

TO THE RIGHT  
HONORABLE, HENRY  
VVriothesley, Earle of Southhampton,  
and Baron of Titchfield.



HE lowe I dedicate to your  
Lordship is without end: wher-  
of this Pamphlet without be-  
ginning is but a superfluous  
Moity. The warrant I haue of  
your Honourable disposition,  
not the worth of my vntutord  
Lines makes it assured of acceptance. VVhat I haue  
done is yours, what I haue to doe is yours, being  
part in all I haue, deuoted yours. VVere my worth  
greater, my duety would shew greater, meane time,  
as it is, it is bound to your Lordship; To whom I wish  
long life still lengthned with all happinesse.

Your Lordships in all duety.

William Shakespeare.

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Shakespeare, William. *[Rape of Lucrece] Lucrece*. London: Richard Field, for Iohn Harrison, 1594. Folger STC 22345 copy 1.

*The Rape of Lucrece* was first published in 1594. Like *Venus and Adonis*, Shakespeare dedicated the poem to his patron, Henry Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton.

From an original in the [Folger Shakespeare Library](#)

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