

***Born With Teeth* Dramaturgical Notes**

Austin Playhouse, March-April 2024

Directed by Ben Wolfe

Dramaturgy by Jennifer Sturley

- **Early 1590s: General Context**

- Early Modern Era (Elizabeth's Version)

- Renaissance, Elizabethan, Early Modern... you have likely heard many different names to refer to this time period, and it can get confusing to know what it's even called and whether people are talking about the same thing. These terms describe similar and overlapping time periods, each with their own distinct nuances.
- Renaissance: literally means "rebirth," describes the transitional centuries from the Medieval period into the Early Modern period (approximately 15th and 16th centuries) -- focus on rediscovery of classical Greek and Roman intellectualism, prioritization of culture, philosophy, art, science, architecture, etc.
 - *Born With Teeth* is technically set in the very tail end of the Renaissance
- Elizabethan: name derived from [Queen Elizabeth I](#), refers to the time period during which she ruled England (1558-1603)
 - Some people refer much more broadly to "Tudor England," to describe the time period in which her family ruled the country, beginning in the Medieval period (1485-1603)
 - After the Elizabeth period came the Jacobean period, derived from the Latin name for King James I
 - Shakespeare's life stretched Elizabethan and Jacobean England, and his plays reflect that -- as did his theatre company, which changed names from "The Lord Chamberlain's Men" to "The King's Men," as it received royal patronage when James took the throne
 - *Born With Teeth* is set squarely in the Elizabeth period
- Early Modern: approximately 16th-19th centuries
 - I use this term primarily from a linguistic context; "Early Modern English" is the language in which Shakespeare and his contemporaries wrote, and it's distinct from Middle English (e.g., Chaucer) or Old English (e.g., *Beowulf*).

- Schools
 - “Petty” School (Elementary School) - around age 4-8
 - Learn ABCs, numbers, Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments
 - Repetitive oral drills
 - Penmanship once reading was mastered
 - Often co-ed
 - More daycare -- teachers were essentially babysitting and did not necessarily have any expertise
 - Grammar School - around age 8-14
 - Typically just boys
 - Teachers were expected to have university education
 - Learning Latin was primary focus
 - Physical punishment common
 - University - around age 16
 - Scholarships did exist but were rare (Kit Marlowe did get a scholarship to Cambridge, as accurately represented in *Born With Teeth*; Ben Jonson was unable to get a scholarship and so did not go to university)
- Technology
 - Gutenberg's famous Printing Press was invented around 1436, which transformed the accessibility of the written word for the common person
 - Huge gains in navigational and shipbuilding technology around this period (some newly developed, some adopted from interactions with inventors in other countries due to increased trade) → feedback loop creating even more trade, global exploration, and unfortunately, colonial violence
 - This time period pre-dated inventions such as the steam engine (1712) or the cotton gin (1793)
- Food & Drink
 - Porridge, bread, cheese, fruit, legumes
 - Very meat-heavy diet for those who could afford it
 - [Food & Drink in the Elizabethan Era - World History Encyclopedia](#)

- **Religion in Early Modern England**

- “When you're on your knees to the Pope all the time, it gets you in the habit” (pg. 13)
- Background Information
 - Protestant Reformation
 - Germany, 1517 - Martin Luther nails his Ninety-Five Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, attacking the system of indulgences (essentially people paying the church to have their sins forgiven) and disputing that the pope had control over purgatory
 - “Martin Luther claimed that what distinguished him from previous reformers was that while they attacked corruption in the life of the church, he went to the theological root of the problem—the perversion of the church's doctrine of redemption and grace.”
 - Switzerland, 1536 - John Calvin publishes his *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, “the first systematic, theological treatise of the new reform movement,” in which he argues for the doctrine of predestination among other theological issues
 - During the 16th century, there were a number of Protestant groups forming across Europe: Lutherans, Calvinists, Presbyterians, Anabaptists, and more
 - King Henry VIII
 - 1534 - Pope Clement VII refused to annul King Henry VIII's marriage to Catherine of Aragon after 20 years (which Henry wanted because Catherine had not borne him a son, and he was interested in pursuing Anne Boleyn), so King Henry VIII decided to reject papal authority and establish the Anglican church with the king as the head
 - English liturgical prayer book, *The Book of Common Prayer*, was first brought into use in 1549, major revisions in 1552, minor revisions in 1559, 1604, and 1662 -- still in use today with very minor revisions
 - Forty-Two Articles were written by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer in 1553: “a set of doctrinal formulas defining the

dogmatic position of the Church of England on current religious controversies"

- Edward VI
 - The son of Jane Seymour and King Henry VIII, Edward succeeded his father, taking the throne in 1547 at the age of nine and "ruling" (through the governance of a regency council, as he was underage) until his death at age fifteen due to illness in 1553
 - Under his reign, abolished clerical celibacy and Mass
 - Concerned about country returning to Catholicism after his death, he named his Protestant first cousin Lady Jane Grey as his successor
- Mary I
 - Catholic daughter of Catherine of Aragon and Henry VIII
 - Declared illegitimate following the annulment of her parents' marriage → therefore ineligible for succession, although the laws changed in 1543
 - Although Lady Jane Grey was technically queen for nine days following Edward's death, Mary quickly had her deposed and accused of treason -- while she initially spared her life, it became clear that she was too much of a threat while she lived, because Jane's supporters (aka Protestants) would aim to find a way to put her on the throne by assassinating Mary, so she had Jane executed
 - She reversed the Protestant changes made under Henry VIII and Edward VI, restoring Catholicism in England
 - Nicknamed "Bloody Mary" by her opponents due to executing over 280 Protestants via burning at the stake
 - Mary died in 1558 at the age of forty-two, possibly due to uterine cancer, and was succeeded by Elizabeth
- Queen Elizabeth I
 - *"I'm sure you're of the Queen's faith, like any sensible man. Hardly anything more dangerous nowadays than a Catholic" (pg. 13)*
 - Protestant daughter of Anne Boleyn and Henry VIII

- Reversed the Catholic changes made under Mary I, restoring Protestantism in England -- however, she aimed for at least somewhat more of a balance
 - Finalized the 39 Articles of Religion in 1571 as the head of the Church of England, which defined the doctrine of the church (modified from 42 previous Articles and got rid of some that she viewed as being too unwelcoming for Catholics → wanted room for compromise among her citizens as long as they showed outward conformity)
 - Her concern was not theological, but political and practical
 - Secret Catholics during this time were still common, although it's impossible to know exact numbers or even estimates -- in the span of just over ten years, citizens had lived through five different monarchs with almost alternating Catholic and Protestant rule, which necessitated some religious fluidity
 - By 1581, the fine for missing church had been raised to £20 (equivalent to almost \$10,000 in today's money). "In 1587 enforcement became much stricter with the introduction of cumulative monthly fines and the forfeiture of two-thirds of a defaulting recusant's estate."
 - Elizabeth executed over 130 Catholic priests, as well as about 60 lay supporters, for religious treason during her reign
 - Mary Queen of Scots was the Catholic presumptive heir to the throne, leaving Elizabeth vulnerable to assassination attempts from Catholic enemies. After almost 19 years in captivity, she was executed for treason, having been found guilty of plotting multiple assassination attempts.
- Protestant, Catholic, Atheist, or...?
 - Jews
 - "In July 1290 it was proclaimed that all Jews were to have left England by 1 November that year. They could take personal goods but their lands, rents, debts and property were taken by the Crown."

- Some Jews who converted were allowed to remain in England but were still forced to give up their land and property and relocate to housing in central London.
 - There were Jews who remained in England in hiding and observed their faith secretly. It was incredibly dangerous and they risked their lives to do so.
 - Muslims
 - Terms like “Moors” and “Turks” were used to describe a diverse range of “Others” in the Muslim world during the Early Modern period. There was a cultural sense of defining the West in contrast to the East. This was certainly orientalist, racialized, and xenophobic, but at the same time, there was respect towards Arab countries for their imperialist conquering (which England aspired to, but at that time had not yet fully achieved) and potential for alliance against shared enemies (e.g., Spain).
 - “Queen Elizabeth engaged openly with the Muslims, and Muslims entered England in various capacities, including as merchants in coastal towns, prisoners captured during piracy raids, and ambassadors to the throne. Muslims, therefore, were not only imaginary Others but members of English society, however peripheral or perfunctory their membership might have been.”
 - Hindus, Buddhists, and other ethnoreligious groups were not present at any significant scale in Early Modern England -- immigration began later as a byproduct of more aggressive colonialism
- **Queerness in Early Modern England**
 - Identity vs. Actions
 - *“Who do you fuck, boys or girls?” (pg. 12)*
 - Most historians agree that an understanding of sexual orientation as an identity did not fully begin to take shape in the Western world until around the 19th century (around the time that psychology began to emerge as a field) → “Modern Sexuality”

- Some scholars have argued that Marlowe's play *Edward II* is actually an early example of this emerging proto-modern understanding of sexuality as an identity
 - Prior to this time, understanding of sexuality focused on behavior (i.e., sexual acts), and was defined more along religious lines around "sin" → "Pre-Modern Sexuality"
 - Concept of heterosexuality did not exist until after the concept of homosexuality (the word "heterosexuality" did not appear in the dictionary until 1923, and it was then considered a medical issue of excessive attraction to the opposite sex)
 - It can be a nuanced issue to try to ascribe modern labels to people who lived in a time before those labels existed; on an individual basis, it is important to note that we don't know for certain how any specific historic figures may have self-identified if they lived today. However, humans have always been humans, and LGBTQ+ humans have always been part of our world. While we should always be mindful about labeling others, we should also be mindful about the "heterosexual default" stereotype that leads to an attitude of "straight until proven otherwise" when considering historical figures. On a broader level, it is absolutely fair to say that there were certainly those in every time period throughout history who today might have called themselves gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, etc. Those of us today who use those terms should equally recognize that hundreds of years from now, language will evolve and these words may become outdated and even offensive. All we can do is our best to be respectful with the knowledge we have in the time period we are in.
- Crime & Punishment
 - *"That's not the legal point of view, but only poor buggers hang for it" (pg. 12)*
 - 1533 - King Henry VIII criminalized penetrative sodomy in the form of the Buggery Act, which remained in law until 1967 (although punishment was reduced from death penalty to penal labor in 1861)

- The act described “ ‘the detestable and abominable vice of buggery’, stating those found guilty should be sentenced to death. Members of the clergy, such as priests and monks, could also be executed under the Act, despite their immunity from being executed for murder. This implies that murder was seen as a lesser crime than buggery”
- 1540 - first execution under the Buggery Act, Lord Walter Hungerford (also accused of employing a chaplain who campaigned against King Henry VIII leaving the Catholic Church, which was considered treasonous, and employing men to do witchcraft)
 - Inaccurate to say that only the poor would be executed; however, it may have been viewed as more of an “add on” crime for someone already in trouble that would help seal the deal
- 1725 - newspaper articles recorded “two men being arrested for an ‘attempt to commit sodomy’ with a third, younger man. They were sentenced to stand in the pillory on Tower Hill, as well as serve six months in prison” -- the men were all anonymous, we have no record of their identities or lives beyond this, but it is worth noting that at least by early 18th century, not all cases tried under the Buggery Act led to death penalty (even for working class men)
- What About Women?
 - In general, cisgender women were not included as part of any discussions about “buggery” or otherwise “sinful” sex acts, as they were viewed as not having the necessary anatomy necessary to commit that sin. In the 19th century there was some debate about whether an equivalent law should be passed prohibiting same-sex sexual acts for women, and it was determined that to do so might give women unsavory ideas, and it was therefore better to leave it alone.
 - Women’s sexuality was certainly still policed in significant ways, but this was one way that queer women were at something of an advantage for much of queer history due to being able to hide under the radar and therefore stay safer in hostile climates.

- **Early Modern England as a Surveillance State**

- Spying

- “We’ve got more spies than there are crimes to spy out” (pg. 2).
- [The Ruthless 16th-Century Spy Network That Kept Queen Elizabeth I Safe | HISTORY](#)

- Censorship

- “The censors will never never pass it” (pg. 31).
- “... the Queen's Majesty does straightly forbid all manner interludes to be played, either openly or privately, except the same be notified beforehand and licensed within any city or town corporate by the Mayor or other chief officers of the same; and within any shire by such as shall be Lieutenants for the Queen's Majesty in the same shire, or by two Justices of the Peace inhabiting that part of shire where they shall be played. And for instruction of every of the said officers. Her Majesty doth likewise charge every of them as they will answer: that they permit none to be played wherein either matters of religion or of the governance of the estate of the commonwealth shall be handled, or treated: being no meet matters to be written or treated upon but by men of authority, learning and wisdom, nor to be handled before any audience but of grave and discreet persons.” (Queen Elizabeth I's proclamation, 1559)
- Master of the Revels was an English court official who “supervised the production and financing of often elaborate court entertainments. He later was the official issuer of licenses to theatres and theatrical companies and the censor of publicly performed plays.”
- “The actors came to Tilney's office and recited the new play for him; most of the time, Tilney immediately approved it by affixing his seal to the official manuscript. This seal was invaluable. It meant the company had the right to perform the play as written. Important detail: he charged a fee for every script he stamped, plus he benefited financially when playhouses were open for business, as well as when a play came to the court. So, it was not in his financial

interest to censor anything. But there were times when he would order revisions and withhold his approval until they had been made. Sometimes, these were practical production matters. And sometimes, the reforms were based on political concerns – which is why he's often seen as a censor. But governmental censorship is usually associated with an overarching political philosophy, and that was not the case here. There were no absolute or general taboos under Elizabeth (beyond traitorous remarks, which were taboo everywhere). When Tilney asked for changes, they reflected the crown's immediate concerns.”

- Police State

- *“It's a police state, after all, totalitarian, rotten through with a secret service sniffing and snapping at its own people” (pg. 2).*
- One historian compared the climate in Elizabeth England to the United States 1950s “Red Scare”
- Contemporary United States: SCOTUS reaffirmed in *Lawrence v. Texas* in 2003 that citizens have a presumptive right to privacy in the constitution, however, sodomy laws are still on the books in many states although not enforceable. Some queer activists are concerned that SCOTUS will use overturning of *Roe v. Wade* as legal precedent to overturn *Lawrence v. Texas*, which would enable states to begin enforcing those sodomy laws again.

- **William Shakespeare**

- Early Life, Family, & Biography

- [Shakespeare's Life](#)
- [William Shakespeare Biography](#)

- Secret Catholic?

- [Was Shakespeare Catholic? | April 25, 2008 | Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly | PBS](#)
- [A Brief History of Catholic Claims to Shakespeare - The Atlantic](#)

- **Christopher “Kit” Marlowe**

- Biography

- [Who was Christopher Marlowe | Royal Shakespeare Company](#)

- Spy?
 - [Christopher Marlowe and Espionage](#)
 - [Christopher Marlowe: the Elizabethan James Bond – The Irish Times](#)

- **Henry VI Trilogy**

- Plot
 - **Part 1:** “After Henry V's death and while Henry VI is young, nobles rule England and fight the French, including Joan of Arc. As Henry VI becomes King, the noble houses begin to divide and take sides between York and Lancaster. The war with France winds down, and the nobles try to find Henry a wife and disagree about who Henry chooses.”
 - **Part 2:** “Against the wishes of the nobles, King Henry marries the penniless Margaret who plots against him with her lover. As tensions between York and Lancaster build, the Duke of York gathers supporters for his claim to the throne. York secretly leads a rebellion, his supporters proclaim him king, and Henry is forced to flee.”
 - **Part 3:** “After York's claims to the throne, Henry changes the succession and makes York his heir, disinheriting his own son. Henry's queen kills York, and York's son Edward seizes the throne. Henry is imprisoned several times and eventually killed by King Edward's brother, Richard.”
- Characters (mentioned in *Born With Teeth*)
 - Countess (pg. 9)
 - Marie I of Auvergne, wife of Bertrand IV de La Tour
 - French
 - Bastard (pg. 9)
 - Jean de Dunois, “the Bastard of Orleans”
 - French military leader who participated in campaigns along Joan of Arc
 - Nickname actually indicated high status because it acknowledged that he was related to the King, albeit illegitimately
 - Plantagenet (pg. 9)
 - Richard of York

- Henry VI's second cousin once removed and heir presumptive
 - British
- Talbot (pg. 9)
 - John Talbot, 1st Earl of Shrewsbury
 - British military commander
- His son (pg. 9)
 - John Talbot, 1st Viscount Lisle
 - British
- Joan of Arc / "La Pucelle" (pg. 10)
 - [Who was Joan of Arc? | Blogs & features | Shakespeare's Globe](#)
 - "Scholars have long argued over Shakespeare's portrayal of Joan, who comes across brave and virtuous and wicked and deceitful in equal measure." *Born With Teeth* addresses this juxtaposition by having two authors disagree in their portrayal of Joan.
- Winchester (pg. 13)
 - Henry Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester
 - British
- Dauphin (pg. 18)
 - Literally French for "dolphin"
 - Hereditary title given to the heir apparent to the throne of France in 1300s-1700s
 - In context, refers specifically to the future Charles VII, the eldest (then-living) son of King Charles VI of France -- his older brother Louis died on the battlefield in *Henry V* and in real life died of dysentery
- Margaret (pg. 24)
 - Margaret of Anjou
 - French
 - Married King Henry VI and became Queen of England
- Jack Cade (pg. 30)
 - Rebel leader

- References noble ancestry (“Mortimer,” “Plantagenet,” “Lacies”) which is then punnily mocked by his followers: Mortimer father was actually a good bricklayer (pun on “mortar”), Plantagenet mother was actually a midwife (pun on “jennet,” a vulgar term for female anatomy), wife of the Lacies was actually a peddler’s daughter who sold shoe “laces”
 - Performance History
 - Records suggest that close to 20,000 people saw *Henry VI, Part 1* when it was first produced
 - Popularity died down quickly -- “only one production was recorded during the Restoration and eighteenth century”
 - Fact vs. Fiction
 - [Fact or Fiction | Utah Shakespeare Festival](#)
 - Politics & Controversy
 - A great article about contemporaneous political references and parallels: [Dangerous Parallels | Henry VI Part One | Royal Shakespeare Company](#)
- **Who’s Who & What’s What: Specific References**
 - Southampton (pg. 1)
 - Henry Wriothesley, 3rd Earl of Southampton
 - Patron of Shakespeare
 - Shakespeare dedicated his two poems, *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece* to him
 - Widely speculated to be the “fair youth” of the Sonnets (was about 9 years younger than Shakespeare)
 - Came from a Catholic family and was raised by Lord Burghley to protect him from his father’s “corrupting influence”
 - Lord Burghley (pg. 1)
 - William Cecil, 1st Baron Burghley
 - Principal advisor to Queen Elizabeth I throughout most of her reign
 - Protestant, known for harsh treatment towards Catholics
 - Her Majesty (pg. 1)
 - Queen Elizabeth I

- Ruled over England and Ireland from 1558 until her death in 1603
 - Last Tudor monarch -- daughter of King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn
 - Famously never married, nicknamed "the Virgin Queen"
 - Protestant, finalized the 39 Articles of Religion in 1571 as the head of the Church of England, which defined the doctrine of the church (Elizabeth modified from 42 previous Articles and got rid of some that she viewed as being too unwelcoming for Catholics, wanted room for compromise among her citizens as long as they showed outward conformity)
- "Tom" Kyd (pg. 1)
 - Thomas Kyd
 - Playwright, author of *The Spanish Tragedy* (significant in the revenge tragedy genre), may have written an earlier version of *Hamlet*, may have collaborated (possibly with Shakespeare) on *Arden of Faversham*
 - In 1591, he was sharing lodgings with Marlowe. In 1593, was arrested and tortured on suspicion of treason. When his room was searched, "atheist" papers denying the divinity of Jesus Christ were discovered. He wrote in a letter that these papers actually belonged to Marlowe.
- Holinshed (pg. 3)
 - *The Chronicles of England, Scotland and Ireland* by Raphael Holinshed
 - An in-depth history "compiled largely uncritically from many sources of varying degrees of trustworthiness"
 - Used as a source for all of Shakespeare's history plays and a supplementary source for several non-history plays as well
- Hall (pg. 3)
 - *The Union of the Two Noble and Illustrate Famelies of Lancastre and Yorke* by Edward Hall
 - Used as a chief source for many of Shakespeare's history plays, especially the Henriad
- Lord Strange / "Ferdynand" (pg. 4)
 - Ferdinando Stanley, 5th Earl of Derby, Lord Strange (pronounced "Strang")

- Patron of the arts -- his theatre troupe, Lord Strange's Men, performed at The Theatre and the Rose Theatre and are believed to be the first to have employed Shakespeare. The troupe's repertory also included Marlowe's *The Jew of Malta*.
- *Tamburlaine* (pg. 4)
 - The only play by Marlowe to be published during his lifetime, often considered to be one of the first big hits of the English stage
 - Written in two parts around 1587-88
 - Loosely based upon the life of 14th century Turko-Mongol military leader Amir Timur, drawing from the sources *Silva de Varia Lección* (c.1540) by Spanish scholar and historian Pedro Mexía, and *Magni Tamerlanis Scytharum Imperatoris Vita* (1553) by Italian Petrus Perondinus
- "Derivative bloodfest" (pg. 4)
 - *Titus Andronicus*
 - A gory tragedy by Shakespeare that features murder, mutilation, rape, and cannibalism
- Greene (pg. 4)
 - Robert Greene
 - "One of the most popular English prose writers of the later 16th century and Shakespeare's most successful predecessor in blank-verse romantic comedy"
 - Wrote prose pastoral *Pandosto* in 1588, which is the direct source for Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*
 - Criticized Shakespeare as an "upstart crow, beautified with our feathers," essentially accusing him of plagiarism (although interestingly, he borrows the line from Horace)
- Nashe (pg. 8)
 - Thomas Nashe
 - Playwright, poet, prose author
 - Almost certainly collaborated with Shakespeare on the *Henriad*
 - "Dominant literary voice in Elizabethan England"
- Countess, Bastard, Plantagenet, Talbot, his son (pg. 9)
 - See "[Henry VI trilogy](#)"

- Joan of Arc / La Pucelle (pg. 10)
 - See "[Henry VI trilogy](#)"
- *Doctor Faustus* (pg. 11)
 - Tragedy play by Marlowe, published 1604 but first performed approximately a decade earlier
 - Based on medieval legend of Faust, the doctor turned necromancer who makes a deal with the devil for knowledge and power
- Winchester (pg. 13)
 - See "[Henry VI trilogy](#)"
- Ephesus (pg. 15)
 - City in ancient Greece
 - Setting of Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors*
- Dauphin (pg. 18)
 - See "[Henry VI trilogy](#)"
- *Tom, Spanish Tragedy* (pg. 19)
 - See "[Tom](#)" [Kyd](#)
- Essex (pg. 20)
 - Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex
 - Favorite of Queen Elizabeth I
- Robert Cecil (pg. 20)
 - Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury
 - Son of [William Cecil](#) (see "[Lord Burghley](#)")
 - Chief rival for power was [Robert Devereux](#) (see "[Essex](#)")
- Sir Walter Raleigh (pg. 20)
 - English adventurer and writer, favorite of Queen Elizabeth I
 - "A Jesuit pamphlet in 1592 accused him of keeping a 'School of Atheism,'" a community of scholars and "Free Thinkers" that included Marlowe -- some have interpreted a line in Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost* about a "School of Night" as a reference to Raleigh's circle of intellectuals, but this theory is largely discredited, although it is referenced in *Born With Teeth*
- Margaret (pg. 24)
 - See "[Henry VI trilogy](#)"

- "That clown show you ripped off from Plautus" (pg. 25)
 - *A Comedy of Errors*
 - A major source for Shakespeare's play was Plautus's comedy *The Menaechmi*, which featured "a pair of identical twins, sons to a Syracusan merchant. One of them, Menaechmus, is lost as a child and the other is given his name in his memory. As an adult, the remaining twin goes off in search of his brother and, after many confusions of mistaken identity, the brothers find each other and all is well."
- "Titus I-vomit-thus" (pg. 25)
 - *Titus Andronicus*
 - See "[Derivative bloodfest](#)"
- "Your wife" (pg. 27)
 - Anne (Agnes) Hathaway Shakespeare
 - Approximately 8 years older than Shakespeare
 - They married when he was 18 and she was around 26
 - She was 3 months pregnant when they married
- "And children" (pg. 28)
 - Judith, Hamnet, and Susanna Shakespeare
 - In 1592, Hamnet and Judith were 7 years old, and Susanna was 9 years old
- Flushing (pg. 29)
 - Coastal village in Cornwall, England
 - About 300 miles from London
- Shoreditch (pg. 29)
 - Area in London's East End
 - Important center of Elizabethan theatre district
- Jack Cade (pg. 30)
 - See "[Henry VI trilogy](#)"
- Fletcher (pg. 35)
 - John Fletcher
 - English playwright who achieved the majority of his success in the Jacobean era
- *Edward the Second*, King's boyfriend (pg. 35)
 - Edward II was the king of England from 1307 to 1327

- *Edward the Second* was a play by Marlowe written around 1592 that hinted heavily at a romantic/sexual relationship between Edward II and Piers Gaveston, Earl of Cornwall, his favorite and rumored lover
- Fletcher and Beaumont (pg. 52)
 - See [Fletcher](#) and Francis Beaumont, English playwright who achieved the majority of his success in the Jacobean era
 - The two collaborated as a writing duo on all projects
 - *Born With Teeth* alleges that the two also had a romantic/sexual relationship beyond their writing relationship
 - The early biographer John Aubrey does write that they lived together on Bankside, sharing a bed, although this was not so unusual in the time period and does not inherently signify a relationship
- Lord Hundson (pg. 52)
 - Henry Carey, 1st Baron Hundson
 - Patron of the Lord Chamberlain's Men (Shakespeare's theatre company)
- Ganymede (pg. 52)
 - In Greek mythology, Homer describes Ganymede as a beautiful mortal abducted by Zeus to serve as his page and cup-bearer
 - Romans interpreted this relationship as a romantic/sexual one because Ganymede was one of very few mortals to be granted immortality by Zeus
- Gaveston (pg. 52)
 - Piers Gaveston
 - See "[King's boyfriend](#)"
- *Venus and Adonis* (pg. 56)
 - Minor epic poem by Shakespeare, his most popular work published during his lifetime (in 1593)
 - Inspired by Ovid's mythology
- Deptford (pg. 59)
 - Area on the south bank of the River Thames in Southeast London
 - Dockyards that were important for trade

- St. Paul (pg. 64)
 - 1st century Christian Apostle who spread the teachings of Jesus
 - 13-14 books in the New Testament are attributed in authorship to Paul, although there is debate about how much of those he wrote in their entirety
- Iago (pg. 64)
 - The villain in Shakespeare's *Othello*, who betrays the ones who trust him and manipulates others around him in order to get revenge
 - *Othello* was written around 1603

- **Glossary**

- "Small beer" (pg. 5)
 - Ale containing a lower amount of alcohol (by volume), typically 0.5% - 2.8%
 - Common in Medieval Europe and into the Early Modern period
 - Water quality was poor, and so lower-alcohol beverages were sometimes viewed as alternatives
- "Jesu" (pg. 6, 51, 55)
 - Vocative form (direct address) of "Jesus" in Latin
 - Common in medieval England and slowly fading in popularity in Early Modern England
- "The clap" (pg. 8)
 - Venereal disease, likely gonorrhea
- "La Pucelle" (pg. 10)
 - "The maid / virgin / young woman" (refers to Joan of Arc)
 - See "[Henry VI Trilogy](#)"
- "Ma putain française" (pg. 12)
 - "My French whore" (refers to Joan of Arc)
 - See "[Henry VI Trilogy](#)"
- "Will" (pg. 17 -- and throughout when Will's name is referenced)
 - Slang for "penis"
 - Along with other words related to mental capacity like "wit," etc.
- "Dauphin" (pg. 18)
 - Literally French for "dolphin"

- Hereditary title given to the heir apparent to the throne of France in 1300s-1700s
 - See "[Henry VI Trilogy](#)"
 - In context, refers specifically to the future Charles VII, the eldest (then-living) son of King Charles VI of France -- his older brother Louis died on the battlefield in *Henry V* and in real life died of dysentery
- "Spado punk" (pg. 36)
 - Slang for "Castrated whore"
- "Quod me nutrit me destruit" (pg. 53)
 - "That which feeds me destroys me"

● Shakespearean Lines

- "Small beer" (pg. 5, 30)
 - Henry VI Part 2, Act 4, Scene 2
 - Othello, Act 2, Scene 1 (Iago's line)
- "Did you think I meant country matters?" (pg. 6)
 - Hamlet, Act 3, Scene 2
- "Equivocator" (pg. 12)
 - Macbeth, Act 2, Scene 3
- "When the wind is southerly" (pg. 12)
 - Hamlet, Act 2, Scene 2
- "Born with teeth" (pg. 14)
 - Henry VI Part 3, Act 5, Scene 6

● Sources & Recommended Further Reading

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