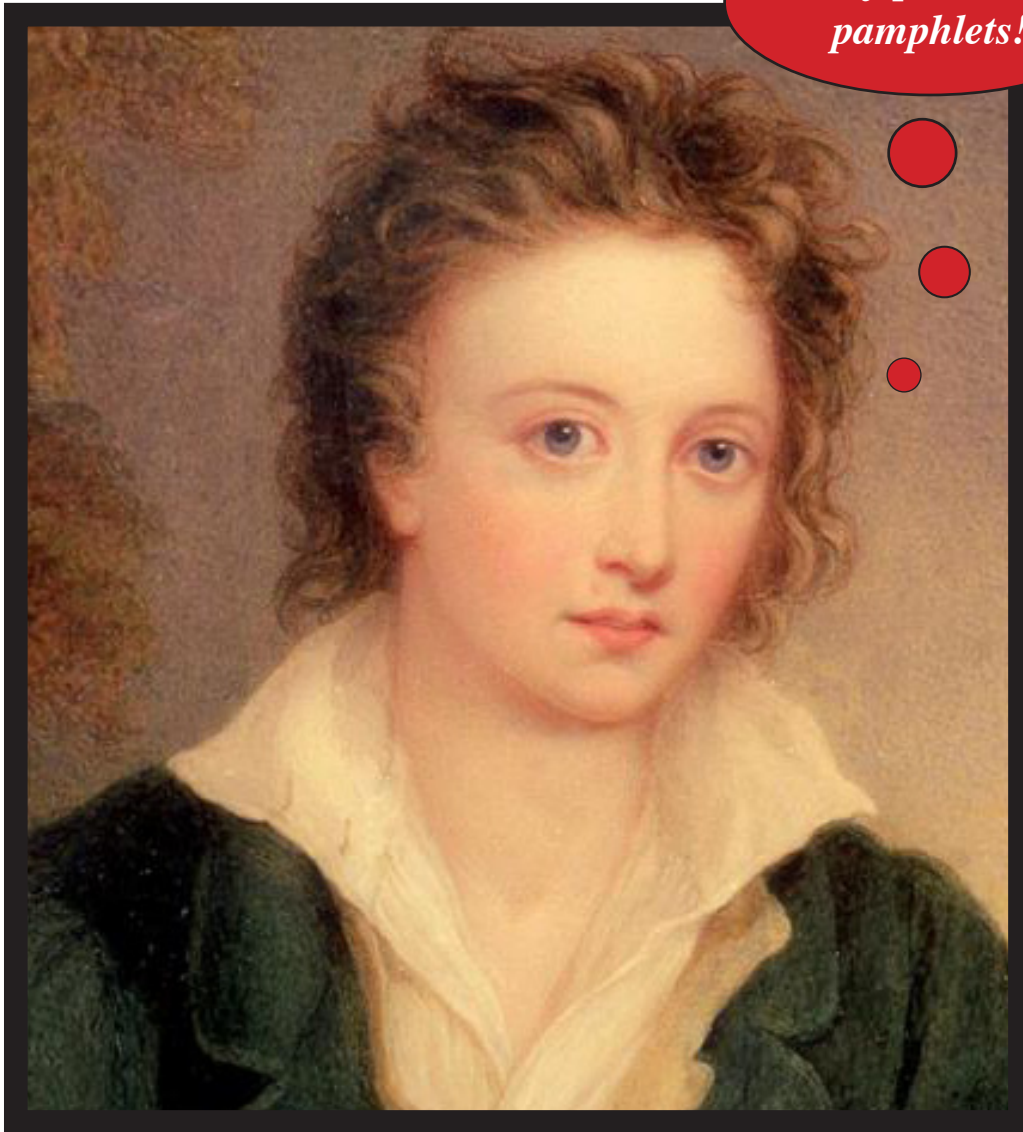


# *PWR Newsletter*



*I self-published  
pamphlets!*



*Percy Bysshe Shelley*

(August 4, 1792 – July 8, 1822)



PUBLISHED WRITERS OF ROSSMOOR



# PUBLISHED WRITERS OF ROSSMOOR



*A Club to Celebrate and Support Aspiring and Published Authors*



October 7, 2017

Volume VI, Issue 10

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**Coming up!**  
**This Saturday, October 7, 2017**  
**From 9:45 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.**  
**In the Fairway Room at Creekside Clubhouse**

*Come early and enjoy complimentary coffee or tea!*

## ***October's Speaker: Duke Robinson on How to Use Amazon to Promote Your Books***

**BY RON WREN**



Ron Wren

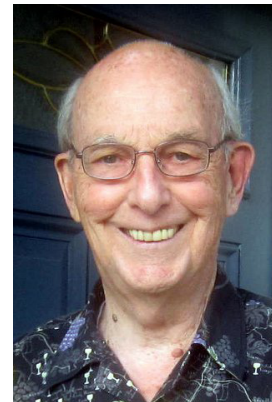
Duke Robinson will speak to the Published Writers of Rossmoor on Saturday, October 7th, on how authors can use Amazon.com's various services to promote their books.

Like most authors, Duke says he prefers to spend his time writing. He also confesses to just now making a serious effort to market his books online. His first and most popular book, published by Time Warner in 2000, continues to sell worldwide, without his help. His four other books, all published since 2011, have sold well here in Rossmoor with the support of PWR.

In his new personal pursuit of Internet marketing, Duke has turned first to Amazon.com, the mammoth online bookstore, which includes the Kindle e-book depository, visited

regularly by hundreds of millions of readers worldwide. Amazon, Duke contends, provides authors not only with an Internet store where they can sell their books, but also with various digital features that can help them with promotion.

Most authors know about Amazon's immediately visible marketing features, such as Reader Reviews and Look Inside. Duke will touch on these briefly, concentrating on those that few writers utilize or even realize are available. He invites all those who have used any of Amazon's resources to come to this meeting ready to join him in sharing their experiences and expertise.



Duke Robinson

Duke holds a B.A. degree in Philosophy from Wheaton College and a Master of Divinity degree from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. For twenty-eight years before retiring in 1996, he led the progressive Montclair Presbyterian Church in Oakland. For several years during that ministry, he served as an adjunct faculty member at San Francisco Theological

*(continued on page 4)*

Seminary, from which he holds an earned doctorate.

Duke started writing twenty-five years ago. Each of his five published books addresses a specific fear that robs one of being fully human. He examines nine self-sabotaging behaviors that people often engage in for fear of being socially unacceptable, and then poses alternative ways to behave that can make them both authentic *and* nice.

To deal with the fear of dying, Duke dismisses the inadequate views on death learned as a child and replaces them with ones that are both real and liberating. If one is traditionally religious and afraid of today's scientifically defined world, he paves a middle road that leads to personal integrity and peace. In his one novel, the courageous, young protagonist exemplifies what it means to be true to oneself while facing the terror of international politics.

Finally, in his intimate memoir, Duke shows you what freed him to face the scary task of growing up and radically changing his take on things.

Duke's books may be purchased through Amazon.com or directly from the author by e-mailing [dukenclaire@gmail.com](mailto:dukenclaire@gmail.com)/. The books are also available for checkout at the Rossmoor Library.

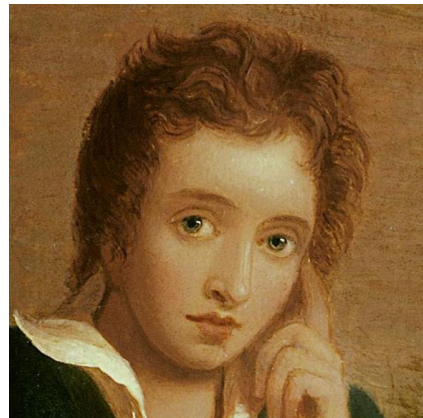
Since moving to Rossmoor in 2000, Duke has been an active member of the Rossmoor community, enjoying and helping to shape some of its offerings. In 2009, he chaired the Steering Committee that gave birth to the Drama

Association of Rossmoor (DAOR).

In early 2012, he played the same role in helping found the Published Writers of Rossmoor and served as its President for the past four years. □

For more information on the program, contact [ronwren@aol.com](mailto:ronwren@aol.com)

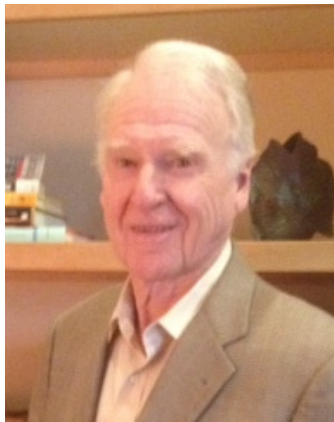
For more information on PWR, visit [www.rossmoor-writers.com](http://www.rossmoor-writers.com)





## *The President's Page*

By RON WREN



Ron Wren

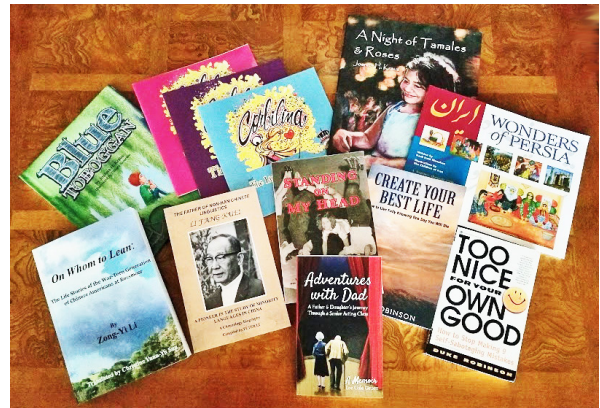
You can help make the annual Holiday Bazaar a hit with friends and family—without lifting a finger. Well, maybe a finger or two on your computer keyboard.

Tell everyone in person or via e-mail that this timely event is the perfect presentation of gift ideas for the holidays. There will be crafts, art, specialty items, and, of course, gifts that last a lifetime: BOOKS! Signed by Rossmoor authors. And delivered to you on the spot on November 4 (that's a lot faster than Amazon)—ready for your holiday gift-giving.

Children's books? We'll have them. If the kids look puzzled when they rip off the wrapping, explain to them that books are handheld story devices that don't need to be plugged in and can't be hacked.

Memoirs? Who has more memories than Rossmoor writers who are willing to tell their stories—warts and all—in print?

Fiction, nonfiction, self-help, humor? Our writers will have books for sale that cover these and other topics. Here's just a small sample:



The date is Saturday, November 4, at the Gateway Clubhouse. Bring your family and friends. In fact, encourage *everyone* to come! □





## Vegetarian Circle

BY GENE GORDON



Gene Gordon

### Vegetarian Writer of the Month: Carol J. Adams

Writer Carol J. Adams is a feminist and an advocate of animal rights. She has written several books, including *The Sexual Politics of Meat* and *The Pornography of Meat*. These focus on what she contends are the ties between the oppression of women and that of nonhuman animals.

Adams has also published around 100 articles in journals, books, magazines, and encyclopedias on vegetarianism, animal rights, domestic violence, and sexual abuse. She was inducted into the Animal Rights Hall of Fame in 2011.

Adams once discovered the dead body of her family pony, which was killed in a hunting accident. Later that evening, she ate a hamburger. But she felt that it was

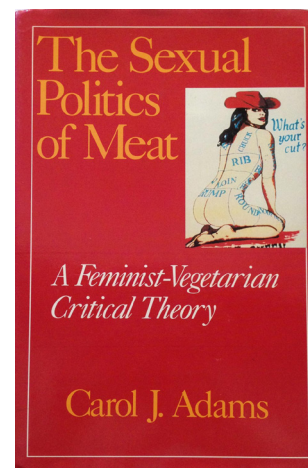
hypocritical for her to mourn the death of her pony, yet have no problem eating a slaughtered cow. She became a vegetarian that night.

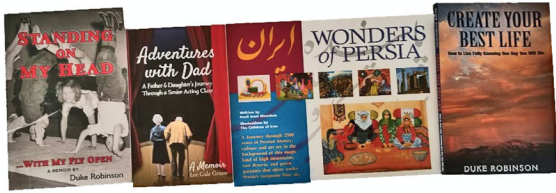
Adams explains that we all get protein from plants. Some people get it directly from plants, and others choose to let animals process protein for them.

“Until a vegan or vegetarian enters the room,” says Adams, “people don’t see themselves as meat-eaters. They are merely ‘eaters,’ and it is we vegans who have made them aware of what they are doing. Often this is discomforting.” □

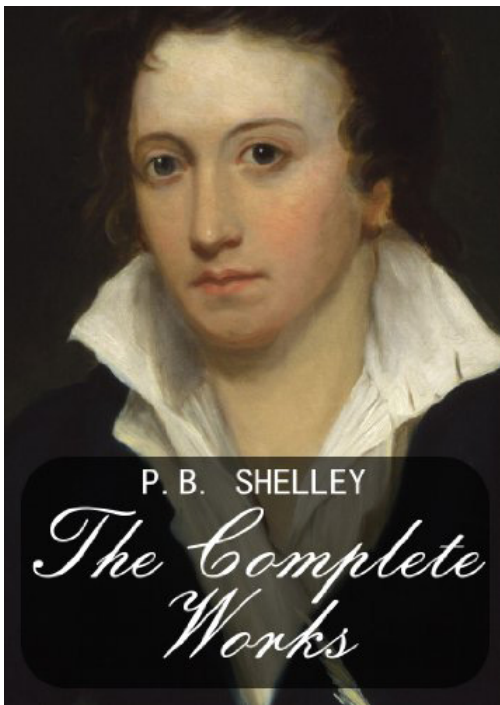


Carol J. Adams





**Please support your fellow  
PWR members at the  
Rossmoor Annual Bazaar,  
November 4th,  
Oak Room at Gateway.**



## ***Featured Author for October: Della Temple***

BY BARBARA KIRBACH



Barbara Kirbach

The Published Writers of Rossmoor will recognize Della Temple as their Featured Author in October for her book *Walking in Grace with Grief: Meditations for Healing After Loss*. The book, which is a National Indie Excellence Award winner, will be on display in the Library throughout October.

Della is also the author of *Tame Your Inner Critic: Find Peace and Contentment to Live Your Life on Purpose*, a Nautilus Silver Medal winner. She writes about melding the worlds of the physical and the metaphysical, combining her love of anything analytical with a wide-ranging interest in quantum physics and the world of energetic healing. Della is a certified Reiki Master and has studied clairvoyance and psychic healing at Boulder Psychic Institute.

*Walking in Grace with Grief* combines Della's personal story of loss with teachings of energy awareness, mindfulness, and conscious living. When her son died in a solo car accident six years ago, Della

grieved a different kind of grief. She knew deep within her soul that her son's spirit lived on, and she often felt him surrounding her in love and comfort—especially after the first year of his passing. Della accepted this as a natural occurrence, and their talks, spirit to spirit, became an integral part of her healing journey.

Interwoven among the stories of her journey, Della has included some of the healing meditations that have made her journey a little less arduous. She says that these meditations have become a standard part of her everyday life and continue to help her maintain a profound acceptance of life as it is, not as she wishes it might be.



Della Temple

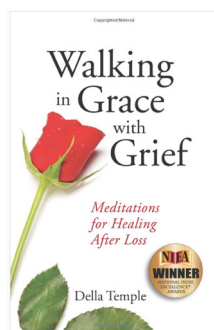
Della believes that it's time to broaden the discussion about death and dying. It may not be necessary to walk the normal states of grief from anger, denial, bargaining, and depression to the final destination of acceptance. She believes that others, too, can start at acceptance and stay there throughout their journey of recovery.

"This might fly in the face of what's considered normal grieving," Della says, "but what I experienced during my period

*(continued on page 11)*

of mourning was an amazing feeling of ease, comfort, and nurturing—what I refer to as Grace—which kept me from drowning in the mire of doubt, wishful thinking, and regret.”

Della has said of her book, “I’ve come to think that grief is twofold. It’s the painful longing for the physical presence of our loved one, and it’s the emotional heartache we feel as we disengage from these unfulfilled dreams, the sorrow of what could have been—the stories of the unlived.”



Della earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Cal Poly, and a Master’s degree in Organizational Leadership from Chapman College. She and her husband, David, moved to Rossmoor a year ago from Boulder, Colorado. Aside from PWR, she is active in Sustainable Rossmoor and sits on the GRF’s Finance Committee.

*Walking in Grace with Grief* was published by Button Rock Press in May 2015. It is available through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other booksellers. It is also in circulation at the Rossmoor Library and the Rossmoor Counseling Center. For more information, visit Della’s website at: [www.dellatemple.com](http://www.dellatemple.com) □



## *From the Editor*



Paul Weisser

### *Percy Bysshe Shelley, Self-Publisher*

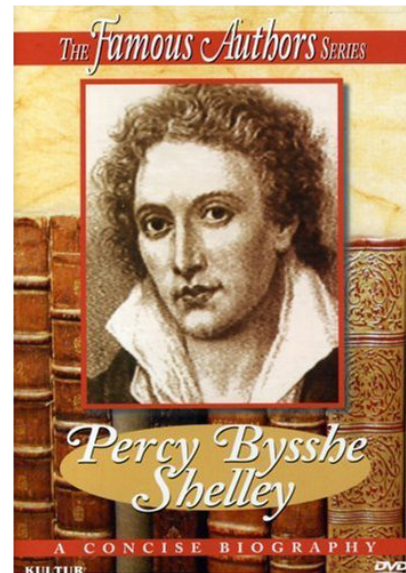
Percy Bysshe Shelley (named after his grandfather, Bysshe Shelley) was born on August 4, 1792—the year of the Terror in France—at Field Place, Broadbridge Heath, near Horsham, West Sussex, England.

Percy was the eldest of six “legitimate” children of Sir Timothy Shelley, a Whig Member of Parliament for Horsham, and his wife, Elizabeth Pilfold, a Sussex landowner.

Percy received his early education at home with a tutor, Reverend Evan Edwards, and apparently had a happy and contented childhood that was spent largely in country pursuits such as fishing and hunting.

At the age of 10, Percy entered the Syon House Academy of Brentford, Middlesex, and then, at the age of 12, Eton College. At Eton, he was severely bullied by the other boys, largely

because of his indifference toward games and other youthful activities, his failure to control his temper, and his poor skills in fighting, which the other boys no doubt interpreted as effeminate. In any case, they openly called him “mad.” This was not helped by the fact that the young Percy had a high-pitched “cracked soprano” voice.



Nevertheless, while at Eton, Shelley began two pursuits that would continue with intense fervor throughout the rest of his short life: writing and loving women. The two often blended together so that the loving became the subject matter for the writing. At this time, Shelley’s love interest was his cousin Harriet Grove, but their relationship was discouraged by their families.

When Percy was 18, he matriculated at University College, Oxford, where, legend has it, he attended only one lecture, but frequently read for sixteen hours a day.

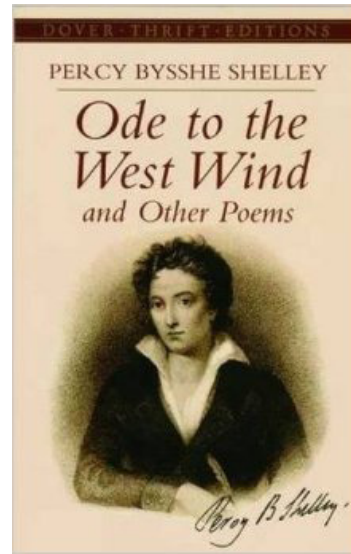
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During this period, young Percy self-published a Gothic novel, a romance, and some poetry. His self-publishing sometimes took highly original forms: distribution by hot air balloons, glass bottles in rivers, and paper boats!



But then Percy's pamphlet *The Necessity of Atheism* got him expelled from Oxford at the age of 19, after less than a year at the college. He was given the opportunity to be reinstated after his father intervened, on the condition that he recant his avowed views, but Percy's refusal to do so led to a falling-out with his father.

Four months after being expelled from Oxford, Percy eloped to Scotland with Harriet Westbrook, an attractive 16-year-old tavernkeeper's daughter whom Percy had met through his sister Hellen.



Harriet had been writing passionate letters to Percy, threatening to kill herself because of her unhappiness at school and at home. Heartbroken after the failure of his romance with his cousin, Harriet Grove, cut off by his father from his mother and sisters, and convinced that he didn't have long to live, Percy impulsively decided to rescue Harriet and make her his beneficiary. Thus, violating his principle of free love in favor of Harriet's happiness and reputation, he married her in August 1811.



(continued on page 14)

Outraged that his son had married beneath his station, Sir Timothy revoked Percy's allowance and refused ever to receive the couple at his home.

Percy soon became increasingly unhappy in his marriage, and, craving more intellectual female companionship, began to spend more and more time away from home.



William Godwin

During this period, Percy met one of his intellectual heroes, the author of *Political Justice*, William Godwin, a freethinking Socialist philosopher, who soon became the young man's mentor.

Godwin was the widower of the celebrated feminist Mary Wollstonecraft, author of *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, who died as she gave birth to their third daughter, the brilliant Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin.

When Percy met young Mary, then only 16, he found her his intellectual equal, the offspring of two great minds, and fell madly in love with her.



Mary Wollstonecraft

In fact, *madly* is not an exaggeration, for Percy repeatedly threatened to commit suicide if Mary did not return his affections.

As it turned out, there was no need for suicide, for Mary adored Percy, and the couple ran away to Switzerland together.



Mary Shelley

(continued on page 15)

Met with stern disapproval by both their fathers, the young couple struggled financially for most of two years, until Percy's grandfather died, leaving his 23-year-old grandson the tidy sum of £1000 per year, in addition to Sir Timothy having to pay off all Percy's considerable debts.



Not surprisingly, when the couple returned to England, and Percy invited Harriet to live with him and Mary as his sister, Harriet demanded a divorce and sued Percy for alimony and full custody of their two children, Elizabeth Ianthe and Charles.

Meanwhile, Mary's stepsister, Claire Clairmont, in an act of competition with Mary, initiated a liaison with Lord Byron, which led to an intense intellectual and creative friendship between Shelley and Byron.

The two men frequently spent many hours late into the night, discussing poetry and other topics, including ghosts and spirits. During one of these ghostly "seances," Byron proposed that each person in the room should write a ghost story.

Mary's contribution to the contest became the novel *Frankenstein; or The Modern Prometheus* (1818), for which Shelley wrote the preface and to some degree edited and polished the manuscript as a whole.



But now tragedy struck. In December 1816, when Shelley was 24, his estranged wife Harriet—pregnant by her new lover, whom she mistakenly thought had abandoned her—drowned herself in the Serpentine River in Hyde Park, London.

(continued on page 16)

Barely three weeks after Harriet's suicide, Shelley and Mary Godwin were married. Since both of them were unconventional freethinkers, their "conventional" marriage was intended partly to help secure Shelley's custody of his children with Harriet. However, a Chancery Court awarded custody of the children to foster parents at Shelley's expense, on the grounds that Shelley was an atheist and an advocate of free love.

Perhaps from his days of abuse at the hands of his schoolmates, Shelley was always a strong advocate for social justice and had a profound intellectual impact on later historical giants. His theories of economics and morality had a profound influence on Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, and his early writings on nonviolent resistance influenced Tolstoy, Thoreau, and Gandhi.



Among all his other causes, Shelley was an ardent vegetarian and wrote several essays on vegetarianism, to

which he was converted by a friend, Frank Newton, who had himself been converted while living in India.

As a poet, Shelley was admired by many fellow geniuses, including Robert Browning, Isadora Duncan, Thomas Hardy, C. S. Lewis, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Edgar Allan Poe, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Bertrand Russell, George Bernard Shaw, Upton Sinclair, Rabindranath Tagore, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Oscar Wilde, and William Butler Yeats.



On the other hand, T. S. Eliot thought Shelley was adolescent and had "a weak grasp upon the actual," and Mark Twain could not bring himself to forgive Shelley for the way he treated Harriet.

In times of stress, Shelley's mental strain sometimes showed itself in violent nightmares and strange "waking visions." He even began to anticipate his own death—which some historians suggest he may have planned. Others believe he may have been murdered by a political enemy. Most believe he died accidentally.

*(continued on page 17)*



In any case, on July 8, 1822, less than a month before his thirtieth birthday, Shelley drowned in a sudden storm while attempting to sail from Leghorn to La Spezia, Italy, in his schooner, the *Don Juan*.

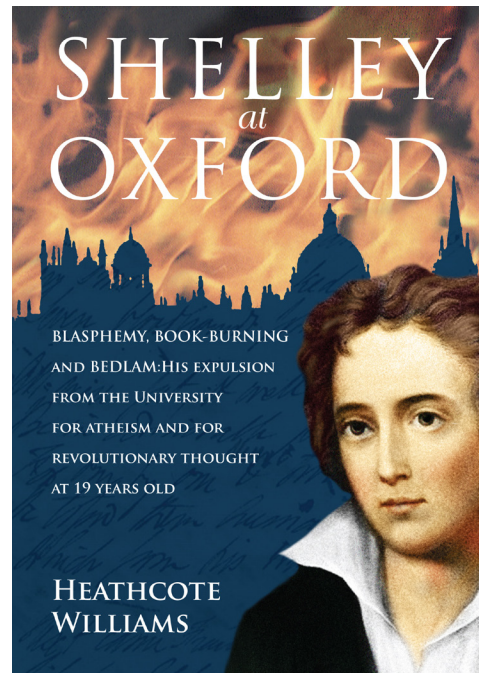
It was ten days before Shelley's body washed ashore near Viareggio, and by then he was identifiable only by the clothes he wore, and the book of Keats's poems he had in his pocket. His face and hands had been completely eaten away, and so were totally skeletal.

The great irony in this ending is that most creatures in the sea, unlike Shelley, are not vegetarian.



A Tory newspaper, *The Courier*, gloated: "Shelley, the writer of some infidel poetry, has been drowned; now he knows whether there is God or no."

Italian quarantine laws required that bodies washed ashore be burned, so Shelley was cremated on a pyre on the beach.



Apparently, Shelley's heart refused to burn, so his friend, Edward John Trelawny, fished it from the ashes and gave it to Leigh Hunt. Later, Hunt gave it to Mary, who kept it wrapped in silk in her writing case until the end of her days.

There is a famous painting by Louis Édouard Fournier, "The Funeral of Shelley" (also known as "The Cremation of Shelley," 1889), which depicts the cremation, although with several inaccuracies.

(continued on page 18)



Aside from restoring the flesh and skin on Shelley's hands and face, the artist places Byron closest to the pyre, when in fact he could not bear to watch the scene, and walked away up the beach.



Fournier also portrays Mary Shelley on her knees at the far left, but Mary was not there at all, for there was a superstition in pre-Victorian times that if a woman attended a funeral, that might adversely affect her health, especially her ability to bear children.

After the funeral, Mary had difficulties with Sir Timothy, who would allow

her a small pension only on the condition that nothing by or about his son be published during Sir Timothy's lifetime.



In fact, Shelley did not see fame during his lifetime, but recognition for his poetry grew steadily following his death.

A reclining statue of Shelley's body, depicted as washed up on the shore, created by sculptor Edward Onslow Ford at the behest of Shelley's daughter-in-law, Jane, Lady Shelley, is the centerpiece of the Shelley Memorial at University College, Oxford.



Shelley's ashes were interred in the Protestant Cemetery in Rome, near an

*(continued on page 19)*

ancient pyramid in the city walls.

More than a century after Shelley's death, a memorial was created for him at the Poets' Corner at Westminster Abbey, along with his old friends Lord Byron and John Keats. □



### *Thought for the Month*

*“Poets and philosophers are the unacknowledged legislators of the world.”*

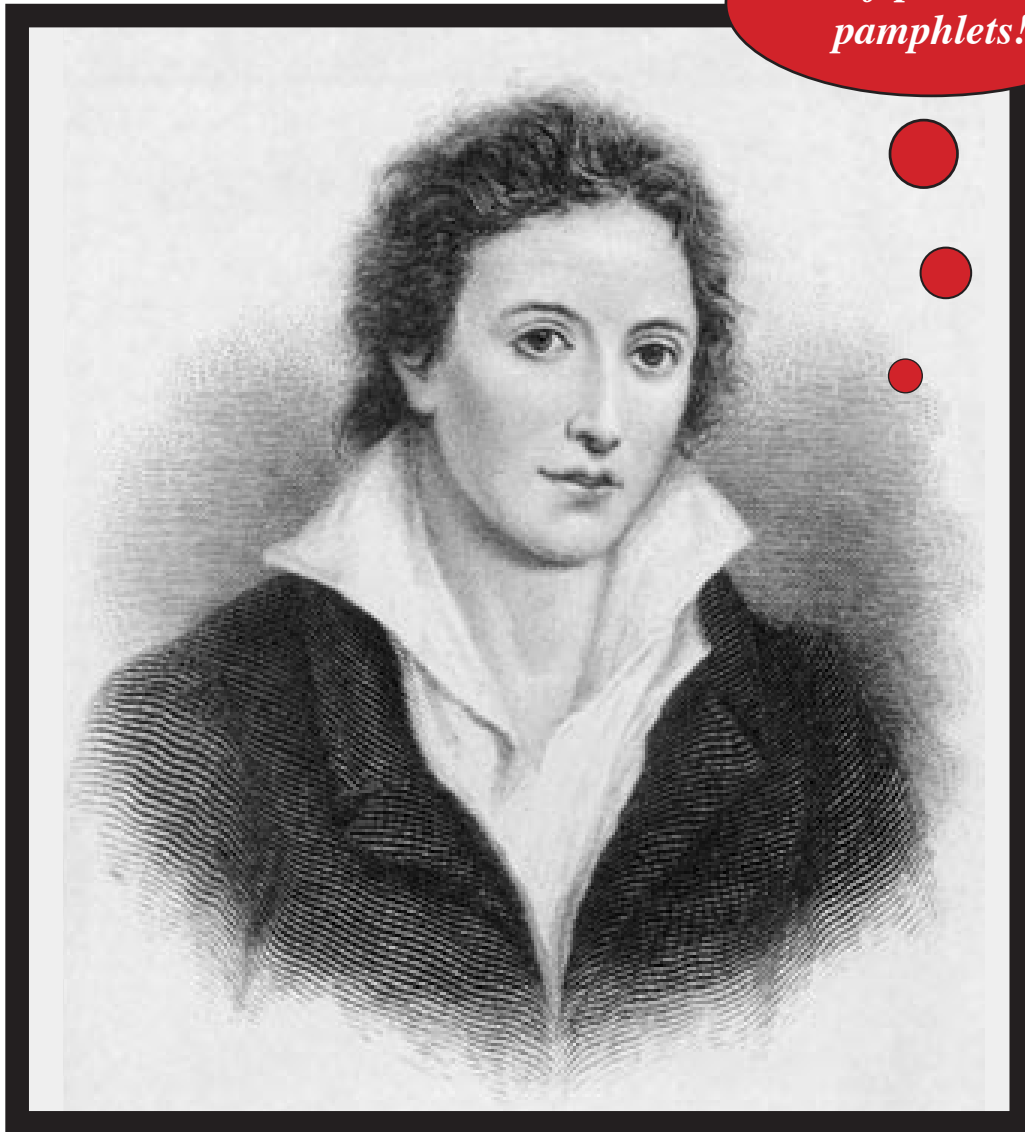
—Percy Bysshe Shelley



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*Percy Bysshe Shelley*

(August 4, 1792 – July 8, 1822)



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