

William Shakespeare

26 APRIL 1564 - 23 APRIL 1616

English poet and playwright, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's preeminent dramatist.¹ He is often called England's national poet and the "Bard of Avon".² His surviving works, including some collaborations, consist of about 38 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems, and several other poems.

The first 17 poems, traditionally called the procreation sonnets are addressed to a young man urging him to marry and have children in order to immortalize his beauty by passing it to the next generation. Other sonnet