Nearly four hundred years after his death, Shakespeare permeates our everyday lives: from the words we speak to the teenage heartthrobs we worship to the political rhetoric spewed by the twenty-four-hour news cycle. Stephen Marche has cherry-picked the sweetest and most savory historical footnotes from Shakespeare's work and life to create this unique celebration of the greatest writer of all time.

Grounded by research yet highly accessible and engaging, these provocative, astonishing stories reveal the complex motives of writers who hoarded secret identities—sometimes playfully, sometimes with terrible anguish and tragic consequences. A wide-ranging exploration of pseudonyms both familiar and obscure, Nom de Plume is part detective story, part exposé, part literary history, and an absorbing psychological meditation on identity and creativity.

Uncle Tom's Cabin is likely the most influential novel ever written by an American. In a fitting tribute to the two hundredth anniversary of Harriet Beecher Stowe's birth, Bancroft Prize-winning historian David S. Reynolds reveals her book's impact not only on the abolitionist movement and the American Civil War but also on worldwide events, including the end of serfdom in Russia, down to its influence in the twentieth century. He explores how both Stowe's background as the daughter in a famously intellectual family of preachers and her religious visions were fundamental to the novel. And he demonstrates why the book was beloved by millions— and won over even some southerners—while fueling lasting conflicts over the meaning of America. Although vilified over the years as often as praised, it has remained a cultural landmark, proliferating in the form of plays, songs, films, and merchandise—a rich legacy that has both fed and contested American racial stereotypes.

How Shakespeare changed everything.

by Stephen Marche

Harper, 2011

Mightier than the sword: Uncle Tom's Cabin and the battle for America.

by David S. Reynolds

WW Norton, 2011

Nom de plume: a (secret) history of pseudonyms.

by Carmela Ciuraru

Harper, 2011

Figuring it out: everyday encounters with everyday math.

by Nuno Crato

Springer, 2010

Library hours for Winter Quarter:

Monday - Friday 7:30am to 9:45pm

Saturday 7:30am to 4:30pm

Sunday CLOSED

Questions?

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