



Character's Name	Character's Role in <i>Shakespeare Stealer</i>	Character's Role in History
Will Sly	An actor in the company, at first mistaken for William Shakespeare by Widge.	He is listed as Will Slye in the First Folio.
John Heminges	A company director who holds the prompt books.	In the First Folio dedication, he is known as John Heminge. He was an actor in Shakespeare's company, the King's Men, who with Henry Condell gathered notes, collected prompt books, and used his memory to create the First Folio.
Queen Elizabeth I	At the time of this play, Queen Elizabeth I is old and nearing the end of her life. She is portrayed as a vain person.	The ruler of England from 1533-1603. Queen Elizabeth I ruled England during a very prosperous time, which came to be known as the Elizabethan era.
William Shakespeare	A playwright, who wrote <i>Hamlet</i> , which Widge is trying to copy and steal for Bass.	An actor, playwright, member of the Lord Chamberlain's Men (later the King's Men), and poet who wrote many popular plays; the most famous of all English playwrights.
Libby	A maid in the Simon Bass house.	This character is not based on a real person.
Julian	A young woman who disguises herself as a boy to be an apprentice in the Lord Chamberlain's Men.	This character is not based on a real person.
Sander Cooke	An apprentice in the Lord Chamberlain's Men who is Widge's roommate and who befriends him.	His name appears in the First Folio as Alexander Cooke.