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# The Possibility of Queen Elizabeth being Shakespeare Supported by the Evidence in Hamlet

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Abstract: Shakespeare is a master in the domain of western literature, and plays a pivotal role in the English language. He is also an unavoidable topic for students whose major is English. But the real identity of him is opaque, there are many doubts about his identity which mainly limit the scope into males at his time. This paper will discuss the possibility that Shakespeare is the Queen Elizabeth at that time from the evidence and hint of Shakespeare's representative work-Hamlet, so as to expand the study of Shakespeare and deepen people's understanding of Shakespeare's ideas and standpoint under the trend of globalization of Shakespeare study.

Keywords: Shakespeare; Elizabeth; Hamlet; Sonnets; Identity

Shakespeare has a lot of controversial facts in his identity, who has not received the scientific education of university, lacked the relative royal court experience, and wasn't known to people in many years. He just showed up so out of blue, brought unprecedented brilliance in the whole English literary world, above all prompted people began to doubt whether Shakespeare was the person who were born in Avon. There are many studies of Shakespeare's true identity, but most of them just limit the possibility of Shakespeare's identity to his contemporary males, such as Francis Bacon, Christopher Marlowe and so on, without considering the possibility that Shakespeare may be a woman. In the analysis of Shakespeare's representative-*Hamlet*, Shakespeare can be the Queen Elizabeth reigning the whole England at that time.

# 1. The implicit meaning of the name of Gertrude

Gertrude who is also an important character to push the whole plot to develop is the mother of Hamlet, she is the standard for all the women who met the requirements for a woman of religion, she is holy and virginal in Hamlet's eyes. The name of such a woman also has more implicit meanings than the literal meanings. Gertrude is a female proper name, from Old High German Geretrudis, in which Ger means "spear" and Trudius means to get out, such as protrude. The name obviously have the Teutonic characteristics which advocates the martial powers. On one hand, the ways of making up names are similar between Gertrude and Shakespeare which also includes the spare relative meaning. We can have the general postulation that Shakespeare may project herself on Gertrude in the process of creating *Hamlet*, in the field of psychoanalysis, it is nature for writer to project his or her image on the roles or she is creating. On the other hand, It is possible that a woman can have a name which is a little masculine, there are a lot of examples in Western and Eastern history. So why can't a person whose name is Gertrude or Shakespeare be a woman if she actually has a lot of money and power when she wants to write some articles. Let's revert to the topic, It is clear that Gertrude and Shakespeare have some relative linking, we will wonder which woman can be applied to this images, who is holy, virgin and powerful. The Queen Elizabeth who is glorified as the Queen of chaste may be the best answer to solve this problem.

### 2. The Queen is qualified as a writer

The Queen Elizabeth was brought up in the court, so it is nature for her to have a wide range of knowledge in the noble families' daily lives. Even thought she was deprived as the princess quality after her mother Anne Boleyn was beheaded, she was still cultivated well under the guidance of the family teaching lady who is also responsible to the pedagogical affairs of the prince Edward who is the legitimate heir to the throne of England. So Elizabeth has the experience of the upper-class daily lives, What's more, Elizabeth is also versatile, she inhabits the cleverness from her mother and develops another important trait her mother doesn't have-temperance, even the King Henry VIII who hates her mother so much that decapitate her admits that Elizabeth is so clever and assiduous. Before her succession to the throne of England, she often writes letters to the Queen of Scots, Mary. She also wrote to her sister Mary, the Queen of England when she was imprisoned in London Tower. From the content of these letters, we can draw a conclusion that Elizabeth is good at literary work and has brilliant skills in expressing herself of something etc. Most of all, Elizabeth is also a reformist who advocates religious reforms in England, but her identity as the Queen



can't allow her to proclaim her beliefs in public. She is also a catholic pilgrim in the most of her life. The Church of England and the Catholic Church, the feudal monarchy and the rising bourgeoisie were balanced under her conciliation, is it perfect to explain why Shakespeare's ambivalent opinions in political and religious areas if Shakespeare is totally Queen Elizabeth. There are too many coincidences between the Queen and Shakespeare.

# 3. Shakespeare has many unreasonable facts in his literary creating life

There are many English learners criticizing Shakespeare about his plagiarism and eroticism. There is no doubt that Shakespeare uses many articles before him, such as *Decameron*, *Metamorphoses* and some other works. But Shakespeare instills a new spirit in them and create something new and different from their original images. But the law in England also stands in the opposite position to Shakespeare at that time which was set to stand up for the interests of Bourgeoisie. The piracy or any actions infringing on the original writers' interests will be highly punished. The writers' qualification even can be depraved under the strict limits of the law. So why Shakespeare can avoid being forfeited for using other's works? It is because most of the stories or historical dramas he made are about former events which doesn't have much influence on English people. This is only one reason, what if the theist who uses other's stories is the most powerful Queen at that time? Will any lawyer or noble accuse the leader of the country of using the predecessors' works? Not alone the whole legit system is maintained to protect the feudal interests.

There are also many criticisms about the eroticism or the vulgar expressions in his works. From the point of that time, people are not averagely educated and long for blood and treasure. It is normal for Shakespeare to create some works has the trait of being obscene and ribald. Let's revert to the presumption that the Queen Elizabeth is Shakespeare. The Queen is known to all the world not only for her success in leading England to become a powerful country but also for her characteristic identity-the Queen of Chaste, she doesn't marry to any males because she decides to commit anything she has to her country which includes her body. If she was Shakespeare, It would be normal for her to depict some sexual scenes which can't happen in her life. In the folk hearsay, The Queen once wrote letters to the Emperor of China, Kangxi to express her willing to establish friendly bilateral relationship between China and England. But the emissary was killed in the half way, so the letter wasn't passed to the Emperor Kangxi, even if we can't get the clear acknowledge of the letter at that time, we can have the full reasons to doubt whether the Queen doesn't want a marriage in all the time of her life. Her mother Anne Boleyn used the method of writing letters to the King Henry VIII so that the King is obsessed with her before their marriage. There is much space for us to imagine. According to the psychoanalytic theory, It is impossible for any adult without physical disabilities to get rid of the thought of sex under great pressure even he is persuaded by a certain belief or religious doctrines.

## 4. The logical correctness confirmed in the sonnets created by Shakespeare'

The sonnets created by Shakespeare have been used as evidence for his sexual orientation to homosexual. There are 126 sonnets about the writer's love for a noble young man. Is it very strange to think Shakespeare or this writer as a male. Because even England was powerful at that time, It was to early for England to have such phenomenon. Oscar Wilde is acknowledged as abnormal who are two hundred years after the time of Shakespeare. How can we just simple think the sonnets as the proof of Shakespeare's homosexual tendency? LGBT is the phenomenon caused by social development, we can't put the socialism before capitalism so as to think Shakespeare is homosexual just on the basis of contemporary opinion which is not in agreement with the factual development of society in England at that time. Why can't the sonnets' writer is a female who wants to get married? Taking all above we discussed into consideration, It is reasonable to accredit these sonnets to the Queen Elizabeth in logic. The Queen can't get married in the real life for her promise who has to write sonnets to show her affection to a male in an anonymous way. Someone may argue that the years gap between Elizabeth and Shakespeare denies the possibilities of the Queen being Shakespeare, but is it more telling that a Queen who was over half of her life with full power and acknowledge can write these classics?

#### 5. Conclusion

This paper discusses the possibility of the Queen Elizabeth being Shakespeare by the contents of Hamlet and Shakespeare's sonnets, aiming to provide a different opinion for studies about Shakespeare. Under the globalization of Shakespearean industry, it is meaningful to analyze Shakespearean identity that is also helpful to better understand Shakespearean creating aims and the English literature developing background at that time.

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