth Earl of Oxford, and The Poems of Edward de Vere.* 1920, 1921. 2 vols. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Ruth Lloyd Miller, ed. Port Washington, New York: Kennikat Press for Minos Pub. Co., 1975.

- First published in 1920. The first serious book arguing for the Earl of Oxford

Rendall, Gerald H. *Shakespeare's Sonnets and Edward de Vere.* London: J. Murray, 1930.

- The book that influenced Freud

Obgurn, Charlton, Jr. *The Mysterious William Shakespeare: the Myth and the Reality.* New York: Dodd, Mead, 1984.

- The magnum opus of the American dean of Oxfordianism

Sobran, Joseph. *Alias Shakespeare: Solving the Greatest Literary Mystery of All Time.* New York and London: The Free Press, 1997.

- A recent restating of the Oxfordian case; its addition to earlier arguments is a reading of the sonnets as homoerotic love poetry from Oxford to the Earl of Southampton.

Streitz, Paul. *Oxford: Son of Queen Elizabeth I.* Darien, Conn.: Oxford Institute Press, 2001.

- Argues that Oxford not only wrote Shakespeare, but that he was Queen Elizabeth's son by Lord Thomas Seymour, the Lord High Admiral. Later, claims Streitz, Oxford became the queen's lover; the child of this incestuous union was Henry Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton.

Field, Bertram. *Players: The Mysterious Identity of William Shakespeare.* New York: HarperCollins-ReganBooks, 2005.

- Argues that William Shakespeare of Stratford and the Earl of Oxford worked together

### Oxford's Poetry

May, Steven W. "The poems of Edward de Vere, seventeenth Earl of Oxford and of Robert Devereux, second Earl of Essex." *Studies in Philology* 77 (1980): 1-132.

- an orthodox academic edition

[For an Oxfordian edition, see Looney's *Shakespeare Identified*, cited above.]

## Sir Francis Bacon

### Biographies

Dodd, Alfred. *Francis Bacon's Personal Life Story*. Ed. Irene Rowland. 2 vols. 1949  
Reprint, 2 vols. in one.: London: Rider & Co., 1986.

- from the Baconian point of view

Jardine, Lisa, and Alan Stewart. *Hostage to Fortune: The Troubled Life of Francis Bacon*. London: Victor Gollancz, 1998.

- The definitive (orthodox) biography

### The Case for Bacon (in chronological order)

Donnelly, Ignatius. *The Great Cryptogram: Francis Bacon's Cipher in the So-Called Shakespeare Plays*. 2 vols. In 1. Chicago, New York and London: R.S. Peale, 1888.

- Deciphering messages from Bacon in the First Folio

Twain, Mark. "Is Shakespeare Dead?" 1909. *The Complete Essays of Mark Twain*. Ed. Charles Neider. Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1963.

- The case for Bacon, with all the acerbic irreverence of Twain
- Various editions still in print
- Online editions at:

- Ever the Twain Shall Meet: <http://ww3.telarama.com/~joseph/shake.html>
- Project Gutenberg: <http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/2431>

Cornwall, Arthur Bradford. *Francis the First: Unacknowledged King of Great Britain and Ireland*. Birmingham: Cornish Brothers Ltd, 1936.

- Complex deciphering of much of the great literature of Renaissance Europe uncovers messages from Bacon, proclaiming his status as the legitimate son of Queen Elizabeth and the Earl of Leicester

Leary, Penn. *The Second Cryptographic Shakespeare*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Omaha, Nebraska: Westchester House, 1990.

- online edition at:  
[http://home.att.net/~tleary/second\\_cryptographic\\_shakespeare.htm](http://home.att.net/~tleary/second_cryptographic_shakespeare.htm)

Dawkins, Peter. *The Shakespeare Enigma*. Polair, 2004

Fellows, Virginia M. *The Shakespeare Code*. Summit University Press, 2006

- Baconian book about Orville Owen's Cipher Wheel

### Bacon's Works

There are many good editions of Bacon's voluminous works. A good one-volume selection is:

*Francis Bacon*. Ed. Brian Vickers. The Oxford Authors. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 1996.

## William Stanley, sixth Earl of Derby

There is no modern biography of Derby. For a general history of his house, see:

Bagley, J. J. [John J.] *The Earls of Derby, 1485-1985*. London: Sidgwick &

Jackson, 1985.

Old and fanciful accounts include:

Seacome, John. [Sometimes spelled Seacombe]. *A Brief Account of the Travels of the Celebrated Sir William Stanley*. In *Memoirs; Containing a Genealogical and Historical Account of the Ancient and Honourable House of Stanley*. Liverpool: J. Nuttall, [1801].

- other eds titled *The History of the House of Stanley*

*Sir William Stanley's Garland: Containing His Twenty-One Years Travels Through Most Parts of the World, and His Safe Return to Latham Hall*. Warrington, Printed by W. Eyres, [1800]:

#### The Case for Derby (in chronological order)

Lefranc, Abel. *Sous le Masque de William Shakespeare: William Stanley, VI Comte de Derby*. 2 vols. Paris: Payot, 1918-19.

---. *Under the Mask of William Shakespeare*. Trans. Cecil Cragg. Braunton and Devon: Merlin Books, 1988.

- An English translation of the French 1918-19 book.

Titherley, A. W. *Shakespeare's Identity: William Stanley, Sixth Earl of Derby*. Winchester: Warren & Son, 1952.

Evans, A. J. *Shakespeare's Magic Circle*. Westport, Connecticut: Associated Booksellers, 1956.

- Argues for group authorship, led by Derby

#### Derby's music

"A Pavin made for the Orpharion, by the Right Honorable William Earle of Darbie." In Francis Pilkington. *The Second Set of Madrigals and Pastorals, of 3-4-5 and 6 Parts; Apt for Violls and Voyces*. London: Printed by Thomas Snodham for M[athew] .L[ownes]. and A.B[rowne]., 1624.

- Pilkington was a precentor or chanter of Chester Cathedral and a protégé of the Derbys

## **Marlowe**

### His Life and Mysterious Death

Burgess, Anthony. *A Dead Man in Deptford*. 1993. Carroll & Graf, 2003.

- novel about Marlowe's death, based on Nicholl's book, *The Reckoning*.

Garrett, George P. *Entered From the Sun: The Murder of Marlowe*. New York: Doubleday, 1990.

- Historical murder mystery about Marlowe's death

Honan, Park. *Christopher Marlowe: Poet & Spy*. Oxford and New York: Oxford UP, 2005.

- orthodox bio

Hotson, J. Leslie. *The Death of Christopher Marlowe*. Intro. George Lyman Kittredge. London: The Nonesuch Press; Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP, 1925. Rpt. Whitefish, Montana: Kessinger Publishing, 2003.

- As history, it's out of date, but still useful for reprinting some of the documents in the case

Nicholl, Charles. *The Reckoning: The Murder of Christopher Marlowe*. London: J. Cape, 1992. Rev. ed. Vintage, 2002.

- history written as whodunit; highly recommended

Riggs, David. *The World of Christopher Marlowe*. London: Faber, 2004.

- orthodox bio; Riggs, a professor of English at Stanford, is a superb biographer with a literary bent.

Ule, Louis. *Christopher Marlowe (1564-1607): A Biography*. New York: Carlton Press Corp., 1995.

- Bio from the Marlovian point of view

#### The Case for Marlowe (in chronological order)

Hoffman, Calvin. *The Murder of the Man Who Was Shakespeare*. New York: J. Messner, 1955.

Wraight, A. D., and Virginia F. Stern. *In Search of Christopher Marlowe*. 1965. Reprint: Chichester, Sussex, UK: Adam Hart, 1993.

Wraight, A. D. *The Story that the Sonnets Tell*. London: Adam Hart, 1994.

---. *Shakespeare: New Evidence*. London: Adam Hart, 1996.

#### Works

Editions of Marlowe's works are numerous. I like the New Mermaid series of individual plays. Good collected editions are:

*The Complete Plays*. Ed. J. B. Steane. New York and London: Penguin, 1969.

*The Collected Poems of Christopher Marlowe*. Ed. Patrick Cheney and Brian J. Striar. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

There is an online edition of the complete works at:

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/Texts/MarloweINTR.html>

#### **Mary (Sidney) Herbert, Countess of Pembroke**

Hannay, Margaret P. *Philip's Phoenix: Mary Sidney, Countess of Pembroke*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990.

- the definitive (orthodox) biography

Williams, Robin P. *Sweet Swan of Avon: Did a Woman Write Shakespeare?* Berkeley: Peachpit—Wilton Circle Press, 2006.

- the case for Lady Pembroke as Shakespeare

#### Works

*The Collected Works of Mary Sidney Herbert, Countess of Pembroke*. 2 vols. Ed. Margaret P. Hannay, Noel J. Kinnamon, and Michael G. Brennan. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press,

- the definitive scholarly edition

*The Selected Works of Mary Sidney Herbert, Countess of Pembroke*. Ed. Margaret P. Hannay, Noel J. Kinnamon, and Michael G. Brennan. Tempe, Arizona: Arizona

Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2005.

- a more affordable selection

### Sir Henry Neville

James, Brenda, and William D. Rubinstein. *The Truth Will Out: Unmasking the Real Shakespeare*. Harlow, England; New York: Longman/Pearson Education, 2005.

### Group Theories

Evans, A. J. *Shakespeare's Magic Circle*. Westport, Connecticut: Associated Booksellers, 1956.

- argues for a group headed by the Earl of Derby

Field, Bertram. *Players: The Mysterious Identity of William Shakespeare*. New York: HarperCollins-ReganBooks, 2005.

- argues for William Shakespeare of Stratford and the Earl of Oxford as a team

### Delia Bacon

Bacon, Delia. *The Philosophy of the Plays of Shakespere [sic] Unfolded*. Preface by Nathaniel Hawthorne. London, 1857. Reprint: New York: AMS, 1970.

- online edition at:

<http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/webbin/gutbook/lookup?num=8207>

Bacon, Theodore. *Delia Bacon, A Biographical Sketch*. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1888.

- online edition at:

<http://books.google.com/books?id=mnkLAAAIAAJ&dq=theodore+bacon+delia&printsec=frontcover&source=web&ots=WmiGjxs57O&sig=SUUUh4qHZSuzabPdXUUDkSwqpXc>

Hawthorne, Nathaniel. "Recollections of a Gifted Woman." *Our Old Home: A Series of English Sketches*. Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1863.

- various editions still in print

- online edition at: <http://www.eldritchpress.org/nh/oo.html#bacon>

Hopkins, Vivian C. *Prodigal Puritan: A Life of Delia Bacon*. Cambridge, Mass: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1959.

### The Cervantes Connection

Byron, William. *Cervantes: A Biography*. 1978. New York: Paragon House, 1988.

Cervantes, Miguel de. [*Don Quixote*, the Shelton translation.] *The History of the Valorous & Witty Knight-Errant Don Quixote of the Mancha*. Trans. Thomas Shelton. 1612, 1620. 3 vols. London and New York: Macmillan, 1900.

- online edition of the first part at: <http://www.bartleby.com/14/>

- online edition of the second part at:

<http://hhh.gavilan.edu/fmayrhofer/spanish/shelton/>

- The Cardenio story begins in Part I, Book 3, ch. 9)

---. *Don Quixote*. Trans. J. M. Cohen. London and New York: Penguin, 1950.

- the Cardenio story begins in ch. 23

Knowles, Edwin B. "Thomas Shelton, Translator of *Don Quixote*." *Studies in the*

*Renaissance 5* (1958): 160-75.

## The Howard Family

Frances (Howard) Carr, Countess of Somerset

Lindley, David. *The Trials of Frances Howard: Fact and Fiction at the Court of King James*. London and New York: Routledge, 1993.

Somerset, Anne. *Unnatural Murder: Poison at the Court of James I*. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1997.

Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton

Peck, Linda Levy. *Northampton: Patronage and Policy at the Court of King James I*. London: George Allen & Unwin, 1982.

## Royal College of St. Albans, Valladolid

Williams, Michael E. *St. Alban's College, Valladolid: Four Centuries of English Catholic Presence in Spain*. London: C. Hurst; New York: St. Martin's Press, 1986.

## The King James Bible

Bobrick, Benson. *Wide as the Waters: The Story of the English Bible and the Revolution It Inspired*. New York: Penguin, 2001.

McGrath, Alister. *In the Beginning: The Story of the King James Bible and How it Changed a Nation, a Language, and a Culture*. New York: Random House, 2001.

## Occult Shakespeare

Dodd, Alfred. *Shakespeare, Creator of Freemasonry*. London: Rider & Co., 1937.

- Dodd was an impassioned Baconian.

Versluis, Arthur. *Shakespeare the Magus*. St. Paul, Minn: Grail Publishing, 2001.

Wigston, W. F. C. *Bacon, Shakespeare, and the Rosicrucians*. 1888. Facsimile reprint: Whitefish, Montana: Kessinger Publishing, 1997.

---. *Francis Bacon, Poet, Prophet, Philosopher, versus Phantom Captain Shakespeare, the Rosicrucian Mask*. 1891. Facsimile reprint: Whitefish, Montana: Kessinger Publishing, 2003.

- Another confirmed Baconian, arguing for Rosicrucian influence (and through them, an inherited connection to the Templars)

Yates, Frances. *The Occult Philosophy in the Elizabethan Age*. 1979. London and New York: Routledge, 2001.

---. *Shakespeare's Last Plays: A New Approach*. London and New York: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1975.

- Yates was one of the great historians of the Renaissance occult.

## Shakespeare's World: History and Culture

### Shakespeare's Stage

Chambers, E. K. *The Elizabethan Stage*. 4 vols. Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 1923.

Gurr, Andrew. *The Shakespearean Stage, 1574-1642*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Cambridge, UK:

Cambridge University Press, 1992.

### Shakespeare's England

Ashelford, Jane. *Dress in the Age of Elizabeth I*. London: B.T. Batsford Ltd., 1988.

Picard, Liza. *Elizabeth's London: Everyday Life in Elizabethan London*. London: Weidenfield & Nicolson, 2003.

Williams, Norman Lloyd. *Tudor England Visited*. London: Cassell; New York, NY: Distributed in the United States by Sterling Pub. Co., 1991.

### Art

Edmond, Mary. *Hilliard and Oliver: the Lives and Works of Two Great Miniaturists*. London: R. Hale, 1983.

Strong, Roy. *The Cult of Elizabeth: Elizabethan Portraiture and Pageantry*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1977.

### Shakespeare in Novels

Carrell, Jennifer Lee. *Interred With Their Bones*. New York: Dutton, 2007.

- A long-lost work by Shakespeare, newly found. A killer who stages the Bard's murders as flesh-and-blood realities. And a desperate race to find literary gold—and just to stay alive...

Burgess, Anthony. *Nothing Like the Sun: A Story of Shakespeare's Love Life*. 1964. W. W. Norton, 1996.

- The story behind the Sonnets

Gruber, Michael. *The Book of Air and Shadows*. New York: William Morrow, 2007.

- Russian mobsters, an intellectual property lawyer, and a filmmaker, all in pursuit of a lost manuscript.

Marsh, Ngaio. *Light Thickens*. Boston and Toronto: Little, Brown, 1982.

- A Roderick Alleyn mystery about murder in *Macbeth*. Marsh's last book.

Rush, Christopher. *Will*. New York: Overlook, 2008.

- A new fictional bio/historical thriller

Tey, Josephine. *The Daughter of Time*. New York: Collier Books—Macmillan, 1951.

- Inspector Alan Grant of Scotland Yard takes on the history behind *Richard III* and attempts to figure out what really happened to the princes in the Tower.

Winfield, Jess. *My Name is Will: A Novel of Sex, Drugs, and Shakespeare*. New York: Twelve, 2008.

- The subtitle should give you a hint of what's to come. Takes place then and now.

### For Young Readers:

Blackwood, Gary. *The Shakespeare Stealer*. New York: Dutton, 1998.

---. *Shakespeare's Scribe*. New York: Dutton, 2000.

---. *Shakespeare's Spy*. New York: Dutton, 2003.

- Apprentice actor Widge and his adventures with Shakespeare

Cooper, Susan. *King of Shadows*. New York: Margaret K. McElderry, 1999.

- Young Nat Field is suddenly whisked from the present day back to London in 1599, where he unwittingly changes the course of history.