



# William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius

By Anthony Holden

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

**William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius** By Anthony Holden

 [Download William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius ...pdf](#)

# William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius

By *Anthony Holden*

**William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius** By Anthony Holden

**William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius** By Anthony Holden **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #1581450 in Books
- Published on: 2000-07-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.50" h x 1.50" w x 6.50" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 416 pages



[Download William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius ...pdf](#)



[Read Online William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius By Anthony Holden

---

### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

Anthony Holden doesn't pull any punches in his choice of biographical subjects. Having already taken on the Prince of Wales, Laurence Olivier, and Tchaikovsky, this time Holden has gone for no less than the Bard himself. Dismissing claims that there is nothing left to say about the poet and playwright, Holden's bold study argues that, on the contrary, the archives are rich with traces of Shakespeare as husband, father, actor, dramatist, poet, and Stratford lad made good. Holden also argues that "if each generation recreates Shakespeare in its own image," then we need a new version for the 21st century. He obliges with a racy, incident-packed account of the glovemaker's son who rose to subsequent immortality via the stage of Elizabethan London. In addition to poring over the established evidence, Holden makes some controversial but intriguing claims. Not only was Shakespeare a covert Catholic who spent his so-called lost years as a budding actor in Catholic households in Lancashire under the name of "Shakeshaft" but he also suffered from sexually transmitted diseases, experienced a nervous breakdown, fathered an illegitimate son via his middle-aged landlady, and sailed close to the political wind with what Holden sees as his residual Catholic and "republican instincts." It's all very entertaining--if at times far out on its own interpretative limb--and a lively and refreshing approach to the Bard as an Elizabethan man behaving badly. *William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius* may not be for all time, but it resonates richly with our times. --Jerry Brotton

#### From Publishers Weekly

First-time bardographer (and biographer of Olivier and Prince Charles), Holden colorfully if superficially fills in the blanks between Shakespeare's vast output of verse and the paltry official record, which leaves much about the man to speculation. Unlike Park Honan's recent, soberly deductive life, and more in tune with Harold Bloom's and Anthony Burgess's zealous conjectures, Holden's kitchen-sink approach packs in his own hypotheses based on circumstantial evidence, recent biographic theories and all the hoary old traditions. Regarding the early "lost years," Holden supports the Lancashire hypothesis, that the young Catholic William "Shakeshaft" was a tutor and amateur actor in the stately home of a recusant Lancastrian nobleman. Holden further speculates that the legend of the deer-poaching Will's escape to London after a run-in with an anti-Catholic Warwickshire knight had as much to do with religious persecution as theft. As Shakespeare's life progresses, Holden's guesswork becomes less convincing in explaining such mysteries as the identities of the sonnets' Dark Lady (just an amalgamation) and their dedicatee, "Mr. W.H." (his brother-in-law, William Hathaway). With the better established facts of the Globe's theatrical world, Holden's biography loses some of its energy. Sometimes reading dubiously between the lines of Shakespeare's plays, such as projecting Macbeth's insomnia on the Bard, Holden sums up the actor-playwright-poet's final change of roles into Stratford's first citizen. 8 pages color, 8 pages b&w illus. not seen by PW. (July)

Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

#### From Library Journal

A host of biographers have sharpened their quills to connect the dots of Shakespeare's life, and to this rank Holden, a journalist for London's Times and Observer and author of tributes to the royal family, can now be added. With a story full of the characters of the age, Holden crafts a lively and interesting Shakespeare anchored to his times. He brings a sense of immediacy to the best of his chapters and sometimes almost transports one to the Bard's time. Perhaps this is enough for a popular biography and a popular biography is what Holden set out to write. However, it becomes apparent that Holden is not a Shakespearean critic. While drawing upon the bard's work to explicate his life might work when contemporary events are tied to the play, it is less successful when used to explain events in Shakespeare's childhood and early life. Nonetheless, this

is recommended as a popular biography. If your collection needs an outstanding biography of more heft, then stick with Samuel Schoenbaum's *William Shakespeare: A Compact Documentary Life* (Oxford Univ. Pr. will be releasing a revised edition this month).

-DNeal Wyatt, *Chesterfield P.L., VA*

Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Steven Williams:

Do you one of people who can't read pleasurable if the sentence chained within the straightway, hold on guys this kind of aren't like that. This *William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius* book is readable simply by you who hate those perfect word style. You will find the details here are arrange for enjoyable reading through experience without leaving even decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer involving *William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius* content conveys objective easily to understand by many individuals. The printed and e-book are not different in the content material but it just different such as it. So , do you continue to thinking *William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius* is not loveable to be your top record reading book?

#### Larry Moore:

The publication untitled *William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius* is the guide that recommended to you you just read. You can see the quality of the reserve content that will be shown to you actually. The language that author use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The article writer was did a lot of analysis when write the book, so the information that they share for you is absolutely accurate. You also can get the e-book of *William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius* from the publisher to make you considerably more enjoy free time.

#### Adeline Norris:

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book mainly book entitled *William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius* your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in most aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a e-book then become one web form conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get ahead of. The *William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius* giving you one more experience more than blown away the mind but also giving you useful data for your better life on this era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern this is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

#### Christopher Rangel:

As we know that book is essential thing to add our know-how for everything. By a book we can know everything we would like. A book is a list of written, printed, illustrated or even blank sheet. Every year had

been exactly added. This reserve William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius was filled in relation to science. Spend your extra time to add your knowledge about your scientific disciplines competence. Some people has diverse feel when they reading any book. If you know how big advantage of a book, you can really feel enjoy to read a publication. In the modern era like currently, many ways to get book you wanted.

**Download and Read Online William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius By Anthony Holden #VB6OJ4KITGU**

# **Read William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius By Anthony Holden for online ebook**

William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius By Anthony Holden Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius By Anthony Holden books to read online.

## **Online William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius By Anthony Holden ebook PDF download**

**William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius By Anthony Holden Doc**

**William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius By Anthony Holden MobiPocket**

**William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius By Anthony Holden EPub**

**VB6OJ4KITGU: William Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Genius By Anthony Holden**