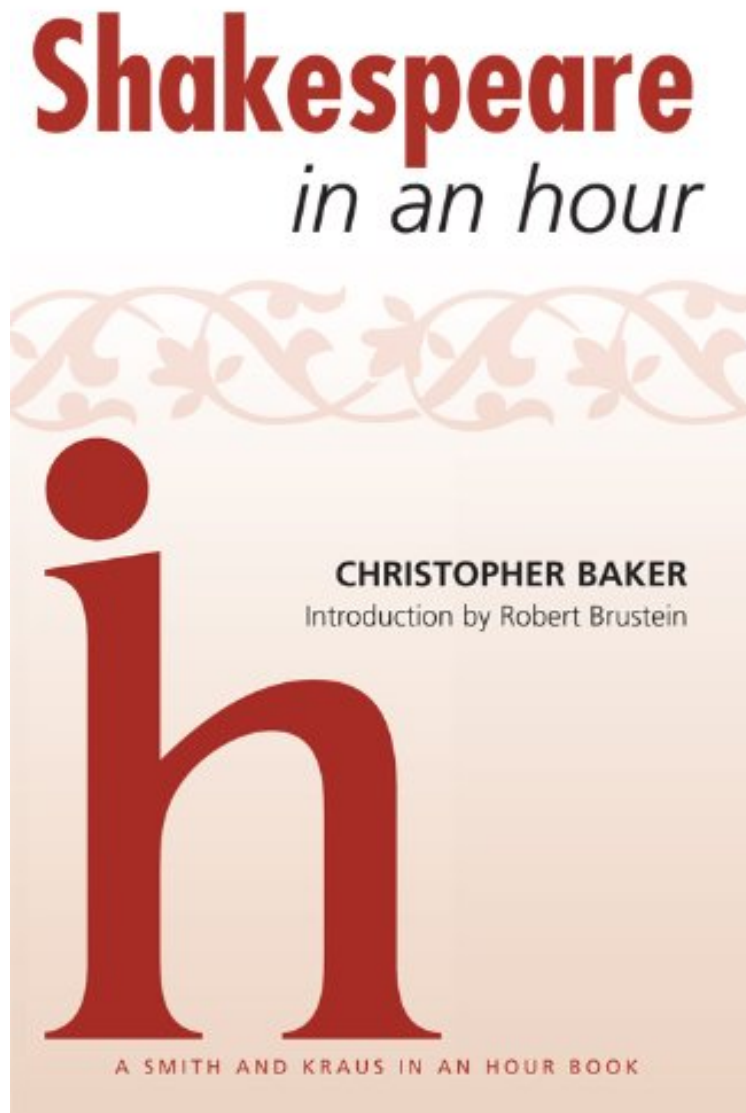


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Shakespeare in an Hour (Playwrights in an Hour)

Christopher Baker

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Christopher Baker : Shakespeare in an Hour (Playwrights in an Hour) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shakespeare in an Hour (Playwrights in an Hour):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Informed, informative, and thoroughly 'reader friendly'By Midwest Book ReviewNewly published by Smith Kraus is a remarkable twenty-seven title series titled 'Playwrights in an Hour'. Each of these 100-page books is dedicated to a particular playwright and the series itself is organized into four major sections: Ancient Greek, Renaissance, Modern, and Contemporary. Of special note is how each showcased playwright

is presented in their historical, social, and literary context. Enhanced with an 'In a Minute' chronology giving a succinct view of global events that influenced the playwrights world view; a complete listing of the playwright's work; a list of the playwright's contemporaries in all fields; excerpts from the playwright's most significant works; an extensive bibliography grouped according to type of reader; and an index of the main essay, this outstanding, yet inexpensive series, ranging from Sophocles and Shakespear, to Miller and A. Wilson, is informed, informative, and thoroughly 'reader friendly', making it a strongly recommended supplement for academic curriculums, community theater groups, and public library collections. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Plain simple By Y. Zhang If you just want to know Shakespeare's life briefly, this is fine. But this book lacks of deep analysis and story telling.

BOOK SYNOPSIS In 1587, when William Shakespeare was twenty-three, the acting troupe Queen s Men played in his hometown of Stratford-upon-Avon with one player short. Shakespeare s childhood fascination with theater suddenly found a perfect outlet -- he joined the Queen s Men and replaced the missing actor. Shortly thereafter young William traveled to London in pursuit of an acting career. But acting soon gave way to an even more glorious adventure when Shakespeare realized that he might have a talent for writing plays. Setting the playwright in context to his personal life, social, historical and political events, other writers of influence, and more, you will quickly gain a deep understanding of Shakespeare and the plays he wrote. Read Shakespeare in an Hour and experience his plays like never before. Know the playwright, love the play! **SELLING POINTS** The book features: Shakespeare in an Hour, the main essay of the book Shakespeare in a Minute, a snapshot chronology A complete listing of Shakespeare s work A list of Shakespeare s contemporaries in all fields Excerpts from Shakespeare s significant works An extensive bibliography grouped according to type of reader An index of the main essay. **THE SERIES** Playwrights in an Hour is a series devoted to the most produced and studied playwrights in the English language, from the Greek masters to contemporary writers, and written by leading authorities in the field. Each short book places the playwright and his or her work in historical, social, and literary context.

Praise for Playwrights in an Hour Series, "Each compact volume supplies enough essential information to enable even the most uninformed theatergoer to hold his or her own in a postshow discussion. This new series is highly recommended for theater students, playgoers, and professionals." --Library Journal Of Playwrights in an Hour Series, "These 27 books should be especially welcomed by actors and directors." --Stage Directions "You will find great value in these attractive little volumes." --Robert Brustein, Founding Director of Yale and American Repertory Theaters About the Author Christopher Baker is senior dramaturg at Hartford Stage, where he has been since 1998, and a visiting lecturer at the University of Massachusetts. He previously served as the dramaturg for The Shakespeare Theatre, PlayMakers Repertory Company, and the Alley Theatre and taught at the University of North Carolina and the Hartt School. As a director he has staged many works, including his own play for children, Calliope Jam. A contributor to the book The Production Notebooks, his articles have appeared in Theatre Journal, Hog River Journal, American Theatre magazine, the Hartford Courant, and the book The Lively ART.