

## Shakespeare's testament.

Vicesimo Quinto die Januarii Martii Anno Regni Domini nostri Jacobi nucn  
Regis Angliae etc decimo quarto & Scotie xlixo Annoque Domini 1616  
Testamentum Willemi Shackspeare Registretur

In the name of god Amen I William Shackspeare of Stratford upon Avon in the  
countrie of Warr' gent in perfect health and memorie god by prayed doe  
make and Ordayne this my last will and testament in manner and forme  
followeing that ys to saye first I Comend my Soule into the hands of god my  
Creator hoping and assuredlie beleeving through thonellie merittes of Jesus  
Christe my Saviour to be made partaker of lyfe everlastinge And my bodye to  
the Earthe whereof yt ys made. Item I Gyve and bequeath unto my ~~sønne in~~  
~~Law~~ and Daughter Judyth One Hundred and fyftie pounds of lawfull English  
money to be paied unto her in manner and forme following That ys to saye  
One Hundred Poundes in discharge of her marriage porcion within one yeare  
after my deceas with consideracion after the Rate of twoe shillinges in the  
pound for soe long tyme as the same shalbe unpaid unto her after my deceas  
& the fyftie pounds Residewe therof upon her surrendering of or gyving of  
such sufficient securitie as the overseers of this my will shall like of to  
Surrender or graunte All her estate and Right that shall discend or come unto  
her after my deceas or that she nowe hath of in or to one Copiehold  
tenemente with theappertenances lyeing & being in Stratford upon Avon  
aforesaied in the saide countie of warr' being parcell or holden of the mannor  
of Rowington unto my daughter Susanna Hall and her heires for ever. Item I  
gyve and bequeath unto my saied Daughter Judyth One Hundred and ffyftie  
Poundes more if shee or Anie issue of her bodie Lyvinge att thend of three  
yeares next ensueing the daie of the date of this my will during which tyme  
my executors to paie her consideracion from my deceas according to the  
Rate afore saied. And if she dye within the saied terme without issue of her  
bodye then my will ys and I doe gyve and bequeath One Hundred  
Poundes therof to my Neece Eliabeth Hall and ffiftie Poundes to be sett fourth  
by my executors during the lief of my Sister Johane Harte and the use and  
proffitt therof cominge shalbe payed to my saied Sister Jone and after her  
deceas the saied L li shall Remaine Amongst the childredn of my saied Sister  
Equallie to be devided Amongst them. But if my saied daughter Judith be  
lyving att thend of the saeid three yeares or anie issue of her bodye then my  
will ys and soe I devise and bequeath the saied Hundred and ffyftie poundes

to be sett out by my executors and overseers for the best benefit of her and her issue and the stock not to be paied unto her soe long as she shalbe married and Covert Baron ~~by my executors and overseers~~ but my will ys that she shall have the consideracion yearelie paied unto her during her lief and after her deceas the saied stock and condieracion to bee paid to her children if she have Anie and if not to her executors or Assignes she lyving the saied terme after my deceas provided that if such husband as she shall att thend of the saied three yeares by married unto or attain after doe sufficiently Assure unto her and thissue of her bodie landes answereable to the portion gyven unto her and to be adjudged soe by my executors and overseers then my will ys that the saied CL li shalbe paied to such husband as shall make such assurance to his owne use. Item I gyve and bequeath unto my saied sister Jone XX li and all my wearing Apprell to be paied and delivered within one yeare after my deceas. And I doe will and devise unto her the house with thappurtenances in Stratford where in she dwelleth for her naturall lief under the yearelie Rent of xiid Item I gyve and bequeath unto her three sonnes William Hart—Hart and Michaell Harte ffyve pounds A peece to be payed within one yeare after my decease ~~to be sett out for her within one yeare after my deceas by my executors with thadvise and direccons of my overseers for her best proffitt untill her marriage and then the same with the increase thereof to be paied unto her.~~ Item I gyve and bequath unto her the said Elizabeth Hall All my Plate (except my brod silver and gilt bole) that I now have att the date of this my will. Item I gyve and bequeath unto the Poore of Stratford aforesaid tenn poundes; to Mr Thomas Combe my Sword; to Thomas Russell Esquier ffyve poundes and to ffrancis collins of the Borough of Warr' in the countie of Warr' gent. thriteene poundes Sixe shillings and Eight pence to be paied within one yeare after my deceas. Item I gyve and bequeath to ~~mr richard~~ Hamlett Sadler ~~Tyler thelder~~ XXVIs VIId to buy him A Ringe; to William Raynoldes gent XXVIs VIId to buy him a Ringe; to my godson William Walker XXVIs VIId ~~in gold~~ and to my ffellowes John Hemynges, Richard Burbage and Heny Cundell XXVIs VIId A peece to buy them Ringes. Item I Gyve Will Bequeth and Devise unto my Daughter Susanna Hall for better enabling of her to performe this my will and towards the performans thereof All that Capitall Messuage or tenemente with thappertenaces in Stratford aforesaid called the newe plase wherein I now Dwell and two messuags or tenementes with thappurtenances scituated lyeing and being in Henley Streete within the borough of Stratford aforesaid. And all my barnes, stables, Orchardes, gardens, landes, tenementes and

herediaments whatsoever scituat lyeing and being or to be had receyved, perceyved or taken within the townes and Hamletts, villages, ffieldes and groundes of Stratford upon Avon, Oldstratford, Bushopton and Welcombe or in anie of them in the saied countie of warr And alsoe All that Messuage or tenemente with thappurtenances wherein one John Robinson dwelleth, scituat, lyeing and being in the blackfriars in London nere the Wardrobe and all other my landes tenementes and hereditamentes whatsoever. To Have and to hold All and singular the saied premisses with their Appurtenances unto the saied Susanna Hall for and during the terme of her naturall lief and after her deceas to the first sonne of her bodie lawfullie yssueing and to the heires Males of the bodie of the saied Second Sonne lawfullie yssueing and for default of such heires Males of the bodie of the saied third sonne lawfullie yssueing And for default of such issue the same soe to be Reamine to the ffourth sonne, ffythe, sixte and seaventh sonnes of her bodie lawfullie issueing one after Another and and to the heires Males of the bodies of the saied ffourth, ffythe, Sixte and Seaventh sonnes lawfullie yssueing in such mamer as yt ys before Lymitted to be and remaine to the first, second and third Sonns of her bodie and to their heires males. And for default of such issue the saied premisses to be and Remaine to my sayed Neede Hall and the heires Males of her bodie Lawfully yssueing for default of...such issue to my daughter Judith and the heires of me the saied William Sahckspere for ever. Item I gyve unto my wief my second best bed with the furniture; Item I gyve and bequeath to my saied daughter Judith my broad silver gilt bole. All the rest of my goodes Chattels, Leases, plate, jewles and Household stuffe whatsoever after my dettes and Legasies paied and my funerall expences discharged, I gyve devise and bequeath to my Sonne in Lawe John Hall gent and my daughter Susanna his wief whom I ordaine and make executors of this my Last will and testament. And I doe intreat and Appoint the saied Thomas Russell Esquier and ffrauncis Collins gent to be overseers herof And doe Revoke All former wills and publishe this to be my last will and testament. In witnes whereof I have hereunto put my Seale hand the Daie and Yeare first above Written.

Witness to the publishing hereof: Fra: Collyns, Juilyus Shawe, John Robinson, Hamnet Sadler, robert Whattcott.

By me William Shakespeare

Probatum coram Magistro Williamo Byrde legum doctore Commissario etc xxiido die mensis Junii Anno domini 1616 Juramento Jahannis Hall unius

executorum etc. Cui etc de bene etc Jurati Reservata potestate etc Sussane  
Hall alteri executorum etc cum venerit etc petitur.

Inventarium exhibitum.