



The Portable Coleridge

Samuel Taylor Coleridge , Ivor A. Richards (Editor)

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Chronically impoverished, tormented by self-doubt and a crippling addiction to opium, Samuel Taylor Coleridge(1772-1834) still managed to become one of the most versatile and influential forces of English romanticism.

The Portable Coleridge faithfully represents all facets of this complex, haunted genius, including his poems, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, *Christabel*, *Kubla Khan*, and *Dejection*; letters to friends and colleagues such as Robert Southey and William Godwin; selections from *Notebooks* and *Table Talk*; political and philosophical writings; literary criticism; and extensive excerpts from *Biographia Literaria*, in which Coleridge interweaves aesthetics, metaphysics, and disarmingly candid autobiography. Edited and with an introduction by the critic I.A. Richards, this volume vastly expands our understanding of a writer of visionary insight and protean range.

The Portable Coleridge Details

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Andrew says

Thorough. Good. And thorough. Loved STC the writer....bored to tears by the 'letter writer'. I'm sure that if I was really into the life and times of the gentleman, I would find his personal musings and bibliophilosophical conjectures quite fascinating. Ah, but alas, I am not the erudite patrician of yonder times. I am but a vagabond, a rapacious fellow of ill repute. Low becomings, and lower goings...oh, wait, so was STC! Sweet!

Brian says

"A poem is that species of composition, which is opposed to works of science, by proposing for its immediate object pleasure, not truth; and from all other species (having this object in common with it) it is discriminated by proposing to itself such delight from the whole, as is compatible with a distinct gratification from each component part." (Biographia Literaria, XIV)

Mitch says

Great selection of Coleridge's work. Lime Tree Bower My Prison, Christabel, Rime and Kublai Khan are here, along with selections of his prose, especially the Literary Biography, which is basically a diary of his voracious reading, which is mind-blowing. Fabulous book!!

Conor Fogarty says

Coleridge's highly sophisticated poetry blends well with the subtle political criticism of his day. Coleridge didn't write to instill fanciful images of light-hearted scenes of romance, but at his best makes a powerful statement about the forces of nature and love in human experience (the haunting Rime of the Ancient Mariner no less a fantastic example of English literature). Yet, exploring other dimensions, I find Coleridge's slight sarcasm and playfully-clever ideas of love and death to be equally engaging. While not an endeared favorite of mine, Coleridge is certainly worth reading as a prime example of English literature.

Hayden Peters says

This Lime Tree Bower My Prison is magnificent. Brilliant poet.

Brandon Kendall says

in xanadu did kublai khan, a stately pleasure dome decree, where alph the sacred river ran, through caverns

measureless to man and down to a sunless sea.
