



William Shakespeare's Long Lost First Play (abridged)

Written and Directed by Reed Martin & Austin Tichenor

"Something wickedly funny this way comes! ... and wickedly smart, too, as you'd expect from the 'other' RSC." - *Bob Mondello, National Public Radio*

Premiering in 2016 at the Folger Shakespeare Library – Washington, DC – Coinciding with the international hoopla surrounding the 400th Anniversary of Shakespeare's death.

The year 2016 will mark the 400th Anniversary of William Shakespeare's passing. Commemorations will be taking place all over the world. So hang on to your codpieces! While touring England, the Reduced Shakespeare Company uncovered a manuscript that turned out to be the literary Holy Grail: **William Shakespeare's long lost first play!** No, really. We found this centuries-old manuscript in a parking lot in Leicester, England. We are totally not making this up.



Every famous character and Shakespearean plot device come together in a single story so comically outrageous it's no wonder the Bard of Avon hid it away. Historical evidence suggests that this manuscript, Shakespeare's very first written work, is so romantically rich, historically accurate, and theatrically overstuffed that in a stroke of genius The Bard decided to break it up into the thirty-seven plays (...or, depending on recent scholarship, 38...39....) that we know today as the Shakespearean canon.

In this "tale told by idiots," the Reduced Shakespeare Company weaves all of The Bard's famous characters, greatest lines, and magnificent speeches into a brand new Shakespearean smorgasbord that erupts when Puck & Ariel hijack the plot of *Comedy of Errors*, creating such new and strange bedfellows as Kate and Beatrice, Hamlet and master motivator Lady Macbeth, Dromio and Juliet, as well as King Lear and his three daughters who turn out to be the three weird sisters from *Macbeth*.

William Shakespeare's Long Lost First Play (abridged) is a comic misadventure that will feel strangely familiar yet excitingly new.

In the spirit of Shakespeare himself, RSC shows contain some occasional bawdy language and mild innuendo. All children (and parents) are different, so we've chosen to rate our shows PG-13: Pretty Good If You're Thirteen.

