

# Shakespeare is Back

di

## **Luca Varone**

proposta in **lingua inglese** per gli studenti del **Triennio e Biennio Superiore** 

#### "ESTRATTO COPIONE"

#### Gentile Docente.

qui a seguire dei momenti estratti dallo spettacolo **Shakespeare is Back** che trova come protagonista **William** e i personaggi delle sue opere più famose: **Romeo, Desdemona, Giulietta, Lady Macbeth, Amleto, Mercuzio, Tebaldo, Jago, Yorick, Otello e la Balia**...

Per la nostra compagnia lo spettacolo ha l'obiettivo di aiutare i giovani a capire che il mondo raccontato da Shakespeare non è poi così lontano da quello in cui viviamo noi e che la lettura delle sue opere può fare luce su bisogni, convinzioni e dubbi del mondo contemporaneo.

Scoprire l'opera Shakespeariana in una chiave moderna, ironica e accattivante sarà per i ragazzi un'esperienza sorprendente e regalerà loro un ricordo unico ed indimenticabile.

Buona lettura!		
Cordiali saluti.		

Il Direttore Artistico



#### **OPENING**

WILLIAM: Ladies and gentlemen, are you ready? I've been waiting for a long time to take you on a fantastic night, through music, lights and beats. Maybe you don't remember me, so let me remind you. Now I'm here and the party is about to start. I don't know why or how but I just know that I found a new passion that will touch your hearts through emotions, words and poetry. Maybe this is all really a dream, who knows? Maybe I never existed, but I can tell you this, though: We are such stuff as dreams are made on, and our little life is rounded with a sleep, that's why I came all the way out here: ladies and gentlemen... William Shakespeare is back!

**WILLIAM:** Hi guys...... You know, I used to be very popular in my time, I have done a lot of writing, or at least that's what history books say, I wrote plays, above all, but not only. I'm positive that I am the most popular writer ever, after your Dante Alighieri, of course. When I found out I had the chance to come to you here, I chose to reinvent myself as a modern pop character. And now I'm about to tell you which kind of character I could have changed into...... Let's see... (maybe...)

an "influencer"

a "youtuber"

a "video gamer"

a "politician"

oooor a "deejay"

Yesss... a deejay, I chose the deejay because I didn't think there's any kind of art in the other jobs.

Oh my God! Please tell me: Am I in Mantova?

Am I in Ferrara?

Am I in Napoli?

Am I in Venezia?

Am I in Verona right now?

I've chosen Italy because I wanted to see and touch with my own hands the land that inspired me to write.

I am a boy from the backwater and you know what? Small town guys have a huge head start. In my works I wrote about passion, power and love. It would be very nice to tell you... about all of those topics but unfortunately that's not possible for two reasons: the first, because we have only 60 minutes to spend together; the second, I wrote 37 works and 154 sonnets.



#### LIFE

LUCIA: 1564 - He was born in Stratford, Warwickshire.

WILLIAM: Yea... from the backwater.

**LUCIA:** Maybe on April 23rd, but in any case, baptized, according to the records, on April 26th. He was the third of eight children.

WILLIAM: I was the only one kissing her good night kiss.

**LUCIA:** Born to John Shakespeare, fur trader, and Mary Arden.

LUCREZIA: 1582 - On November 28th, in Stratford, he married Anne Hathaway...

#### **OTHELLO**

WILLIAM: lago?.....lago

IAGO: Yes.

WILLIAM: That's your moment now. You seem a bit angry... what's happened?

**IAGO:** I'm pissed off Othello has chosen Cassio as his lieutenant and not me and so I've prepared a little joke for him.

WILLIAM: C'mon. Spit it out.

IAGO: He is an old black ram.

**WILLIAM:** Yes, this is a phrase I've seen in the newspapers in the last few days, you know you are a racist.

**IAGO:** Othello gave Desdemona a handkerchief as a present and to avenge myself I'll make him find it in Cassio's room so that he thinks he's been betrayed by his pretty wife.

WILLIAM: With Cassio?

**IAGO:** I hate the Moor. Cassio's a handsome man. Let's see, how can I get his position and use him to hurt Othello at the same time? How? How? Let's see. After a while I'll start telling Othello that Cassio is too intimate with Desdemona. Othello si easy to manipulate. So it's all decided. I've worked it out. With a little help from the devil, I'll bring this monstrous plan to success.



**WILLIAM:** Othello has always feared Cassio for his youth and his military exploits, he will be eaten alive with jealousy.

**IAGO:** It serves him right! We're in the 5th act, at the moment just before the final tragedy (happens). So, William, turn up the volume and put on Chopin!

### **SONNET 18**

**WILLIAM:** Wait, it's not over yet! I know that my lyrics are ancient but I have changed the metrics just for you to be modern. Come on and sing with me!

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?

Thou art more lovely and more temperate:

Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,

And summer's lease hath all too short a date:

Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,

And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;

And every fair from fair sometime declines,

By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimm'd;

But thy eternal summer shall not fade

Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st;

Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade,

When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st;

So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,

So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.



#### **ROMEO AND JULIET**

**JULIET**: Oh, Romeo, Romeo, why do you have to be Romeo? Forget about your father and change your name. Or else, if you won't change your name, just swear you love me and I'll stop being a Capulet.

**JULIET** (still not knowing ROMEO hears her): It's only your name that's my enemy. You'd still be yourself even if you stopped being a Montague. What's a Montague anyway? It isn't a hand, a foot, an arm, a face, or any other part of a man. *Oh, be some other name!* What does a name mean? The thing we call a rose would smell just as sweet if we called it by any other name. Romeo would be just as perfect even if he wasn't called Romeo. Romeo, lose your name.

**ROMEO** (to JULIET): I trust your words. Just call me your love and I will take a new name. From now on I will never be Romeo again

JULIET: Who are you? Why do you hide in the darkness and listen to my private thoughts?

**ROMEO**: I don't know how to tell you who I am by telling you a name. I hate my name, dear saint, because my name is your enemy. If I had it written down, I would tear up the paper.

**JULIET**: Tell me, how did you get in here? And why did you come? The orchard walls are high, and it's hard to climb over them. If any of my relatives find you here they'll kill you because of who you are.

**ROMEO**: I flew over these walls with the light wings of love. Stone walls can't keep love out. Whatever a man in love can possibly do, his love will make him try to do it. Therefore your relatives are no obstacle to me.

**JULIET**: If they see you, they'll murder you.

**ROMEO**: Alas, one angry look from you would be worse than twenty of your relatives with swords. Just look at me kindly, and I'm invincible against their hatred.

JULIET: I'd give anything to keep them from seeing you here.

**ROMEO:** The darkness will hide me from them. And if you don't love me, let them find me here. I'd rather they killed me than have to live without your love...