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## Masters of British Literature, Volume B

By David Damrosch, Christopher Baswell, Clare Carroll, Kevin J. H. Dettmar, Heather Henderson, Constance Jordan, Peter J. Manning, Anne Howland Schotter, William Chapman Sharpe, Stuart Sherman, Jennifer Wicke, Susan J. Wolfson



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Written by an editorial team whose members are all actively engaged in teaching and in current scholarship, *Masters of British Literature* is a concise, yet comprehensive survey of the key writers whose classic works have shaped British literature. Featuring major works by the most influential authors in the British literary tradition—Barbauld, Blake, Wollstonecraft, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Keats, Barrett Browning, Browning, Tennyson, Yeats, Woolf, Joyce, Eliot, Walcott, Heaney, and Rushdie—this compact anthology combines comprehensive coverage of the enduring works of the British literary tradition from the Romantics through the twentieth century. Core texts are complemented by contextual materials that help students understand the literary, historical, and cultural environments out of which these texts arose, and within which they find their richest meaning.



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## **Editorial Review**

From the Back Cover

### **VOLUME B**

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### **FEATURES**

- **Major prose works appear in their entirety**, together with a wealth of poetry and drama--from Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* to a generous selection of poems from Blake's *Songs of Innocence and of Experience* to Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*.
- **"Perspectives" sections** shed light on the period as a whole and link with immediately surrounding works, providing a historical point of entry and reference to modern readers. For example, "Perspectives: The Abolition of Slavery and the Slave Trade" in the Romantics section contains pieces by Mary Prince, a West Indian slave, and William Wordsworth.
- Shorter groupings in **"...and Its Time"** sections show major works in the context of their own era. For example, *Manfred* and *Its Time The Byronic Hero* appears with an excerpt from Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and in a section of *The Widow of Crescentius* by Felicia Hemans.
- **"Responses" pairings** demonstrate the influence of literary masterpieces on subsequent authors. Pairings include a selection of Chinua Achebe's "An Image of Africa" to go with Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* and Fadwa Tuqan's "In the Aging City" to accompany Eliot's *The Waste Land*.
- **Numerous illustrations**, both black-and-white and color plates, provide graphic examples and illustrations of literary texts.

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#### About the Author

David Damrosch is a lecturer at Columbia University.

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