

A portrait of William Shakespeare, showing him from the chest up. He has a fair complexion, blue eyes, and a light brown beard and mustache. He is wearing a dark, patterned garment with a large, ornate white lace ruff collar. The background is dark and indistinct.

Today in History

April 23, 1616

▲ **William Shakespeare, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language, died. His works include around 37 plays, 154 sonnets, and other poems**

1516: Bavaria ruled that beer should be brewed with only water, malt and hops

1791: A novel which claimed pain could bring sexual pleasure was published by the Marquis de Sade

1992: A NASA satellite found evidence of wispy clouds of matter at the edge of the known universe

2006: Hungary's ruling coalition won re-election. Socialist Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsany later revealed he had lied to secure victory