

## Elizabethan Poetry before Spenser;

The 'golden age' of the Elizabethan literature starts with the publication of Edmund Spenser's 'Shepheardes Calender' which was published in 1579. Of all the genres poetry was dominating the realm of literature during the first half of the queen's rule. However a handful of poems possessing distinct value was produced. Only few is to be mentioned.

1. Thomas Sackville and Lord Buckhurst who published 'A Myrroure for Magistrates'. This poem was considered as the best poetry of that time.
2. Lydgate's 'Falles of Princes' got published. Actually the design of this work is to include a long series of 'tragical histories' of the renowned Englishmen. So many writers contributed to it. Of all the writers Sackville's poems the 'Induction' and the 'Complaint of Buckingham' remains an outstanding contribution.

'Induction' was written between the period of Chaucer and Spenser. By its nobility and sombre nature it remains the only finest poem of its time.

3. George Gascoigne wrote 'Steele Glas' in 1576. This is regarded as the first regular verse satire in the history of English language.