



## Genius of Shakespeare: Tenth Anniversary Edition

By Jonathan Bate

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**Genius of Shakespeare: Tenth Anniversary Edition** By Jonathan Bate

This fascinating book by one of Britain's most acclaimed Shakespeare scholars explores the extraordinary staying-power of the world's most famous dramatist. Bate opens by taking up questions of authorship and then goes on to trace Shakespeare's canonization and near-deification, examining not only the uniqueness of his status among English-speaking readers but also his effect on literary cultures across the globe. Ambitious, wide-ranging, and historically rich, this book shapes a provocative inquiry into the nature of genius as it ponders the legacy of a talent unequalled in English letters. A bold and meticulous work of scholarship, *The Genius of Shakespeare* is also lively and accessibly written and will appeal to any reader who has marveled at the Bard and the enduring power of his work. This tenth anniversary edition has a new twenty-page afterword that addresses the renewed interest in Shakespeare and recent film adaptations of his most celebrated works.

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"What made Shakespeare 'Shakespeare'? How much do we really know about his life? How do we know that he really wrote the plays attributed to him? What defines his singularity? No book on the market answers these questions better than *The Genius of Shakespeare*."-James S. Shapiro, author of *1599: A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare*

#### About the Author

Jonathan Bate is Professor of Shakespeare and Renaissance Literature at the University of Warwick. He has held visiting posts at Harvard, Yale, and U.C.L.A. and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, a Fellow of the British Academy, an Honorary Fellow of St Catharine's College, Cambridge, and a Governor and Board member of the Royal Shakespeare Company.

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