

BRITISH WRITERS



SUPPLEMENT VII

BUNTING
DARWIN
EWART
FRAYN
FULLER
GAWAIN POET
W. S. GRAHAM
HARTLEY
HENRYSON
A. D. HOPE
D. JONES
KAVANAGH
KAVAN
KINCAID
T. MORE
MOTION
MURRAY
NEWMAN
RATTIGAN
A. REID
S. SMITH
UNSWORTH
WARNER

CUMULATIVE INDEX FOR VOLUMES I-VII
AND SUPPLEMENTS I-VII



BRITISH WRITERS

JAY PARINI

Editor

SUPPLEMENT V



Charles Scribner's Sons

an imprint of the Gale Group

New York • Detroit • San Francisco • London • Boston • Woodbridge, CT

Copyright © 2002 by Charles Scribner's Sons

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or reproduced or utilized in any form or by any, electronic, mechanical, or other means, now known or hereafter invented including photocopying, and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, without permission from Charles Scribner's Sons.

Charles Scribner's Sons
an imprint of The Gale Group
27500 Drake Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI 483331-3535

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

British Writers. supplement VII/Jay Parini, editor in chief.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-684-80655-X(alk. paper)

1. English literature—Bio-bibliography. 2. English literature—History and criticism. 3. Authors, English—Biography. I Parini, Jay.

PR85.B688 Suppl.7

820.9—dc21

[B]

2001020992

The paper used in this publication meets the requirements of ANSI/NIS) Z39.48-1992 (Permanance of Paper).

Acknowledgments

Acknowledgment is gratefully made to those publishers and individuals who permitted the use of the following materials in copyright:

BASIL BUNTING Excerpts from *The Complete Poems*. Copyright © 2000 by The Estate of Basil Bunting. Reprinted with the permission of Bloodaxe Books Ltd.

GAVIN EWART Excerpts from *The Collected Ewart, 1933-1980* (London: Hutchinson, 1980) and *Collected Poems, 1980-1990* (London: Hutchinson, 1991), excerpt from "No Smoking" from *Like It Or Not* (London: The Bodley Head, 1993). Copyright © 1980, 1991, 1993 by Gavin Ewart. All reprinted with the permission of M. A. Ewart. E. Clerihew Bentley, clerihew / from *The Complete Clerihews of E. Clerihew Bentley*, edited by Gavin Ewart (New York: Oxford University Press, 1981). Copyright © 1981 by E. C. Bentley. Reprinted with the permission of Curtis Brown Group, Ltd., on behalf of the Estate of E. C. Bentley.

MICHAEL FRAYN Excerpts from *Sweet Dreams* (London: Collins, 1973). Copyright © 1973 by Michael Frayn. Reprinted with the permission of Greene & Heaton, Ltd.

ROY FULLER Excerpts from *New and Collected Poems 1934-1984*. Copyright © 1985 by Roy Fuller. Excerpts from "Ambiguities" from *Brutus's Orchard*. Copyright © 1957 by Roy Fuller. Excerpt from "Images" from *Subsequent to Summer* (Edinburgh: Salamander Press, 1985). Copyright © 1985 by Roy Fuller. Excerpts from "Lessons of the Summer," "A Disc's Defects," "The Surgeon's Hand," and "Postscript" from *Available for Dreams* (London: Collins Harvill, 1989). Copyright © 1989 by Roy Fuller. Excerpts from "The Story" from *Last Poems*. Copyright © 1993. All reprinted with the permission of John Fuller.

W. S. GRAHAM Excerpts from "Enter Cloud" from *Implements in Their Places* (London: Faber & Faber, 1977). Copyright © 1977 by W. S. Graham. "What Is the Language Using Us For?," "A Note to the Difficult One," "Dear Bryan Wynter," and "Implements in Their Places" from *Implements in Their Places*. Copyright © 1977 by W. S. Graham. excerpts from *Cage Without Grievance* (Glasgow: Parton Press, 1942). Copyright 1942 by The Estate of W. S. Graham. Excerpts from "The First Journey" and "The Sixth Journey" from *The*

Seven Journeys. Copyright 1944 by W. S. Graham. Excerpts from "The Bright Building" and "The Crowd of Birds and Children" from *2nd Poems*. Copyright 1945 by W. S. Graham. Excerpt from "Shian Bay" from *The White Threshold*. Copyright 1949 by W. S. Graham. Excerpts from "The Nightfishing" and "Seven Letters" from *The Nightfishing*. Copyright © 1955 by W. S. Graham. Excerpts from "Malcolm Mooney's Land," "The Thermal Stair," and "The Dark Dialogues" from *Malcolm Mooney's Land*. Copyright © 1970 by W. S. Graham. All reprinted with the permission of Michael and Margaret Snow, Literary Executors for the W. S. Graham Estate. W. H. Auden, excerpt from "In Memory of W.B. Yeats" from *W. B. Auden: Collected Poems*, edited by Edward Mendelson. Copyright 1940, 1941, 1951, 1952 and renewed © 1968, 1969 by W. H. Auden. Copyright © 1976 by Edward Mendelson, William Meredith, and Monroe K. Spears. Reprinted with the permission of Random House, Inc. and Faber and Faber, Ltd.

L. P. HARTLEY Excerpts from "Simonetta Perkins" from *The Complete Short Stories* (London: Hamish Hamilton, 1973), excerpts from *Eustace and Hilda: A Trilogy*. Copyright © 1958 by L. P. Hartley. Excerpts from *The Hireling* (London: Hamish Hamilton, 1957). Copyright © 1957 by L. P. Hartley. All reprinted with the permission of The Society of Authors as the Literary Representative of the Estate of L. P. Hartley. The Concise Scots Dictionary, definition for "bellieflaucht" from *The Concise Scots Dictionary*, edited by Mairi Robinson. Reprinted with the permission of Chambers Harrup Publishers, Ltd.

A. D. HOPE Excerpts from "Ascent into Hell," "The Wandering Islands," "Invocation," and "Imperial Adam" from *The Wandering Islands*. Copyright © 1955 by A. D. Hope. Excerpts from "The Return from the Freudian Islands," "The End of a Journey," "An Epistle: Edward Sackville to Venetia Digby," and "Australia" from *Collected Poems 1930-1965*. Copyright © 1965 by A. D. Hope. Christopher Marlowe, excerpts from *The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus*, purged and amended by A. D. Hope. Copyright © 1982 by A. D. Hope. All reprinted with the permission of Curtis Brown (Aust) Pty Ltd.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

DAVID JONES Excerpts from *In Parenthesis*. Copyright 1937 by David Jones. Excerpts from *Anathemata*. Copyright 1952 by David Jones. Excerpts from *The Sleeping Lord and Other Fragments*. Copyright © 1974 by David Jones. All reprinted with the permission of Faber & Faber, Ltd.

PATRICK KAVANAGH Excerpts from "The Great Hunger," "April," "Inniskeen Road: July Evening," "Stony Grey Soil," "Spraying the Potatoes," "Art McCooey," "The Paddiad," "Pegasus," "Father Mat," "A Christmas Childhood," "Having Confessed," "Auditors In," "Prelude," "Canal Bank Walk," and "The Hospital" from *Patrick Kavanagh: Collected Poems*. Copyright © 1964 by Patrick Kavanagh. Reprinted with the permission of DevinAdair Publishers, Inc. Excerpts from *Lough Derg* (The Curragh, Ireland: Goldsmith Press, 1978). Reprinted with permission. Excerpts from "Personal Problem" from *Complete Poems* (The Curragh, Ireland: Goldsmith Press, 1990). Copyright © 1978 by Patrick Kavanagh. Reprinted with permission.

JAMAICA KINCAID Excerpts from "On Seeing England for the First Time" from *Transition* 51(1991). Copyright © 1991 by Jamaica Kincaid. Reprinted with the permission of The Wylie Agency, Inc. Kay Bonetti, excerpts from "An Interview with Jamaica Kincaid" from *The Missouri Review* 15, No. 2 (1992). Collected in Kay Bonetti, *Conversations with American Novelists: The Best Interviews from The Missouri Review and the American Audio Prose Library*. Copyright © 1997 by the Curators of the University of Missouri. Reprinted with the permission of the University of Missouri Press.

ANDREW MOTION Excerpts from "Skating," "A Dying Race," and "Open Secrets" from *Dangerous Play: Poems 1974-1984* (Edinburgh: Salamander Press, 1984). Copyright © 1984 by Andrew Motion. Excerpts from "Writing," "The Whole Truth," and "A Lyrical Ballad" from *Secret Narratives* (Edinburgh: Salamander Press, 1983). Copyright © 1983 by Andrew Motion. Excerpts from "The Dancing Hippo," "Natural Causes," "Afternoons," and "Firing Practice" from *Natural Causes* (London: Chatto & Windus, 1987). Copyright © 1987 by Andrew Motion. All reprinted with the permission of The Peters Fraser and Dunlop Group Limited on behalf of Andrew Motion. Excerpts from "Run" and "Look" from *Love in a Life*. Copyright © 1991 by Andrew Motion. Excerpts from "Leaving Belfast" from *Selected Poems 1976-1997*. Copyright © 1997 by Andrew Motion. Excerpts from "Lines of Desire," "Reading the Elephant," and "Joe Soap" from *The Price of Everything*. Copyright © 1994 by Andrew Motion. All reprinted with the permission of Faber and Faber, Ltd.

LES MURRAY Excerpts from "Joker as Told," "Letters to the Winner," "The Grandmother's Story," and "Bat's Ultrasound" from *The Daylight Moon and Other Poems*. Copyright © 1987 by Les Murray. Reprinted with the permission of Persea Books, Inc., Carcanet Press, Ltd., and Margaret Connolly & Associates. Excerpts from *The Rabbiter's Bounty: Collected Poems*. Copyright © 1991 by Les Murray. Excerpts from "The Past Ever Present," "The Fall of Aphrodite Street," and "The Emerald Dove" from *The Dog Fox Field*. Copyright © 1990 by Les Murray. Excerpts from "Goose to Donkey," "Pigs," and "Eagle Pair" from *Translations of the Natural World*. Copyright © 1992 by Les Murray. Excerpts from "The Cows on Killing Day" from *Dog Fox Field*. Collected in *Translations of the Natural World and Learning Human: Selected Prose*. Copyright © 1990 by Les Murray. Excerpts from "The Last Hellos," "Burning Want," "Demo," and "The Devil" from *Subhuman Redneck Poems*. Copyright © 1996 by Les Murray. Excerpts from *Freddy Neptune*. Copyright © 1998 by Les Murray. All reprinted with the permission of Farrar, Straus & Giroux, LLC., Carcanet Press, Ltd., and Margaret Connolly & Associates. Excerpt from "The Disorderly" from *Conscious and Verbal*. Copyright © 1999 by Les Murray. Reprinted with the permission of Carcanet Press, Ltd. and Margaret Connolly & Associates.

ALASTAIR REID Excerpts from "Weathering," "Curiosity," "Daedalus," and "What Gets Lost / *Lo Que Se Pierde*" from *Weathering: Poems and Translations* (New York: Dutton, 1978). Copyright © 1978 by Alastair Reid. Jacket notes and excerpts from "The Figures on the Frieze" and "Spiral" from *Passwords: Places, Poems, Preoccupations* (Boston: Little, Brown, 1963). Copyright © 1963 by Alastair Reid. Excerpts from "A Lesson in Music" from *An Alastair Reid Reader* (Middlebury College Press, 1994). Copyright © 1994 by Alastair Reid. "Autobiography" and excerpts from "Poem for My Father," "Lay for New Lovers," "The Village," "Not Now for My Sin's Sake," "Song for Four Seasons," "The Question in the Cobweb," "The Waterglass," and "Directions for a Map" from *To Lighten My House* (Scarsdale: Morgan and Morgan, 1953). Copyright 1953 by Alastair Reid. Excerpts from *Oddments Inklings Omens Moments* (Boston: Little, Brown, 1959). Copyright © 1959 by Alastair Reid. All reprinted with the permission of the author. Pablo Neruda, excerpts from "Forget about me," and "The great tablecloth" from *Extravagaria*, translated by Alastair Reid. Translation copyright © 1974 by Alastair Reid. Reprinted with the permission of Farrar, Straus & Giroux, LLC. and John Johnson, Author's Agent, Ltd. Jorge Luis Borges, excerpts from "The Other Tiger," translated by Alastair Reid, from *Selected Poems*. Copyright © 1999 by Alastair Reid. Reprinted with the permission of Viking Penguin, a division of Penguin Putnam Inc.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BARRY UNSWORTH Excerpts from interviews in The (London) Sunday Times February 23, 1992 and July 29, 1999. Copyright © 1992, 1999. Reprinted with permission. Excerpts from *Pascali's Island*. Published in the United States as *The Idol Hunter*. Copyright © 1980 by Barry Unsworth. Reprinted with the permission of W. W. Norton & Company, Inc. and Michael Joseph, Ltd. Excerpts from *Sugar and Rum*. Copyright © 1988 by Barry Unsworth. Reprinted with the permission of W. W. Norton & Company, Inc. and Hamish Hamilton, Ltd.

SYLVIA TOWNSEND WARNER Excerpts from "The

Loudest Lay," "Opus 7," "Benicasim," "Drawing you, heavy with sleep," and "Red Front" from *Collected Poems*. Reprinted with the permission of Carcanet Press, Ltd. Excerpt from "Since the first toss of gale ..." from *Whether a Dove or a Seagull* (New York: Viking, 1933). Copyright 1933 by Sylvia Townsend Warner. Reprinted with the permission of The Estate of Sylvia Townsend Warner. Excerpts from "But at the Stroke of Midnight" from *The Innocent and the Guilty*. Copyright © 1971 by Sylvia Townsend Warner. Reprinted with the permission of Chatto & Windus/The Random House Group, Ltd.

Editorial and Production Staff

Project Editor

PAMELA PARKINSON

Contributing Editor

KEN WACHSBERGER

Copyeditors

JANET BYRNE

GINA MISIROGLU

Proofreader

GREG TEAGUE

Indexer

NOEL GNADINGER

Permission Researcher

FRED COURTRIGHT

Production Manager

EVI SEOUD

Buyer

STACY MELSON

Associate Publisher

TIMOTHY DEWERFF

Publisher

FRANK MENCHACA

Introduction

An ample range of article on British, Irish, and Anglophone authors will be found in *British Writers, Supplement VII*. None of these authors has yet been discussed in previous volumes in the series, yet all of them are worthy of inclusion here. The range of subjects covered stretches from the anonymous poet who wrote *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* —a great Anglo-Saxon masterwork—to such contemporary novelists and poets as Jamaica Kincaid, Andrew Motion, and Barry Unsworth, each of whom has added meaningfully to the growing body of literature in English.

British Writers was originally modeled on *American Writers* (1974–), another series published by Charles Scribner's Sons (an imprint of the Gale Group). In the original set of *British Writers*, published between 1979 and 1984, seven volumes were published, each of them an anthology that featured articles on the lives and works of well-known poets, novelists, playwrights, essayists and autobiographers from the AngloSaxon era to the present. This set was followed by six supplemental volumes that covered authors who, for various reasons, had been neglected.

Throughout the series, we have attempted to provide transparent, knowledgeable essays aimed at the general, literate reader. Most of the critics writing for this supplement, as in the previous volumes, are professionals: teachers, scholars, and writers. As anyone glancing through this anthology will see, the critics have held to the highest standards of scholarship and writing. Their work often rises to a high level of craft and critical vision as they survey the life and work of a writer who has made a genuine impact on the course of British, Irish, or Anglophone literature. The biographical context for works is provided so that readers can appreciate the historical ground beneath the texts under discussion. The essays each conclude with a select bibliography

intended to direct the reading of those should want to pursue the subject in greater detail.

This volume looks at a number of modern or contemporary writers, most of whom have received little sustained attention from critics. For example, Anna Kavan, Michael Frayn, Sylvia Townsend Warner, and Barry Unsworth have been written about in the review pages of newspapers and magazines, but their work has yet to attract significant scholarship. The essays included here constitute a beginning.

The poets discussed here, such as Roy Fuller, Gavin Ewart, W.S. Graham, A.D. Hope, Les Murray, Alastair Reid, are well known in the world of contemporary poetry, and their work has in each case been widely admired by readers of poetry, but the real work of assimilation, of discovering the true place of each writer in the larger traditions of modern poetry, has only begun. In each case, these poets are treated by critics who are themselves established poets, and the depth and eloquence of their essays should be obvious even to casual readers.

We also include essays on long-established authors, such as the Gawain poet, Robert Henryson, Thomas More, Sydney Smith, Charles Darwin, John Henry Newman, Basil Bunting, L.P. Hartley, David Johnes, and Patrick Kavanagh. These authors, for various reasons, were neglected in previous volumes and supplements. In future volumes, we intend to revisit some of the canonical authors discussed in earlier essays, since scholarship on these writers continues to shift and grow, and since the work of culture involves the continuous assessment and reassessment of major texts produced by its finest writers. In Supplement VII, we offer dependable and lively introductions to nearly two dozen authors — some extremely well known, others less so. Each of them deserves this kind of critical attention.

JAY PARINI

Chronology

- 1272–1307 Reign of Edward I**
 1276 The prince of North Wales, Llewelyn II, refuses to pay homage to England's Edward I, who invades North Wales and forces Llewelyn to surrender
 1282 Llewelyn II leads a second attack against Edward and fails; Wales falls to English rule
 1297 William Wallace (Braveheart) leads attacks against British troops in an attempt for Scottish sovereignty
 1305 William Wallace is captured, tried, and hanged
- 1307–1327 Reign of Edward II**
 ca. 1325 John Wycliffe born
 John Gower born
- 1327–1377 Reign of Edward III**
 ca. 1332 William Langland born
 1337 Beginning of the Hundred Years' War
 ca. 1340 Geoffrey Chaucer born
 1346 The Battle of Crécy
 1348 The Black Death (further outbreaks in 1361 and 1369)
 ca. 1350 Boccaccio's *Decameron*
 Langland's *Piers Plowman*
 1351 The Statute of Laborers pegs laborers' wages at rates in effect preceding the plague
 1356 The Battle of Poitiers
 1360 The Treaty of Brétigny: end of the first phase of the Hundred Years' War
 1362 Pleadings in the law courts conducted in English
 Parliaments opened by speeches in English
 1369 Chaucer's *The Book of the Duchess*, an elegy to Blanche of Lancaster, wife of John of Gaunt
- 1369–1377 Victorious French campaigns under du Guesclin
- ca. 1370 John Lydgate born
 1371 Sir John Mandeville's *Travels*
 1372 Chaucer travels to Italy
 1372–1382 Wycliffe active in Oxford
 1373–1393 William of Wykeham founds Winchester College and New College, Oxford
- ca. 1375–1400 *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*
 1376 Death of Edward the Black Prince
- 1377–1399 Reign of Richard II**
 ca. 1379 Gower's *Vox clamantis*
 ca. 1380 Chaucer's *Troilus and Criseyde*
 1381 The Peasants' Revolt
 1386 Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* begun
 Chaucer sits in Parliament
 Gower's *Confessio amantis*
- 1399–1413 Reign of Henry IV**
 ca. 1400 Death of William Langland
 1400 Death of Geoffrey Chaucer
 1408 Death of John Gower
 1412–1420 Lydgate's *Troy Book*
- 1413–1422 Reign of Henry V**
 1415 The Battle of Agincourt
 ca. 1420 Robert Henryson born
- 1422–1461 Reign of Henry VI**
 1431 François Villon born
 Joan of Arc burned at Rouen
 1440–1441 Henry VI founds Eton College and King's College, Cambridge
 1444 Truce of Tours
 1450 Jack Cade's rebellion
 ca. 1451 Death of John Lydgate
 1453 End of the Hundred Years' War
 The fall of Constantinople
- 1455–1485 The Wars of the Roses
 ca. 1460 John Skelton born
- 1461–1470 Reign of Edward IV**
1470–1471 Reign of Henry VI
 1471 Death of Sir Thomas Malory
- 1471–1483 Reign of Edward IV**

CHRONOLOGY

- | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| 1476–1483 | Caxton's press set up: <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> , <i>Morte d'Arthur</i> , and <i>The Golden Legend</i> printed | 1533 | Machiavelli's <i>The Prince</i>
The king secretly marries Anne Boleyn |
| 1478 | Thomas More born | | Cranmer pronounces the king's marriage with Catherine "against divine law" |
| 1483–1485 | Reign of Richard III | 1534 | The Act of Supremacy constitutes the king as head of the Church of England |
| 1485 | The Battle of Bosworth Field; end of the Wars of the Roses | 1535 | Sir Thomas More executed
Thomas Cromwell appointed vicar general of the Church of England |
| 1485–1509 | Reign of Henry VII | 1536 | The Pilgrimage of Grace: risings against the king's religious, social, and economic reforms |
| 1486 | Marriage of Henry VII and Elizabeth of York unites the rival houses of Lancaster and York
Bartholomew Diaz rounds the Cape of Good Hope | | Anne Boleyn executed
The king marries Jane Seymour |
| 1492 | Columbus' first voyage to the New World | 1537 | The dissolution of the monasteries: confiscation of ecclesiastical properties and assets; increase in royal revenues |
| 1493 | Pope Alexander VI divides undiscovered territories between Spain and Portugal | | Jane Seymour dies |
| 1497–1498 | John Cabot's voyages to Newfoundland and Labrador | 1538 | First complete English Bible published and placed in all churches |
| 1497–1499 | Vasco da Gama's voyage to India | 1540 | The king marries Anne of Cleves
Marriage dissolved |
| 1499 | Amerigo Vespucci's first voyage to America
Erasmus' first visit to England | | The king marries Catherine Howard
Fall and execution of Thomas Cromwell |
| 1505 | John Colet appointed dean of St. Paul's; founds St. Paul's School | 1542 | Catherine Howard executed
Death of Sir Thomas Wyatt |
| 1509–1547 | Reign of Henry VIII | 1543 | The king marries Catherine Parr
Copernicus' <i>De revolutionibus orbium coelestium</i> |
| 1509 | The king marries Catherine of Aragon | 1546 | Trinity College, Cambridge, refounded |
| 1511 | Erasmus' <i>Praise of Folly</i> published | 1547 | The earl of Surrey executed |
| 1513 | Invasion by the Scots defeated at Flodden Field | 1547–1553 | Reign of Edward VI |
| 1515 | Wolsey appointed lord chancellor | 1548–1552 | Hall's <i>Chronicle</i> |
| 1516 | Sir Thomas More's <i>Utopia</i> | 1552 | The second Book of Common Prayer |
| 1517 | Martin Luther's theses against indulgences published at Wittenberg
Henry Howard (earl of Surrey) born | ca. 1552 | Edmund Spenser born |
| 1519 | Charles V of Spain becomes Holy Roman Emperor | 1553 | Lady Jane Grey proclaimed queen |
| 1519–1521 | Magellan's voyage around the world | 1553–1558 | Reign of Mary I (Mary Tudor) |
| 1525 | Cardinal College, the forerunner of Christ Church, founded at Oxford | ca. 1554 | Births of Walter Raleigh, Richard Hooker, and John Lyly |
| 1526 | Tyndale's English translation of the New Testament imported from Holland | 1554 | Lady Jane Grey executed
Mary I marries Philip II of Spain |
| 1529 | Fall of Cardinal Wolsey
Death of John Skelton | | Bandello's <i>Novelle</i>
Philip Sidney born |
| 1529–1536 | The "Reformation" Parliament | ca. 1556 | George Peele born |
| 1531 | Sir Thomas Elyot's <i>The Governour</i> published | | |
| 1532 | Thomas Cranmer appointed archbishop of Canterbury | | |

CHRONOLOGY

- | | | | |
|------------------|---|-----------|--|
| 1557 | Tottel's <i>Miscellany</i> , including the poems of Wyatt and Surrey, published | 1577 | Holinshed's <i>Chronicles of England, Scotlande, and Irelande</i> |
| ca. 1558 | Thomas Kyd born | 1579 | John Lyly's <i>Euphues: The Anatomy of Wit</i> |
| 1558 | Calais, the last English possession in France, is lost | | Thomas North's translation of <i>Plutarch's Lives</i> |
| | Mary I dies | 1581 | The Levant Company founded |
| 1558–1603 | Reign of Elizabeth I | | Seneca's <i>Ten Tragedies</i> translated |
| 1559 | John Knox arrives in Scotland | 1582 | Richard Hakluyt's <i>Divers Voyages Touching the Discoverie of America</i> |
| | Rebellion against the French regent | 1584–1585 | Sir John Davis' first voyage to Greenland |
| ca. 1559 | George Chapman born | 1585 | First English settlement in America, the "Lost Colony" comprising 108 men under Ralph Lane, founded at Roanoke Island, off the coast of North Carolina |
| 1561 | Mary Queen of Scots (Mary Stuart) arrives in Edinburgh | 1586 | Kyd's <i>Spanish Tragedy</i> |
| | Thomas Hoby's translation of Castiglione's <i>The Courtier Gorboduc</i> , the first English play in blank verse | | Marlowe's <i>Tamburlaine</i> |
| | Francis Bacon born | | William Camden's <i>Britannia</i> |
| 1562 | Civil war in France | | The Babington conspiracy against Queen Elizabeth |
| | English expedition sent to support the Huguenots | | Death of Sir Philip Sidney |
| 1562–1568 | Sir John Hawkins' voyages to Africa | 1587 | Mary Queen of Scots executed |
| 1564 | Births of Christopher Marlowe and William Shakespeare | | Birth of Virginia Dare, first English child born in America, at Roanoke Island |
| 1565 | Mary Queen of Scots marries Lord Darnley | 1588 | Defeat of the Spanish Armada |
| 1566 | William Painter's <i>Palace of Pleasure</i> , a miscellany of prose stories, the source of many dramatists' plots | | Marlowe's <i>Dr. Faustus</i> |
| 1567 | Darnley murdered at Kirk o'Field | 1590 | Spenser's <i>The Faerie Queen</i> , Cantos 1–3 |
| | Mary Queen of Scots marries the earl of Bothwell | 1592 | Outbreak of plague in London; the theaters closed |
| 1569 | Rebellion of the English northern earls suppressed | | Henry King born |
| 1570 | Roger Ascham's <i>The Schoolmaster</i> | 1593 | Death of Christopher Marlowe |
| 1571 | Defeat of the Turkish fleet at Lepanto | 1594 | The Lord Chamberlain's Men, the company to which Shakespeare belonged, founded |
| ca. 1572 | Ben Jonson born | | The Swan Theater opened |
| 1572 | St. Bartholomew's Day massacre | | Death of Thomas Kyd |
| | John Donne born | 1595 | Raleigh's expedition to Guiana |
| 1574 | The earl of Leicester's theater company formed | | Sidney's <i>Apology for Poetry</i> |
| 1576 | The Theater, the first permanent theater building in London, opened | 1596 | The earl of Essex's expedition captures Cadiz |
| | The first Blackfriars Theater opened with performances by the Children of St. Paul's | | The second Blackfriars Theater opened |
| | John Marston born | ca. 1597 | Death of George Peele |
| 1576–1578 | Martin Frobisher's voyages to Labrador and the northwest | 1597 | Bacon's first collection of <i>Essays</i> |
| 1577–1580 | Sir Francis Drake sails around the world | 1598 | Jonson's <i>Every Man in His Humor</i> |

CHRONOLOGY

- | | | | |
|------------------|--|------------------|---|
| 1598–1600 | Richard Hakluyt's <i>Principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffics, and Discoveries of the English Nation</i> | 1619 | The General Assembly, the first legislative assembly on American soil, meets in Virginia |
| 1599 | The Globe Theater opened | | Slavery introduced at Jamestown |
| | Death of Edmund Spenser | 1620 | The Pilgrims land in Massachusetts |
| 1600 | Death of Richard Hooker | | John Evelyn born |
| 1601 | Rebellion and execution of the earl of Essex | 1621 | Francis Bacon impeached and fined |
| 1602 | The East India Company founded | | Robert Burton's <i>Anatomy of Melancholy</i> |
| | The Bodleian Library reopened at Oxford | | Andrew Marvell born |
| 1603–1625 | Reign of James I | 1622 | Middleton's <i>The Changeling</i> |
| 1603 | John Florio's translation of Montaigne's <i>Essays</i> | | Henry Vaughan born |
| | Cervantes' <i>Don Quixote</i> (Part 1) | 1623 | The First Folio of Shakespeare's plays |
| | The Gunpowder Plot | | Visit of Prince Charles and the duke of Buckingham to Spain; failure of attempts to negotiate a Spanish marriage |
| | Thomas Browne born | | |
| 1604 | Shakespeare's <i>Othello</i> | 1624 | War against Spain |
| ca. 1605 | Shakespeare's <i>King Lear</i> | 1625–1649 | Reign of Charles I |
| | Tourneur's <i>The Revenger's Tragedy</i> | 1625 | Death of John Fletcher |
| 1605 | Bacon's <i>Advancement of Learning</i> | | Bacon's last collection of <i>Essays</i> |
| 1606 | Shakespeare's <i>Macbeth</i> | 1626 | Bacon's <i>New Atlantis</i> , appended to <i>Sylva sylvarum</i> |
| | Jonson's <i>Volpone</i> | | Dutch found New Amsterdam |
| | Death of John Lyly | | Death of Cyril Tourneur |
| | Edmund Waller born | | Death of Francis Bacon |
| 1607 | The first permanent English colony established at Jamestown, Virginia | 1627 | Ford's <i>'Tis Pity She's a Whore</i> |
| 1608 | John Milton born | | Cardinal Richelieu establishes the Company of New France with monopoly over trade and land in Canada |
| 1609 | Kepler's <i>Astronomia nova</i> | | Buckingham's expedition to the Isle of Ré to relieve La Rochelle |
| | John Suckling born | | Death of Thomas Middleton |
| 1610 | Galileo's <i>Sidereus nuncius</i> | 1627–1628 | Revolt and siege of La Rochelle, the principal Huguenot city of France |
| 1611 | The Authorized Version of the Bible | 1628 | Buckingham assassinated |
| | Shakespeare's <i>The Tempest</i> | | Surrender of La Rochelle |
| 1612 | Death of Prince Henry, King James's eldest son | | William Harvey's treatise on the circulation of the blood (<i>De motu cordis et sanguinis</i>) |
| | Webster's <i>The White Devil</i> | 1629 | John Bunyan born |
| | Bacon's second collection of <i>Essays</i> | | Ford's <i>The Broken Heart</i> |
| ca. 1613 | Richard Crashaw born | | King Charles dismisses his third Parliament, imprisons nine members, and proceeds to rule for eleven years without Parliament |
| 1613 | The Globe Theatre destroyed by fire | | The Massachusetts Bay Company formed |
| | Webster's <i>The Duchess of Malfi</i> | 1629–1630 | Peace treaties with France and Spain |
| 1614 | Raleigh's <i>History of the World</i> | | |
| 1616 | George Chapman's translation of Homer's <i>Odyssey</i> | | |
| | Deaths of William Shakespeare, Francis Beaumont, and Miguel Cervantes | | |
| ca. 1618 | Richard Lovelace born | | |
| 1618 | The Thirty Years' War begins | | |
| | Sir Walter Raleigh executed | | |
| | Abraham Cowley born | | |

CHRONOLOGY

- | | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|---|
| 1631 | John Dryden born
Death of John Donne | | The theaters close
Royalist victory at Edgehill; King Charles established at Oxford |
| 1633 | William Laud appointed archbishop of Canterbury
Death of George Herbert
Samuel Pepys born | 1643 | Parliament concludes the Solemn League and Covenant with the Scots
Louis XIV becomes king of France
Charles Sackville, earl of Dorset, born |
| 1634 | Deaths of George Chapman and John Marston | 1644 | Parliamentary victory at Marston Moor
The New Model army raised
Milton's <i>Areopagitica</i> |
| 1635 | The Académie Française founded
George Etherege born | 1645 | Parliamentary victory under Fairfax and Cromwell at Naseby
Fairfax captures Bristol
Archbishop Laud executed |
| 1636 | Pierre Corneille's <i>Le Cid</i>
Harvard College founded | 1646 | Fairfax besieges King Charles at Oxford
King Charles takes refuge in Scotland; end of the First Civil War
King Charles attempts negotiations with the Scots
Parliament's proposals sent to the king and rejected |
| ca. 1637 | Thomas Traherne born | 1647 | Conflict between Parliament and the army
A general council of the army established that discusses representational government within the army
The Agreement of the People drawn up by the Levelers; its proposals include manhood suffrage
King Charles concludes an agreement with the Scots
George Fox begins to preach
John Wilmot, earl of Rochester, born |
| 1637 | Milton's "Lycidas"
Descartes's <i>Discours de la méthode</i>
King Charles's levy of ship money challenged in the courts by John Hampden
The introduction of the new English Book of Common Prayer strongly opposed in Scotland
Death of Ben Jonson | 1648 | Cromwell dismisses the general council of the army
The Second Civil War begins
Fairfax defeats the Kentish royalists at Maidstone
Cromwell defeats the Scots at Preston
The Thirty Years' War ended by the treaty of Westphalia
Parliament purged by the army |
| ca. 1638 | Death of John Webster | | |
| 1638 | The Scots draw up a National Covenant to defend their religion | | |
| ca. 1639 | Death of John Ford | | |
| 1639 | Parliament reassembled to raise taxes
Death of Thomas Carew
Charles Sedley born | | |
| 1639–1640 | The two Bishops' Wars with Scotland | | |
| 1640 | The Long Parliament assembled
The king's advisers, Archbishop Laud and the earl of Strafford, impeached
Aphra Behn born | | |
| 1641 | Strafford executed
Acts passed abolishing extraparliamentary taxation, the king's extraordinary courts, and his power to order a dissolution without parliamentary consent
The Grand Remonstrance censuring royal policy passed by eleven votes
William Wycherley born | 1649–1660 | Commonwealth |
| 1642 | Parliament submits the nineteen Propositions, which King Charles rejects as annihilating the royal power
The Civil War begins | 1649 | King Charles I tried and executed |

CHRONOLOGY

- | | | | | |
|-----------|---|--|------|---|
| | The monarchy and the House of Lords abolished | | 1661 | Parliament passes the Act of Uniformity, enjoining the use of the Book of Common Prayer; many Puritan and dissenting clergy leave their livings |
| | The Commonwealth proclaimed | | 1662 | Peace Treaty with Spain |
| | Cromwell invades Ireland and defeats the royalist Catholic forces | | | King Charles II marries Catherine of Braganza |
| | Death of Richard Crashaw | | | The Royal Society incorporated (founded in 1660) |
| 1650 | Cromwell defeats the Scots at Dunbar | | 1664 | War against Holland |
| 1651 | Charles II crowned king of the Scots, at Scone | | | New Amsterdam captured and becomes New York |
| | Charles II invades England, is defeated at Worcester, escapes to France | | | John Vanbrugh born |
| | Thomas Hobbes's <i>Leviathan</i> | | 1665 | The Great Plague |
| 1652 | War with Holland | | | Newton discovers the binomial theorem and invents the integral and differential calculus, at Cambridge |
| 1653 | The Rump Parliament dissolved by the army | | 1666 | The Great Fire of London |
| | A new Parliament and council of state nominated; Cromwell becomes Lord Protector | | | Bunyan's <i>Grace Abounding</i> |
| | Walton's <i>The Compleat Angler</i> | | | <i>London Gazette</i> founded |
| 1654 | Peace concluded with Holland | | 1667 | The Dutch fleet sails up the Medway and burns English ships |
| | War against Spain | | | The war with Holland ended by the Treaty of Breda |
| 1655 | Parliament attempts to reduce the army and is dissolved | | | Milton's <i>Paradise Lost</i> |
| | Rule of the major-generals | | | Thomas Sprat's <i>History of the Royal Society</i> |
| 1656 | Sir William Davenant produces <i>The Siege of Rhodes</i> , one of the first English operas | | | Death of Abraham Cowley |
| 1657 | Second Parliament of the Protectorate | | 1668 | Sir Christopher Wren begins to rebuild St. Paul's Cathedral |
| | Cromwell is offered and declines the throne | | | Triple Alliance formed with Holland and Sweden against France |
| | Death of Richard Lovelace | | | Dryden's <i>Essay of Dramatick Poesy</i> |
| 1658 | Death of Oliver Cromwell | | 1670 | Alliance formed with France through the secret Treaty of Dover |
| | Richard Cromwell succeeds as Protector | | | Pascal's <i>Pensées</i> |
| 1659 | Conflict between Parliament and the army | | | The Hudson's Bay Company founded |
| 1660 | General Monck negotiates with Charles II | | | William Congreve born |
| | Charles II offers the conciliatory Declaration of Breda and accepts Parliament's invitation to return | | 1671 | Milton's <i>Samson Agonistes</i> and <i>Paradise Regained</i> |
| | Will's Coffee House established | | 1672 | War against Holland |
| | Sir William Davenant and Thomas Killigrew licensed to set up two companies of players, the Duke of York's and the King's Servants, including actors and actresses | | | Wycherley's <i>The Country Wife</i> |
| | Pepys's <i>Diary</i> begun | | | King Charles issues the Declaration of Indulgence, suspending penal laws against Nonconformists and Catholics |
| 1660–1685 | Reign of Charles II | | 1673 | Parliament passes the Test Act, making acceptance of the doctrines of |

CHRONOLOGY

- the Church of England a condition for holding public office
- 1674 War with Holland ended by the Treaty of Westminster
Deaths of John Milton, Robert Herrick, and Thomas Traherne
- 1676 Etherege's *The Man of Mode*
- 1677 Baruch Spinoza's *Ethics*
Jean Racine's *Phèdre*
King Charles's niece, Mary, marries her cousin William of Orange
- 1678 Fabrication of the so-called popish plot by Titus Oates
Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*
Dryden's *All for Love*
Death of Andrew Marvell
George Farquhar born
- 1679 Parliament passes the Habeas Corpus Act
Rochester's *A Satire Against Mankind*
- 1680 Death of John Wilmot, earl of Rochester
- 1681 Dryden's *Absalom and Achitophel* (Part 1)
- 1682 Dryden's *Absalom and Achitophel* (Part 2)
Thomas Otway's *Venice Preserv'd*
Philadelphia founded
Death of Sir Thomas Browne
- 1683 The Ashmolean Museum, the world's first public museum, opens at Oxford
Death of Izaak Walton
- 1685–1688 Reign of James II**
- 1685 Rebellion and execution of James Scott, duke of Monmouth
John Gay born
- 1686 The first book of Newton's *Principia—De motu corporum*, containing his theory of gravitation—presented to the Royal Society
- 1687 James II issues the Declaration of Indulgence
Dryden's *The Hind and the Panther*
Death of Edmund Waller
- 1688 James II reissues the Declaration of Indulgence, renewing freedom of worship and suspending the provisions of the Test Act
- Acquittal of the seven bishops imprisoned for protesting against the Declaration
William of Orange lands at Torbay, Devon
James II takes refuge in France
Death of John Bunyan
Alexander Pope born
- 1689–1702 Reign of William III**
- 1689 Parliament formulates the Declaration of Rights
William and Mary accept the Declaration and the crown
The Grand Alliance concluded between the Holy Roman Empire, England, Holland, and Spain
War declared against France
King William's War, 1689–1697 (the first of the French and Indian wars)
Samuel Richardson born
- 1690 James II lands in Ireland with French support, but is defeated at the battle of the Boyne
John Locke's *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*
- 1692 Salem witchcraft trials
Death of Sir George Etherege
- 1694 George Fox's *Journal*
Voltaire (François Marie Arouet) born
Death of Mary II
- 1695 Congreve's *Love for Love*
Death of Henry Vaughan
- 1697 War with France ended by the Treaty of Ryswick
Vanbrugh's *The Relapse*
- 1698 Jeremy Collier's *A Short View of the Immorality and Profaneness of the English Stage*
- 1699 Fénelon's *Les Aventures de Télémaque*
- 1700 Congreve's *The Way of the World*
Defoe's *The True-Born Englishman*
Death of John Dryden
James Thomson born
- 1701 War of the Spanish Succession, 1701–1714 (Queen Anne's War in America, 1702–1713)
Death of Sir Charles Sedley
- 1702–1714 Reign of Queen Anne**
- 1702 Clarendon's *History of the Rebellion* (1702–1704)

CHRONOLOGY

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Defoe's <i>The Shortest Way with the Dissenters</i></p> <p>1703 Defoe is arrested, fined, and pilloried for writing <i>The Shortest Way</i></p> <p>Death of Samuel Pepys</p> <p>1704 John Churchill, duke of Marlborough, and Prince Eugene of Savoy defeat the French at Blenheim</p> <p>Capture of Gibraltar</p> <p>Swift's <i>A Tale of a Tub</i> and <i>The Battle of the Books</i></p> <p><i>The Review</i> founded (1704–1713)</p> <p>1706 Farquhar's <i>The Recruiting Officer</i></p> <p>Deaths of John Evelyn and Charles Sackville, earl of Dorset</p> <p>1707 Farquhar's <i>The Beaux' Stratagem</i></p> <p>Act of Union joining England and Scotland</p> <p>Death of George Farquhar</p> <p>Henry Fielding born</p> <p>1709 The <i>Tatler</i> founded (1709–1711)</p> <p>Nicholas Rowe's edition of Shakespeare</p> <p>Samuel Johnson born</p> <p>Marlborough defeats the French at Malplaquet</p> <p>Charles XII of Sweden defeated at Poltava</p> <p>1710 South Sea Company founded</p> <p>First copyright act</p> <p>1711 Swift's <i>The Conduct of the Allies</i></p> <p>The <i>Spectator</i> founded (1711–1712; 1714)</p> <p>Marlborough dismissed</p> <p>David Hume born</p> <p>1712 Pope's <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> (Cantos 1–2)</p> <p>Jean Jacques Rousseau born</p> <p>1713 War with France ended by the Treaty of Utrecht</p> <p>The <i>Guardian</i> founded</p> <p>Swift becomes dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin</p> <p>Addison's <i>Cato</i></p> <p>Laurence Sterne born</p> <p>1714–1727 Reign of George I</p> <p>1714 Pope's expended version of <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> (Cantos 1–5)</p> <p>1715 The Jacobite rebellion in Scotland</p> <p>Pope's translation of Homer's <i>Iliad</i> (1715–1720)</p> | <p>Death of Louis XIV</p> <p>1716 Death of William Wycherley</p> <p>Thomas Gray born</p> <p>1717 Pope's <i>Eloisa to Abelard</i></p> <p>David Garrick born</p> <p>Horace Walpole born</p> <p>1718 Quadruple Alliance (Britain, France, the Netherlands, the German Empire) in war against Spain</p> <p>1719 Defoe's <i>Robinson Crusoe</i></p> <p>Death of Joseph Addison</p> <p>1720 Inoculation against smallpox introduced in Boston</p> <p>War against Spain</p> <p>The South Sea Bubble</p> <p>Gilbert White born</p> <p>Defoe's <i>Captain Singleton</i> and <i>Memoirs of a Cavalier</i></p> <p>1721 Tobias Smollett born</p> <p>William Collins born</p> <p>1722 Defoe's <i>Moll Flanders</i>, <i>Journal of the Plague Year</i>, and <i>Colonel Jack</i></p> <p>1724 Defoe's <i>Roxana</i></p> <p>Swift's <i>The Drapier's Letters</i></p> <p>1725 Pope's translation of Homer's <i>Odyssey</i> (1725–1726)</p> <p>1726 Swift's <i>Gulliver's Travels</i></p> <p>Voltaire in England (1726–1729)</p> <p>Death of Sir John Vanbrugh</p> <p>1727–1760 Reign of George II</p> <p>1728 Gay's <i>The Beggar's Opera</i></p> <p>Pope's <i>The Dunciad</i> (Books 1–2)</p> <p>Oliver Goldsmith born</p> <p>1729 Swift's <i>A Modest Proposal</i></p> <p>Edmund Burke born</p> <p>Deaths of William Congreve and Sir Richard Steele</p> <p>1731 Navigation improved by introduction of the quadrant</p> <p>Pope's <i>Moral Essays</i> (1731–1735)</p> <p>Death of Daniel Defoe</p> <p>William Cowper born</p> <p>1732 Death of John Gay</p> <p>1733 Pope's <i>Essay on Man</i> (1733–1734)</p> <p>Lewis Theobald's edition of Shakespeare</p> <p>1734 Voltaire's <i>Lettres philosophiques</i></p> <p>1737 Edward Gibbon born</p> <p>1738 Johnson's <i>London</i></p> |
|---|---|