

Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland

JOURNEY TO THE WESTERN ISLANDS OF SCOTLAND EBOOK AUTHOR BY SAMUEL JOHNSON



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Genre: Specialty Travel

Summary

The book is about an eighty-three-day journey through Scotland, in particular the islands of the Hebrides, in the late summer and autumn of 1773.

Samuel Johnson was an English author. Beginning as a Grub Street journalist, he made lasting contributions to English literature as a poet, essayist, moralist, novelist, literary critic, biographer, editor and lexicographer. Johnson has been described as "arguably the most distinguished man of letters in English history". He is also the subject of one of the most celebrated biographies in English, James Boswell's Life of Samuel Johnson. Boswell's Life, along with other biographies, documented Johnson's behaviour and mannerisms in such detail that they have informed the posthumous diagnosis of Tourette syndrome (TS), a condition unknown to 18th-century physicians. He presented a tall and robust figure, but his odd gestures and tics were confusing to some on their first encounter with him.

Samuel Johnson



Johnson was born in Lichfield, Staffordshire, and attended Pembroke College, Oxford for a year, before his lack of funds forced him to leave. After working as a teacher he moved to London, where he began to write essays for The Gentleman's Magazine. His early works include the biography The Life of Richard Savage and the poem "The Vanity of Human Wishes." Johnson was a devout and compassionate man, whose Christian morality permeated his works. Although he was a conservative Anglican, he respected those of other denominations who demonstrated a commitment to Christ's teachings.

After nine years of work, his Dictionary of the English Language was published in 1755, bringing him popularity and success; until the completion of the Oxford English Dictionary, 150 years later, Johnson's was viewed as the preeminent British dictionary. In the following years, he published essays, an influential annotated edition of William Shakespeare's plays, and the well-read novel Rasselas. In 1763, he befriended James Boswell, with whom he later travelled to Scotland; Johnson's travel narrative A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland described the journey. Towards the end of his life, he produced the massive and influential Lives of the Most Eminent English Poets, which includes biographies and evaluations of 17th- and 18th-century poets. After a series of illnesses, Johnson died on the evening of 13 December 1784; he was buried in Westminster Abbey. In the years following his death, Johnson began to be recognised as having had a lasting effect on literary criticism, and even as the only great critic of English literature.

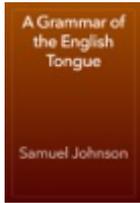
About
Author

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eBook ID: Jo-ce0f0fcefd | Author: Samuel Johnson

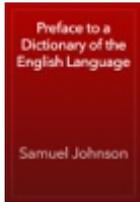
Others book from Samuel Johnson

[A GRAMMAR OF THE ENGLISH TONGUE](#)



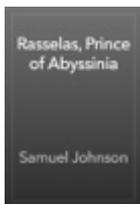
Samuel Johnson was a well-known literary figure in England. Johnson was an author, lexicographer, biographer and critic. Johnson has been quoted more than any other English author with the exception of Shakespeare. Much of Johnson's fame is attributed to the biography done by Boswell. The biography centers on the latter part of Johnson's life, thus Johnson has been seen more as a gruff society figure than as the struggling and poverty-stricken writer that he was for much of his life. Johnson ...

[PREFACE TO A DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE](#)



It is the fate of those who toil at the lower employments of life, to be rather driven by the fear of evil, than attracted by the prospect of good; to be exposed to censure, without hope of praise; to be disgraced by miscarriage, or punished for neglect, where success would have been without applause, and diligence without reward...

[RASSELAS, PRINCE OF ABYSSINIA](#)



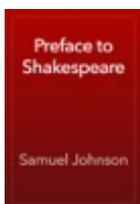
Rasselas, prince of Abyssinia (or Ethiopia), grows dissatisfied with the unceasing pleasures of his utopian home in the Happy Valley. According to Ethiopian tradition, the children of royalty were confined to an edenic valley, secluded from the harsh realities of the outside world. Rather than being seen as a paradise by Rasselas, Happy Valley is instead considered to be a prison, harboring boredom and tediousness. So, accompanied by his teacher, his sister, and her lady-in-waiting, Rasselas ...

[THE WORKS OF SAMUEL JOHNSON](#)



Samuel Johnson's literary reputation rests on such a varied output that he defies easy description: poet, critic, lexicographer, travel writer, essayist, editor, and, thanks to his good friend Boswell, the subject of one of the most famous English biographies. This book celebrates Johnson's astonishing talent by selecting widely across the full range of his work. It includes "London" and "The Vanity of Human Wishes" among other poems, and many of his essays for the Rambler and Idler...

[PREFACE TO SHAKESPEARE](#)



That praises are without reason lavished on the dead, and that the honours due only to excellence are paid to antiquity, is a complaint likely to be always continued by those, who, being able to add nothing to truth, hope for eminence from the heresies of paradox; or those, who, being forced by disappointment upon consolatory expedients, are willing to hope from posterity what the present age refuses, and flatter themselves that the regard which is yet denied by envy, will be at last bestowed by...

[THE RAMBLER.: \[PT.1\]](#)



The Rambler.: [pt.1], Samuel Johnson. The Rambler. Johnson, Samuel, 1709-1784. 6v. ; 12°. London : printed for J. Payne and J. Bouquet, 1752. Anonymous. By Samuel Johnson. The titlepages to vols. 5-6 bear the imprint: printed for J. Payne. Reproduction of original from the Bodleian Library (Oxford). English Short Title Catalog, ESTCN13484. Electronic data. Farmington Hills, Mich. : Thomson Gale, 2003. Page image (PNG). Digitized image of the microfilm version produced in Woodbridge, CT by ...

[THE WORKS OF SAMUEL JOHNSON, LL.D. IN NINE VOLUMES](#)



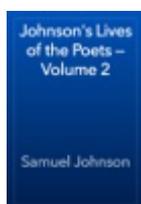
This biographical note consists of the works and life sketch of Samuel Johnson. This collection of his work is a part of literary collection and also his charactersketch has been told and described by author himself...

[LIVES OF THE POETS, VOLUME 1](#)



Such was the simple and unpretending advertisement that announced the 'Lives of the English Poets' ; a work that gave to the British nation a new style of biography. Johnson's decided taste for this species of writing, and his familiarity with the works of those whose lives he has recorded, peculiarly fitted him for the task; but it has been denounced by some as dogmatical, and even morose; minute critics have detected inaccuracies; the admirers of particular authors have complained of an ...

[JOHNSON'S LIVES OF THE POETS — VOLUME 2](#)



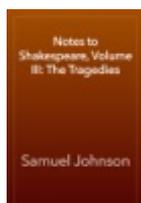
This volume contains a record of twenty lives, of which only one—that of Edward Young—is treated at length. It completes our edition of Johnson's Lives of the Poets, from which a few only of the briefest and least important have been omitted...

[LIVES OF THE ENGLISH POETS : WALLER, MILTON, COWLEY](#)



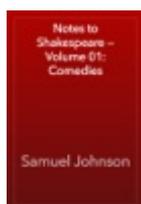
Samuel Johnson, born at Lichfield in the year 1709, on the 7th of September Old Style, 18th New Style, was sixty-eight years old when he agreed with the booksellers to write his "Lives of the English Poets". "I am engaged", he said, "to write little Lives, and little Prefaces, to a little edition of the English Poets". His conscience was also a little hurt by the fact that the bargain was made on Easter Eve. In 1777 his memorandum, set down among prayers and meditations, was "29...

[NOTES TO SHAKESPEARE, VOLUME III: THE TRAGEDIES](#)



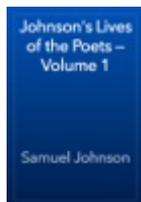
Dr. Johnson's reaction to Shakespeare's tragedies is a curious one, compounded as it is of deep emotional involvement in a few scenes in some plays and a strange dispassionateness toward most of the others. The reality of witchcraft or enchantment, which, though not strictly the same, are confounded in this play, has in all ages and countries been credited by the common people, and in most, by the learned themselves. These phantoms have indeed appeared more frequently, in proportion as the ...

[NOTES TO SHAKESPEARE — VOLUME 01: COMEDIES](#)



Dr. Johnson's Preface to Shakespeare is one of the most famous critical essays of the eighteenth century, and yet too many students have forgotten that it is, precisely, a preface to the plays of Shakespeare, edited by Dr. Johnson himself. That is to say, the edition itself has been obscured or overshadowed by its preface, and the sustained effort of that essay has virtually monopolized scholarly attention—much of which should be directed to the commentary. Johnson's love for Shakespeare's ...

[JOHNSON'S LIVES OF THE POETS — VOLUME 1](#)



Volume contains a record of twenty lives, of which only one—that of Edward Young—is treated at length. It completes our edition of Johnson's Lives of the Poets, from which a few only of the briefest and least important have been omitted...

[THE RAMBLER.: \[PT.2\]](#)



The Rambler.: [pt.2], Samuel Johnson. The Rambler. Johnson, Samuel, 1709-1784. 6v. ; 12°. London : printed for J. Payne and J. Bouquet, 1752. Anonymous. By Samuel Johnson. The titlepages to vols. 5-6 bear the imprint: printed for J. Payne. Reproduction of original from the Bodleian Library (Oxford). English Short Title Catalog, ESTCN13484. Electronic data. Farmington Hills, Mich. : Thomson Gale, 2003. Page image (PNG). Digitized image of the microfilm version produced in Woodbridge, CT by ...

[THE RAMBLER.: \[PT.4\]](#)



The Rambler.: [pt.4], Samuel Johnson. The Rambler. Johnson, Samuel, 1709-1784. 6v. ; 12°. London : printed for J. Payne and J. Bouquet, 1752. Anonymous. By Samuel Johnson. The titlepages to vols. 5-6 bear the imprint: printed for J. Payne. Reproduction of original from the Bodleian Library (Oxford). English Short Title Catalog, ESTCN13484. Electronic data. Farmington Hills, Mich. : Thomson Gale, 2003. Page image (PNG). Digitized image of the microfilm version produced in Woodbridge, CT by ...

[THE RAMBLER.: \[PT.5\]](#)



The Rambler.: [pt.5], Samuel Johnson. The Rambler. Johnson, Samuel, 1709-1784. 6v. ; 12°. London : printed for J. Payne and J. Bouquet, 1752. Anonymous. By Samuel Johnson. The titlepages to vols. 5-6 bear the imprint: printed for J. Payne. Reproduction of original from the Bodleian Library (Oxford). English Short Title Catalog, ESTCN13484. Electronic data. Farmington Hills, Mich. : Thomson Gale, 2003. Page image (PNG). Digitized image of the microfilm version produced in Woodbridge, CT by ...

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