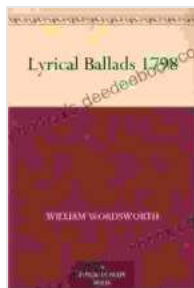


# Lyrical Ballads 1798: A Journey into Nature and the Human Heart

Lyrical Ballads, published in 1798, marked a significant turning point in English literature. This collection of poems, written by William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge, introduced a new approach to poetry that celebrated the beauty of nature and the lives of ordinary people.



## Lyrical Ballads 1798 by William Wordsworth

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language	: English
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Lending	: Enabled
File size	: 157 KB
Screen Reader	: Supported
Print length	: 142 pages



Prior to Lyrical Ballads, poetry was largely dominated by artificial and elevated language, and focused on idealized subjects such as mythology and history. Wordsworth and Coleridge believed that poetry should be more accessible, and that it should speak to the experiences of everyday people.

In their Preface to Lyrical Ballads, Wordsworth and Coleridge outlined their theory of poetry. They argued that poetry should be written in "the real language of men," and that it should deal with "incidents and situations

from common life." They also believed that poetry should be "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings."

The poems in Lyrical Ballads reflect these principles. Wordsworth's poems, in particular, are known for their use of simple, everyday language and their focus on the natural world. His poem "Lines Written a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey" is a classic example of Romantic poetry, and it beautifully captures the poet's love of nature and his sense of wonder at its beauty.

Coleridge's poems in Lyrical Ballads are more varied in tone and style. His poem "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" is a haunting and atmospheric tale of a sailor who is cursed after killing an albatross. The poem is full of vivid imagery and suspense, and it has become one of the most famous poems in the English language.

Lyrical Ballads was a critical and commercial success, and it had a profound impact on the development of English poetry. It helped to establish Romantic poetry as a major force in literature, and it continues to be admired and studied today.

### **Wordsworth's Nature Poetry**

Wordsworth's nature poetry is characterized by its deep love of the natural world and its use of simple, everyday language. He believed that nature was a source of inspiration and joy, and he often wrote about the beauty of the landscapes around his home in the Lake District of England.

Wordsworth's poem "Tintern Abbey" is a classic example of his nature poetry. The poem describes a walk that the poet takes with his sister, and it reflects his love of the natural world and his sense of wonder at its beauty.

The poem opens with a description of the beautiful Wye Valley, with its "steep and lofty cliffs" and "ancient woods." Wordsworth then goes on to describe his own feelings as he walks through the landscape, and he reflects on the power of nature to inspire and uplift the human spirit.

Wordsworth's nature poetry is often deeply personal, and it reflects his own experiences and emotions. He often draws on his own childhood memories to create vivid and moving poems about the beauty of the natural world.

Wordsworth's nature poetry has had a profound impact on English literature, and it continues to be admired and studied today. His poems offer a unique and moving insight into the beauty of the natural world and the power of nature to inspire and uplift the human spirit.

### **Coleridge's Rime of the Ancient Mariner**

Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" is one of the most famous poems in the English language. The poem tells the story of a sailor who is cursed after killing an albatross, and it is full of vivid imagery and suspense.

The poem begins with the Ancient Mariner stopping a wedding guest and telling him his story. The Mariner describes how he and his fellow sailors were caught in a storm at sea, and how he killed an albatross that was following the ship.

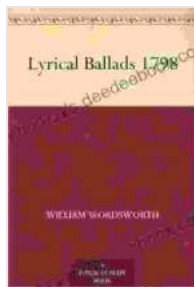
After killing the albatross, the Mariner is cursed, and the ship is beset by a series of misfortunes. The sailors are plagued by thirst and hunger, and they are forced to watch as their fellow sailors die one by one.

Eventually, the Mariner is the only survivor, and he is left alone on the ship. He is finally rescued by a ghostly ship, and he is brought back to his home port.

The Rime of the Ancient Mariner is a haunting and atmospheric tale, and it has been interpreted in many different ways. Some see it as a moral allegory about the dangers of hubris, while others see it as a psychological exploration of guilt and redemption.

Whatever its interpretation, The Rime of the Ancient Mariner is a powerful and moving poem that continues to fascinate readers today.

Lyrical Ballads, published in 1798, was a landmark publication in English literature. It introduced a new approach to poetry that celebrated the beauty of nature and the lives of ordinary people. The poems in Lyrical Ballads continue to be admired and studied today, and they offer a unique and moving insight into the human experience.



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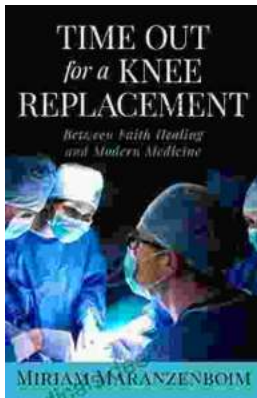
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