



EDITED BY ROBERT DEMARIA, JR

*BRITISH LITERATURE*  
1640-1789

AN ANTHOLOGY, FOURTH EDITION

WILEY Blackwell



# British Literature 1640–1789

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# British Literature 1640–1789

AN ANTHOLOGY

*Fourth Edition*

EDITED BY ROBERT DEMARIA, JR

WILEY Blackwell

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# Chronology

Date	Literary event	Historical event
1638	John Milton, <i>Lycidas</i>	
1640	John Donne, <i>LXXX Sermons</i>	Long Parliament assembled Archbishop Laud and the Earl of Strafford impeached
1641	Milton, <i>Of Reformation</i>	Strafford executed
1642		First English Civil War begins
1643	Milton, <i>The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce</i>	London theaters closed
1644	Milton, <i>Areopagitica</i>	
1645		Archbishop Laud executed
1646	Milton, <i>Poems</i> (dated 1645)	Charles I surrenders at Southwell after falling out of favor End of the first English Civil War
1647	Abraham Cowley, <i>The Mistress</i>	
1648	Robert Herrick, <i>Hesperides</i>	Second English Civil War begins Oliver Cromwell defeats Scots at Preston
1649	Charles I, <i>Eikon Basilike</i> Richard Lovelace, <i>Lucasta</i> Milton, <i>Eikonoklastes</i>	End of the Thirty Years' War Charles I tried and executed Commonwealth proclaimed Monarchy and the House of Lords abolished
1650	Anne Bradstreet, <i>The Tenth Muse</i>	Cromwell invades Ireland
	Abiezer Coppe, <i>A Fiery Flying Roll</i> Andrew Marvell, <i>An Horatian Ode upon Cromwell's Return from Ireland</i> composed	Cromwell defeats Scots at Dunbar

Date	Literary event	Historical event
1651	Thomas Hobbes, <i>Leviathan</i>	Charles II crowned king of the Scots Charles II invades England, is defeated at Worcester, and flees to France
1652	Correspondence between Dorothy Osborne and her future husband William Temple begins	
1653	Margaret Cavendish, <i>Poems and Fancies</i>	A new parliament is nominated
1654	Isaac Walton, <i>The Compleat Angler</i>	Protectorate established Cromwell becomes Lord Protector
1655	Henry Vaughan, <i>Silex Scintillans</i> (second edition)	Parliament is dissolved after attempting to reduce the army
1656	John Reeve and Lodowicke Muggleton, <i>A Divine Looking Glass</i>	English capture Jamaica
1657		Cromwell is offered and declines the crown
1658	Richard Allestree, <i>The Whole Duty of Man</i> Edward Phillips, <i>The New World of English Words</i>	Death of Oliver Cromwell Richard Cromwell succeeds as Lord Protector
1659		Collapse of the Protectorate
1660	Samuel Pepys begins his diary Robert Boyle, <i>New Experiments</i> John Dryden, <i>Astraea Redux</i> Milton, <i>Readie and Easy Way</i>	End of the Commonwealth Charles II begins his reign
1662		Act of Uniformity requires English to accept the book of Common Prayer
1663	William Shakespeare, <i>Third Folio</i>	
1664	Katherine Philips, <i>Poems</i>	
1665		The Great Plague
1666	John Bunyan, <i>Grace Abounding</i>	The Great Fire of London
1667	Milton, <i>Paradise Lost</i> Dryden, <i>Annus Mirabilis</i>	
1668	Dryden, <i>Of Dramatic Poesy</i>	England takes control of Bombay, India
1671	Milton, <i>Paradise Regained</i>	
1672	George Villiers, <i>The Rehearsal</i>	Declaration of Indulgence proffers religious freedom
1673		Parliament passes the Test Act, precluding Roman Catholics from holding public office
1674	Milton, <i>Paradise Lost</i> (second edition)	
1675	William Wycherley, <i>The Country-Wife</i>	

<b>Date</b>	<b>Literary event</b>	<b>Historical event</b>
1676	Dryden, <i>Aureng-Zebe</i>	Charles II signs secret treaty with Louis XIV
1677	Aphra Behn, <i>The Rover</i>	Popish Plot to kill Charles II and crown the Duke of York is exposed
1678	Bunyan, <i>Pilgrim's Progress</i>	
1679	Dryden, <i>All for Love</i>	Parliament passes the Habeas Corpus Act
	"Ephelia," <i>Female Poems</i>	
	John Wilmot, Second Earl of Rochester, <i>Satyr against Reason and Mankind</i>	
1680	Lucy Hutchinson, <i>Order and Disorder</i>	Exclusion Bill defeated
	Robert Filmer, <i>Patriarcha</i>	
	Rochester, <i>Poems</i>	
1681	Dryden, <i>Absalom and Achitophel</i>	
1682	Dryden, <i>Mac Flecknoe</i> published	
1684	Behn, <i>Poems</i>	
1685		Death of Charles II Execution of Duke of Monmouth
1686	Sarah Fyge Egerton, <i>The Female Advocate</i>	James II begins his reign
	Dryden, <i>The Hind and the Panther</i>	Isaac Newton proposes his laws of motion and theory of gravity
1687		James II issues Declaration of Indulgence, suspending the Test Act and allowing freedom of worship
1688	Behn, <i>Oroonoko: or, the Royal Slave. A True History</i>	William of Orange marches on London, causing James II to flee
	Jane Barker, <i>Poetical Recreations</i>	Beginning of the Glorious Revolution
1689	Anne Wharton, <i>Christian Love</i>	Parliament formulates Declaration of Rights
		William and Mary accept the Declaration and the crown
1690	John Locke, <i>An Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i> and <i>Two Treatises of Government</i>	William III and Mary II begin their reign
		Battle of the Boyne
1691	John Dunton, <i>Athenian Gazette</i>	
1694	Mary Astell, <i>A Serious Proposal</i>	
	George Fox, <i>Journal</i>	
1695	William Congreve, <i>Love for Love</i>	
	Richard Blackmore, <i>Prince Arthur</i>	
1696	Thomas Southerne, <i>Oroonoko</i>	

Date	Literary event	Historical event
1697	Daniel Defoe, <i>An Essay upon Projects</i> Dryden, <i>The Works of Virgil</i>	Treaty of Ryswick
1698	Edward Ward, <i>London Spy</i> Mary Pix, <i>Queen Catharine</i>	
1700	Congreve, <i>The Way of the World</i> Dryden, <i>Fables Ancient and Modern</i>	
1701	Mary Chudleigh, <i>The Ladies Defence</i>	Grand Alliance formed
1702	Defoe, <i>The Shortest-Way with the Dissenters</i>	Death of William III  Queen Anne begins her reign England declares war on France
1703	Nicholas Rowe, <i>The Fair Penitent</i>	
1704	Jonathan Swift, <i>A Tale of a Tub</i>  John Dennis, <i>The Grounds of Criticism in Poetry</i>	Duke of Marlborough victorious at Blenheim
1705	Susanna Centlivre, <i>The Gamester</i>	
1706	George Farquhar, <i>The Recruiting Officer</i>	Marlborough defeats French at Ramillies
1707	Farquhar, <i>The Beaux Stratagem</i>	Act of Union joining England and Scotland
1708	Isaac Watts, <i>Hymns</i>	Abortive invasion by Pretender
1709	Delarivier Manley, <i>New Atalantis</i> and <i>The Female Tatler</i> Richard Steele et al., <i>The Tatler</i>	
1710	Swift, <i>The Examiner</i>	Tories win general election
1711	Alexander Pope, <i>An Essay on Criticism</i>	Inception of South Sea Company
1712	Pope, <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> in two cantos	
1713	Joseph Addison, <i>Cato</i> Anne Kingsmill Finch, <i>Miscellany Poems</i>	Treaty of Utrecht
1714	Pope, <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> in five cantos Bernard Mandeville, <i>The Fable of the Bees</i>	Death of Queen Anne  George I begins his reign
1715	Pope, Homer's <i>Iliad</i> , vol. 1	Jacobite Rebellion in Scotland
1716	John Gay, <i>Trivia</i> Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, <i>Court Poems</i> Mary Molesworth Monck, <i>Marinda</i>	Whigs win general election
1718	Centlivre, <i>A Bold Stroke for a Wife</i> Allan Ramsay, <i>Scots Songs</i>	Quadruple Alliance
1719	Defoe, <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> Matthew Prior, <i>Poems on Several Occasions</i>	
1720		South Sea Bubble
1721	Nathan Bailey, <i>Universal Etymological Dictionary</i>	



Date	Literary event	Historical event
1722	Defoe, <i>Moll Flanders</i> and <i>Journal of the Plague Year</i>	
1723		George I visits Hanover
1724	Swift, <i>Drapier's Letters</i> Eliza Fowler Haywood, <i>Fantomina</i>	
1725	Pope's edition of <i>The Works of Shakespeare</i>	George I in Hanover for seven months
1726	Swift, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i>	
1727	James Thomson, <i>Winter</i> Gay, <i>Fables</i>	Death of George I George II begins his reign
1728	Ephraim Chambers, <i>Cyclopaedia</i> John Gay, <i>The Beggar's Opera</i>	
1729	Pope, <i>The Dunciad</i> Swift, <i>A Modest Proposal</i>	
1730	Pope, <i>The Dunciad Variorum</i> Stephen Duck, <i>Poems on Several Subjects</i>	
1731	<i>Gentleman's Magazine</i> , vol. 1	
1732		Georgia founded
1733	Pope, <i>An Essay on Man</i>	Excise crisis
1734	Mary Barber, <i>Poems on Several Occasions</i> George Sale (trans.), <i>Koran</i>	
1735	Pope, <i>Epistle to Arbuthnot</i> and <i>Epistle to a Lady</i>	
1737		Death of Queen Caroline
1738	Elizabeth Carter, <i>Poems Upon Particular Occasions</i> Samuel Johnson, <i>London</i>	
1739	Mary Collier, <i>The Woman's Labour</i>	War of Jenkins' Ear
1740	Samuel Richardson, <i>Pamela</i>	War of Austrian Succession
1741	David Hume, <i>Essays Moral and Political</i>	
1742	Pope, <i>The New Dunciad</i> Henry Fielding, <i>Joseph Andrews</i> Edward Young, <i>Night-Thoughts</i>	Robert Walpole resigns as prime minister
1744	John Armstrong, <i>The Art of Preserving Health</i>	Declaration of war with France
1745	Johnson, <i>Shakespeare Proposals</i>	Second Jacobite Rebellion
1746	William Collins, <i>Odes on Several Descriptive and Allegoric Subjects</i>	Battle of Culloden
1747	Johnson, <i>The Plan of a Dictionary</i> Richardson, <i>Clarissa</i>	
1748	Hume, <i>An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding</i> Mary Leapor, <i>Poems on Several Occasions</i>	Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle

Date	Literary event	Historical event
1749	Johnson, <i>The Vanity of Human Wishes</i> Fielding, <i>Tom Jones</i>	
1750	Johnson, <i>The Rambler</i> Mary Jones, <i>Miscellanies in Prose and Verse</i>	London earthquake
1751	Thomas Gray, <i>An Elegy Wrote in a Country Church Yard</i>	Death of Prince Frederick
1752	Charlotte Lennox, <i>The Female Quixote</i>	
1753	Jane Collier, <i>The Art of Tormenting</i>	British Museum founded
1755	Richardson, <i>Charles Grandison</i> Johnson, <i>A Dictionary of the English Language</i>	
1756		Seven Years' War begins
1757	Edmund Burke, <i>A Philosophical Inquiry into the Origin of our Ideas of the Sublime and the Beautiful</i>	
1759	Oliver Goldsmith, <i>The Bee</i> Johnson, <i>Rasselas</i>	Capture of Quebec
1760		Death of George II George III begins his reign
1761	Laurence Sterne, <i>Tristram Shandy</i> , vol. 1	Resignation of William Pitt as prime minister
1762	James Macpherson, <i>Fingal</i>	British capture Grenada and West Indies from France, and Cuba and Manila from Spain
1763	Montagu, <i>Travels</i> Christopher Smart, <i>A Song to David</i>	Peace of Paris
1764	Horace Walpole, <i>The Castle of Otranto</i>	
1765	Johnson (ed.), <i>The Plays of Shakespeare</i>	
1766	Goldsmith, <i>The Vicar of Wakefield</i>	
1768	<i>Encyclopaedia Britannica</i> James Boswell, <i>An Account of Corsica</i>	Royal Academy founded
1769	Joshua Reynolds, first <i>Discourse</i>	Shakespeare Jubilee
1770	Goldsmith, <i>The Deserted Village</i>	Boston Massacre James Hargreaves's spinning jenny patented
1772	Henry Mackenzie, <i>The Man of Feeling</i>	Financial crash
1773	Anna Laetitia Aiken Barbauld, <i>Poems</i>	Boston Tea Party
1774	Lord Chesterfield, <i>Letters to his Son</i> Thomas Warton, <i>History of English Poetry</i>	Copyright law settled by Lords
1775	Richard Brinsley Sheridan, <i>The Rivals</i>	American War of Independence begins
1776	Thomas Paine, <i>Common Sense</i>	American Declaration of Independence
	Charles Burney, <i>History of Music</i> Edward Gibbon, <i>Decline and Fall</i> , vol. 1	
1777	Burke, <i>Letter on America</i>	

Date	Literary event	Historical event
1778	Thomas Chatterton, <i>Miscellanies</i> Frances Burney (later d'Arblay), <i>Evelina</i>	War with France
1779	<i>Olney Hymns</i>	War with Spain
1780	Sheridan, <i>School for Scandal</i> published	Gordon riots in London
1781	Gibbon, <i>Decline and Fall</i> , vols. 2–3	
1782	Ignatius Sancho, <i>Letters</i>	
1783	William Blake, <i>Poetical Sketches</i> George Crabbe, <i>The Village</i>	Peace of Versailles
1784	James Cook, <i>Voyage to the Pacific Ocean</i>	
1785	William Cowper, <i>The Task</i> Ann Cromartie Yearsley, <i>Poems</i>	
1786	Hester Lynch Thrale Piozzi, <i>Anecdotes of the Late Samuel Johnson</i> Robert Burns, <i>Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect</i>	
1787	Mary Wollstonecraft, <i>Thoughts on the Education of Daughters</i>	United States Constitution is ratified Committee for the Abolition of the Slave Trade is founded in England
1788	Hannah More, <i>Slavery</i>	First English settlers arrive in Australia
1789	Charlotte Smith, <i>Emmeline</i> Blake, <i>Songs of Innocence</i>  Olaudah Equiano, <i>The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano</i>	French Revolution begins with the fall of the Bastille
1790	Burke, <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i> Wollstonecraft, <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Men</i>	
1791	Paine, <i>The Rights of Man</i>	

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