Shakespeare's own copy of Florio's Montaigne is found on the margin of a page Shakespeare's own signature, 'Will'a very rare happening, for only eight signatures by him are found.

However, the intellectual milieu of the day was ripe enough to feed Shakespeare automatically with the word of wisdom, and like Tagore, Shakespeare was largely self-taught.

As a child, Shakespeare may have watched performances by the visiting companies to Stratford. In a parish record at Stratford it is mentioned that nineteen visiting playing companies toured the town between 1569, when Shakespeare's father John Shakespeare was the bailiff (equivalent to modern mayoral post) and 1587, when Shakespeare might have left Stratford. When a touring company visited Stratford or another town it would announce its arrival with drums and trumpets.

Some of the leading companies, which visited Stratford at the time, were the Queen's Men, that performed at the Guild Hall in Stratford in 1569, and the Worcester's Men in August. If Shakespeare was too young to enjoy them, he might have developed a taste for the drama when he watched the Liecester's Men perform in 1573 or Warwick's Men in 1575.

How Shakespeare became such a renowned writer has remained a mystery. What Shakespeare did, or how he lived in the years between his becoming the father of the twins in 1585, and his name being enviously mentioned by Robert Greene, a rival elderly playwright, in 1592, in a pamphlet titled, *Groat's Worht of Wit bought with a Million of Repentance,* is subject to great speculation.

Shakespeare probably first settled in the capital in 1590. He might have been progressing very fast as to catch the notice of Robert Greene, who in the aforesaid pamphlet, called Shakespeare 'an upstart crow, beautified with our feathers' (a plagiarist, that is, a false arrogant poet who imitated their poetry), and also worried about his fast growing popularity as is evident in this line: 'the only Shake-scene in a country'.

Ernest Honigmann, a Shakespeare biographer and critic, trying to explain away the "lost years" (1585-1592), suggests that Shakespeare might have spent this time as a country school teacher, because this fact was reported to John Aubrey by William Beeston who was 'the actor-son of Shakespeare's former theatrical colleague, Christopher Beeston.'

Shakespeare may also have felt poetic talent arousing in him at a very young age, and so to make a name as a poet he might have decided to travel to London, in the same manner as many young poets in Bangladesh come to Dhaka to establish themselves as poets. At the time, the theatre was the most thriving form of entertainment in the city of London. Many talented young men would seek work in the theatre as Shakespeare did, presumably, in 1587.



In explaining Shakespeare's lost years further, Honigmann suggests that he was involved with the Lord Starnge's Men. The story is like this: in Shakespeare's school, after his first teacher Thomas Jenkins had left, the teacher who replaced him was John Cottom, a man from the north, that is Lancashire. He recommended Shakespeare to his friend Alexander Hoghton to teach in his school as an assistant teacher. Under Hoghton and then Hesketh, the young Shakespeare developed his skill as a dramatist, and