Shakespeare And Co: Christopher Marlowe, Thomas Dekker, Ben Johnson, Thomas Middleton, John Fletcher And The Other Players In His Story

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Playwright Christopher Marlowe is one of the big names of Elizabethan drama, even though his writing career lasted only a little more than five years. He was born in 1564, the same year as Shakespeare, in Canterbury, but started writing at a much younger age and prepared the way for his great contemporary. It is believed Marlowe wrote seven plays, but his life was cut short when he was murdered in 1593 at the age of 29, in a tavern in Deptford. He had got into a fight and drawn a knife, upon which his opponent drew his and fatally stabbed Marlowe in the eye. Marlow became a well known figure around London, due partly to his flamboyant dress and the jewellery that dripped off him. Portrait of Christopher Marlow. The editors of the Oxford Complete Shakespeare believe Christopher Marlowe collaborated on the three Henry VI plays but are they right? In the conventional account of his career, Marlowe had written at least five plays, starting with his 1587 smash hit Tamburlaine, and the narrative poem Hero and Leander, by the time of his much-speculated-about death in a knife fight in Deptford in 1593 but, unlike most of his Elizabethan peers, idiosyncratic Kit is not viewed as having added to his CV. as a team-writer. Shakespeare, also born in 1564 but a comparatively late starter (he staged his first play in 1590/91), paid graceful homage to him in As You Like It and was clearly influenced by him in choice of subject and individual pass Plays. Ben Jonson's comedies are his best dramatic work. From all his plays we may select three that will best repay reading: Volpone, The Alchemist, and The Silent Woman. Volpone is the story of an old, childless, Venetian nobleman whose ruling passion is avarice.