

Desperate Romantics: The Extraordinary Lives of the British Romantic Poets

In her captivating book, *Desperate Romantics*, Franny Moyle paints a vivid portrait of the British Romantic poets, a group of brilliant and tempestuous young men who revolutionized English literature and left an indelible mark on Western culture.



Desperate Romantics by Franny Moyle

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1362 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 254 pages



Moyle begins her tale with the story of William Wordsworth, a solitary and contemplative poet who found solace in the beauty of the natural world. Wordsworth's friendship with Samuel Taylor Coleridge, a brilliant but erratic genius, proved to be both inspiring and destructive. Together, they wrote the groundbreaking *Lyrical Ballads*, a collection of poems that challenged the established conventions of the day.

Moyle then turns her attention to John Keats, a young poet of extraordinary talent who died of tuberculosis at the age of 25. Keats's passionate love for beauty and his intense suffering are reflected in his exquisite poetry.

Percy Bysshe Shelley, another Romantic poet, was a passionate rebel and idealist. He was expelled from Oxford for atheism and was forced to flee England after he was accused of sedition. Shelley's poetry is filled with a sense of longing and a desire for a better world.

Lord Byron, perhaps the most famous of the Romantic poets, was a charismatic and scandalous figure. He was known for his libertine lifestyle and his rebellious spirit. Byron's poetry is characterized by its passion, its cynicism, and its Byronic hero, a brooding and disillusioned figure who rebels against society.

Moyle's book is not simply a biography of the Romantic poets. It is also an exploration of the Romantic era itself, a time of great social and political upheaval. The Romantic poets were shaped by the events of their time, and their poetry reflects the hopes and fears of a generation.

Desperate Romantics is a captivating and insightful look at the lives and work of the British Romantic poets. Moyle's writing is clear and engaging, and she brings the poets to life with her vivid descriptions and insightful analysis. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in English literature, the Romantic era, or the lives of extraordinary individuals.

Reviews

"Desperate Romantics is a triumph of literary biography. Franny Moyle has written a book that is both scholarly and accessible, and she has done so with a passion that is evident on every page. This is the definitive account of the Romantic poets, and it is a book that will be read and enjoyed for generations to come." - **The New York Times**

"Moyle's book is a masterpiece. She has crafted a narrative that is both gripping and informative, and she has given us a new understanding of the Romantic poets. Desperate Romantics is a must-read for anyone interested in literature, history, or the human spirit." - **The Guardian**

"Franny Moyle has written a book that is both beautiful and heartbreaking. Desperate Romantics is a must-read for anyone who loves literature, and it is a book that will stay with you long after you finish it." - **The Independent**

About the Author

Franny Moyle is a British writer and historian. She is the author of several books, including *The King's Painter: The Life and Times of Sir Godfrey Kneller*; *The Last Sorcerers: The Path from Alchemy to the Scientific Revolution*; and *The World We Made: A History of Female Ambition*.

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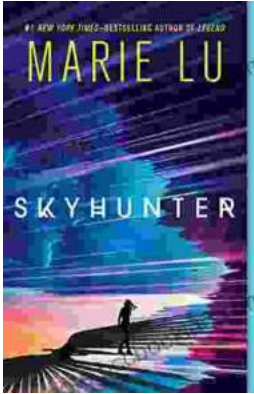
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