The supernova, spotted by Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe, blazed in the constellation Cassiopeia and is argued to be the “westward star” in Shakespeare’s Hamlet.

At least five of Shakespeare’s plays contain the word “comet” in Hamlet’s love letter to Ophelia:

Doubt thou the stars are fire, Doubt that the sun doth move, Doubt truth to be a liar, But never doubt I love.”

—Hamlet, 2.2.115-8

Shakespeare alludes to the Copernican theory of heliocentrism in Hamlet’s love letter to Ophelia.

IN HIS PLAYS AND POEMS, Shakespeare names or alludes to at least 63 different kinds of birds.