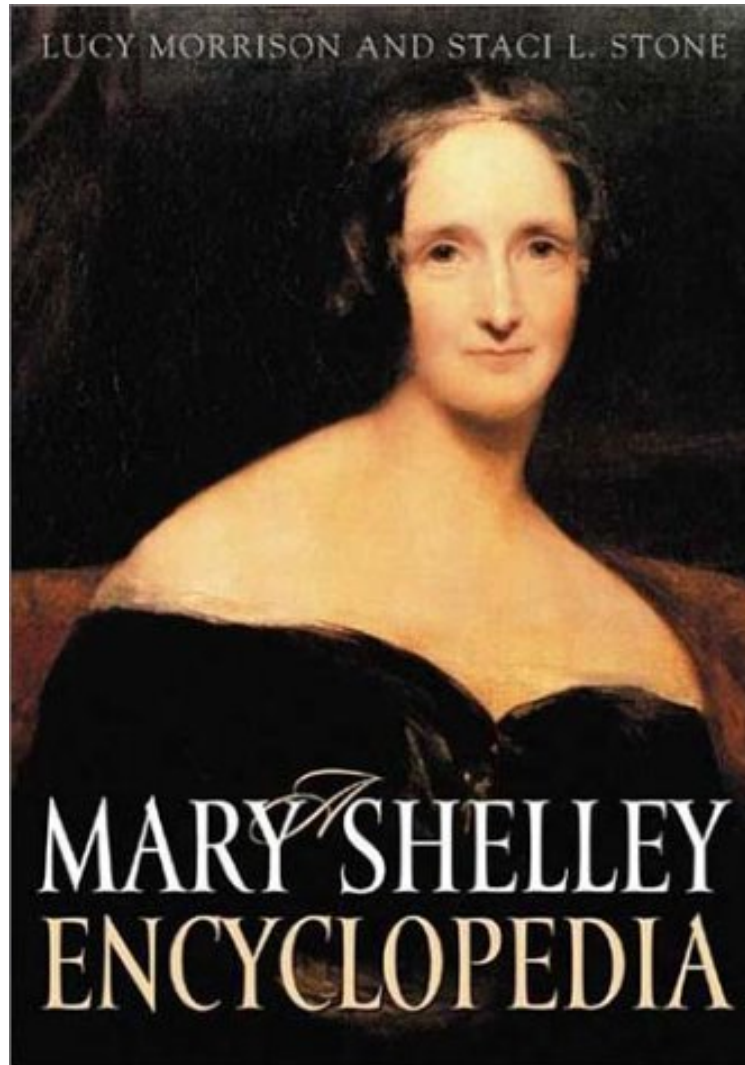


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A Mary Shelley Encyclopedia

Lucy Morrison, Staci L. Stone

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Frankenstein is one of the most popular classroom texts in high school and college, and Shelley's other works are attracting renewed attention. This reference is a comprehensive guide to her life and career. Included are hundreds of alphabetically arranged entries about her works, friends, relatives, residences, fictional characters, allusions, and

more. Mary Shelley has only recently emerged from the shadows of her famous parents, Mary Wollstonecraft and William Godwin, and that of her husband, Percy Bysshe Shelley. Today, *Frankenstein* (1818, 1831) is one of the most popular classroom texts in high school and college, and Mary Shelley's other works are attracting renewed attention. These works reveal much about the Romantic literary period and Shelley's ongoing development as a writer. In addition to her novels, Shelley wrote short stories, poems, and dramas. These texts illustrate the difficulties of a shifting literary marketplace, while her travel writings illuminate her rich personal experiences and keen intellect. This reference is a comprehensive guide to her life and career. Included are hundreds of alphabetically arranged entries about her works, friends, relatives, residences, fictional characters, allusions, and more. Some entries briefly identify and contextualize their topics, while others offer more extensive discussions. Many entries cite sources of further information, and the volume closes with a bibliography. The work is fully cross-referenced and includes a detailed index and an appendix that discusses the sources of Shelley's quotations.

From Booklist Mary Shelley is famous as, first, the author of *Frankenstein* and, second, as the wife of a famous poet and daughter of a famous novelist and philosopher. Due in no small part to *Frankenstein*'s place on high-school and college reading lists, her other works have been reprinted in recent years. This has resulted in a reassessment and an emergence of Shelley from the shadows of her great work and her family. Exploring these other works leaves one with a sense of an incredible life story and intellect that *Frankenstein* barely revealed. This encyclopedia provides readers of Shelley's works with a context--it offers information on her family, friends, residences, and more, as well as entries on her works, characters, influences, and themes. It boasts in the introduction of containing "textual footnotes to nearly all aspects of Shelley and her works." For example, the entry Prometheus mentions the Greek mythological figure but also the uses the myth was put to by Percy Bysshe Shelley (in, for example, *Prometheus Unbound*, 1820) and the reinvention of the myth by Mary in her most famous novel (subtitled or, *The Modern Prometheus*). The entries are the short type one expects of an encyclopedia, fully cross-referenced (in bold type) and factual. The design is somewhat confusing, especially in entries where there is a lot of cross-referencing; also, one is left wondering about the need for the two appendixes of quotes used by Shelley. The comprehensive bibliography of works referenced in the encyclopedia entries makes for a very useful glimpse of Shelley, her works, the influences, and scholarship. This volume is recommended for academic and large public libraries. RBB Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "[M]ary Shelley merits recent renewed attention exemplified by the publication of this first reference guide to her life and literary work.... Thorough citations and annotations to references in Shelley's individual works recommend this handbook to literary scholars. Two appendixes list quotations: those that Shelley attributes to their authors and those that are unidentified. An extensive bibliography and index enhance the book's utility.

Recommended. Academic and large public libraries."-Choice "[a] very useful glimpse of Shelley, her works, the influences, and scholarship. This volume is recommended for academic and large public libraries."-Booklist/RBB "[a]n exhaustively comprehensive A-to-Z listing of all subjects that refer to Mary Shelley's life and work.... will be of most use to scholars, especially since Shelley studies now concentrate on the author's less-known works."-Library Journal "[A] worthy addition to a reference collection on the period of romantic literature and thinking. Since its focus is on Mary Shelley, the most famous woman of romanticism, the entries on the broader issues of that period's history, politics and literature are excellent."-Reference s "a very useful glimpse of Shelley, her works, the influences, and scholarship. This volume is recommended for academic and large public libraries."-Booklist/RBB "an exhaustively comprehensive A-to-Z listing of all subjects that refer to Mary Shelley's life and work.... will be of most use to scholars, especially since Shelley studies now concentrate on the author's less-known works."-Library Journal "A worthy addition to a reference collection on the period of romantic literature and thinking. Since its focus is on Mary Shelley, the most famous woman of romanticism, the entries on the broader issues of that period's history, politics and literature are excellent."-Reference s "Mary Shelley merits recent renewed attention exemplified by the publication of this first reference guide to her life and literary work.... Thorough citations and annotations to references in Shelley's individual works recommend this handbook to literary scholars. Two appendixes list quotations: those that Shelley attributes to their authors and those that are unidentified. An extensive bibliography and index enhance the book's utility. Recommended. Academic and large public libraries."-Choice "[a] very useful glimpse of Shelley, her works, the influences, and scholarship. This volume is recommended for academic and large public libraries."-Booklist/RBB "[a]n exhaustively comprehensive A-to-Z listing of all subjects that refer to Mary Shelley's life and work.... will be of most use to scholars, especially since Shelley studies now concentrate on the author's less-known works."-Library Journal "[A] worthy addition to a reference collection on the period of romantic literature and thinking. Since its focus is on Mary Shelley, the most famous woman of romanticism, the entries on the broader issues of that period's history, politics and literature are excellent."-Reference s "[M]ary Shelley merits recent renewed attention exemplified by the publication of this first reference guide to her life and literary work.... Thorough citations and annotations to references in Shelley's individual works recommend this handbook to literary scholars. Two appendixes list quotations: those that Shelley attributes to their authors and those that are unidentified. An extensive bibliography and index enhance the book's utility. Recommended. Academic and large public libraries."-Choice About

the Author LUCY MORRISON is Assistant Professor of English at Salisbury University. She has published articles in Studies in Philology, Studies in Short Fiction, and the Keats-Shelley , among others. STACI L. STONE is Director of Humanities at Murray State University.