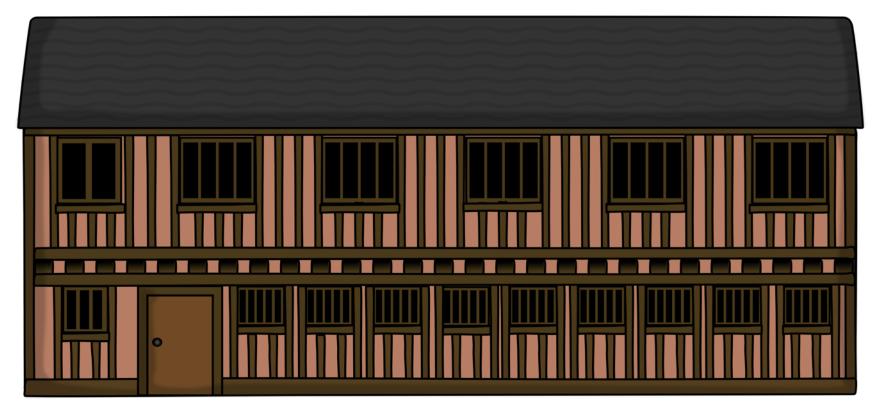


1564 23rd April

William Shakespeare is born in Stratford-upon-Avon, England to Mary and John Shakespeare. He was their third child out of eight.



William begins Grammar School in Stratford at age 7.



1582 27th November

At age 18 he marries a 26-year-old farmer's

daughter called Anne Hathaway.



1583 26th May

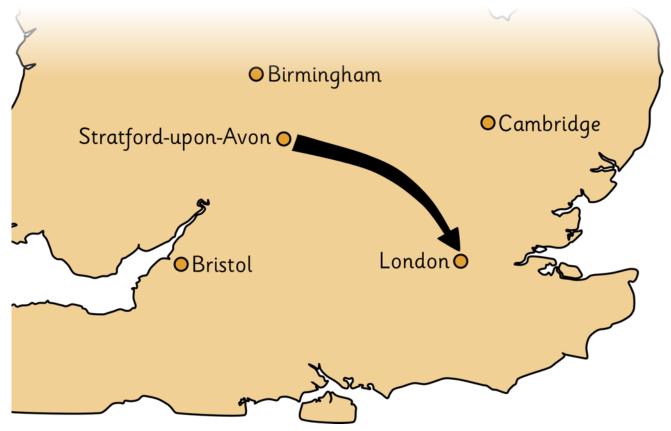
William and Anne's first child, Susanna, is born. She lives to the age of 66.

1585 2nd February

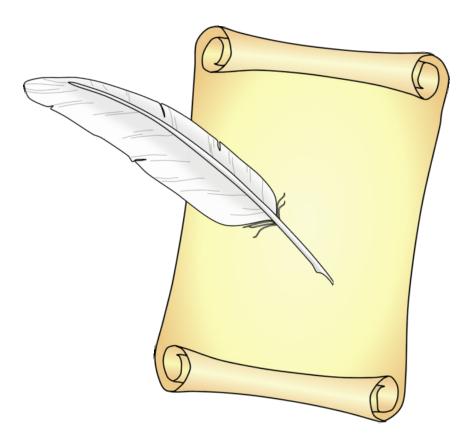
Anne gives birth to twins. The boy, Hamnet, sadly dies at age 11. The girl, Judith, lives to be 77 years old.

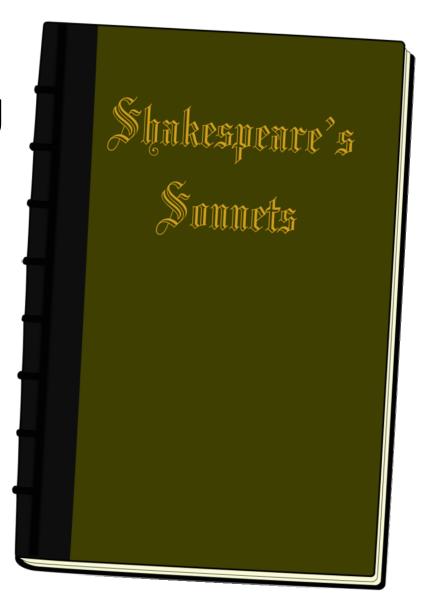


Shakespeare leaves Stratford and goes to London to start his career in the theatre.

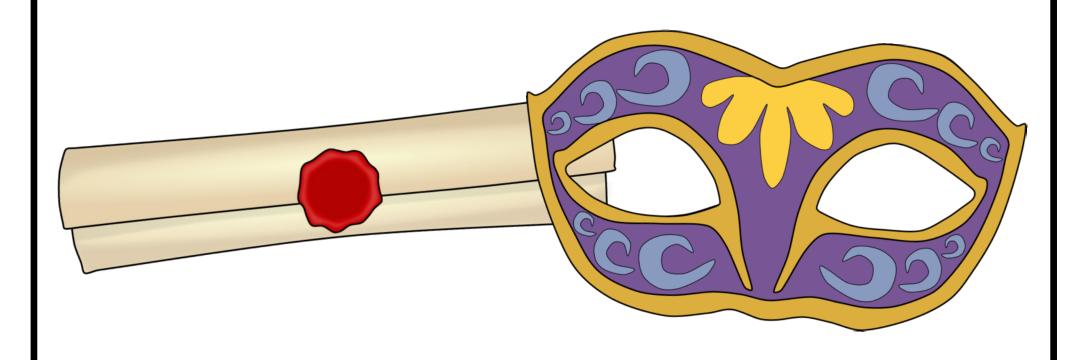


Shakespeare begins writing *The Sonnets*.





He founds an acting company called The Lord Chamberlain's Men.



Shakespeare writes the plays Romeo and Juliet and A Midsummer Night's Dream.



1596-1597

William and Anne's son, Hamnet, dies.

They buy a large house in Stratford called

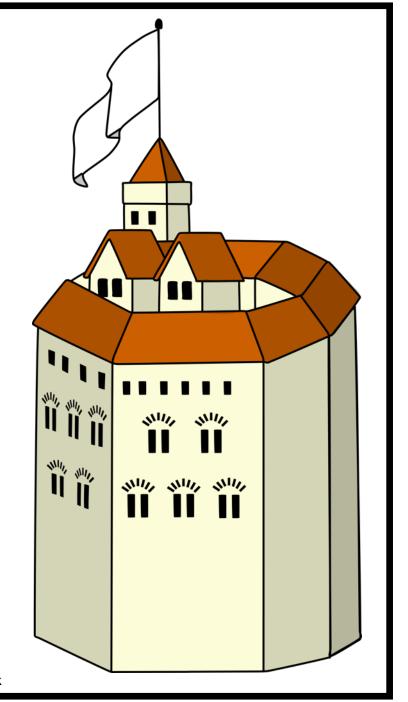
New Place.



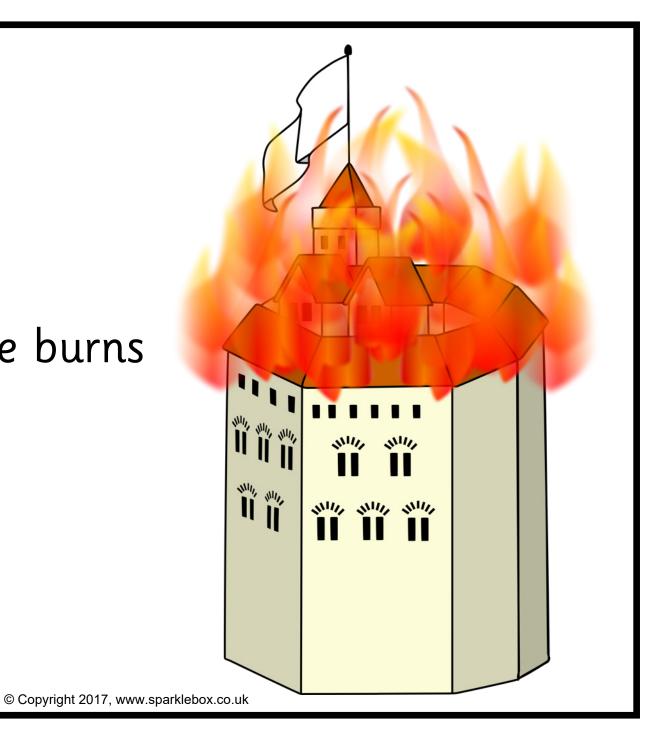
1598-1599

The Globe Theatre is built in London.

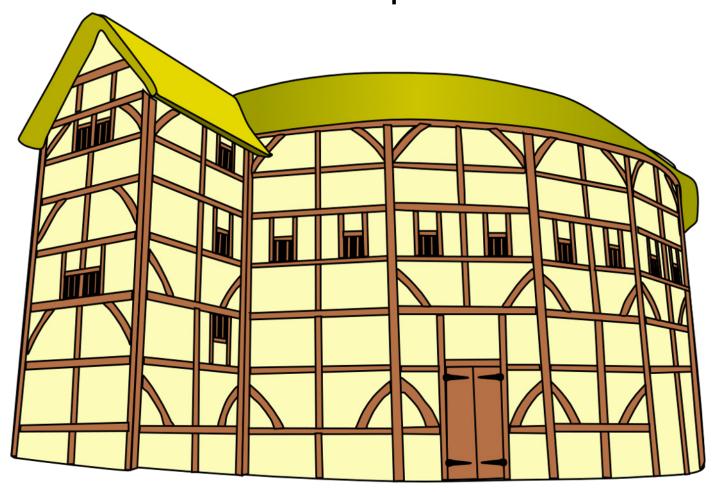
Shakespeare is a part-owner of the new theatre.



The Globe Theatre burns to the ground.



The new Globe Theatre opens.



1616 23rd April

Shakespeare dies at the age of 52 after suffering a high fever for several days.

He is buried in Stratford-upon-Avon.

