



ENGL 3500

# What did Anne Elliot Read?

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# Questions

This presentation will attempt to answer the following questions:



1

What did Anne Elliot read?

2

Who were these authors?

3

Why are these authors/texts important to the novel?

# What did Anne Elliot Read?

First, let's talk about what Anne Elliot read!

These are all poems!

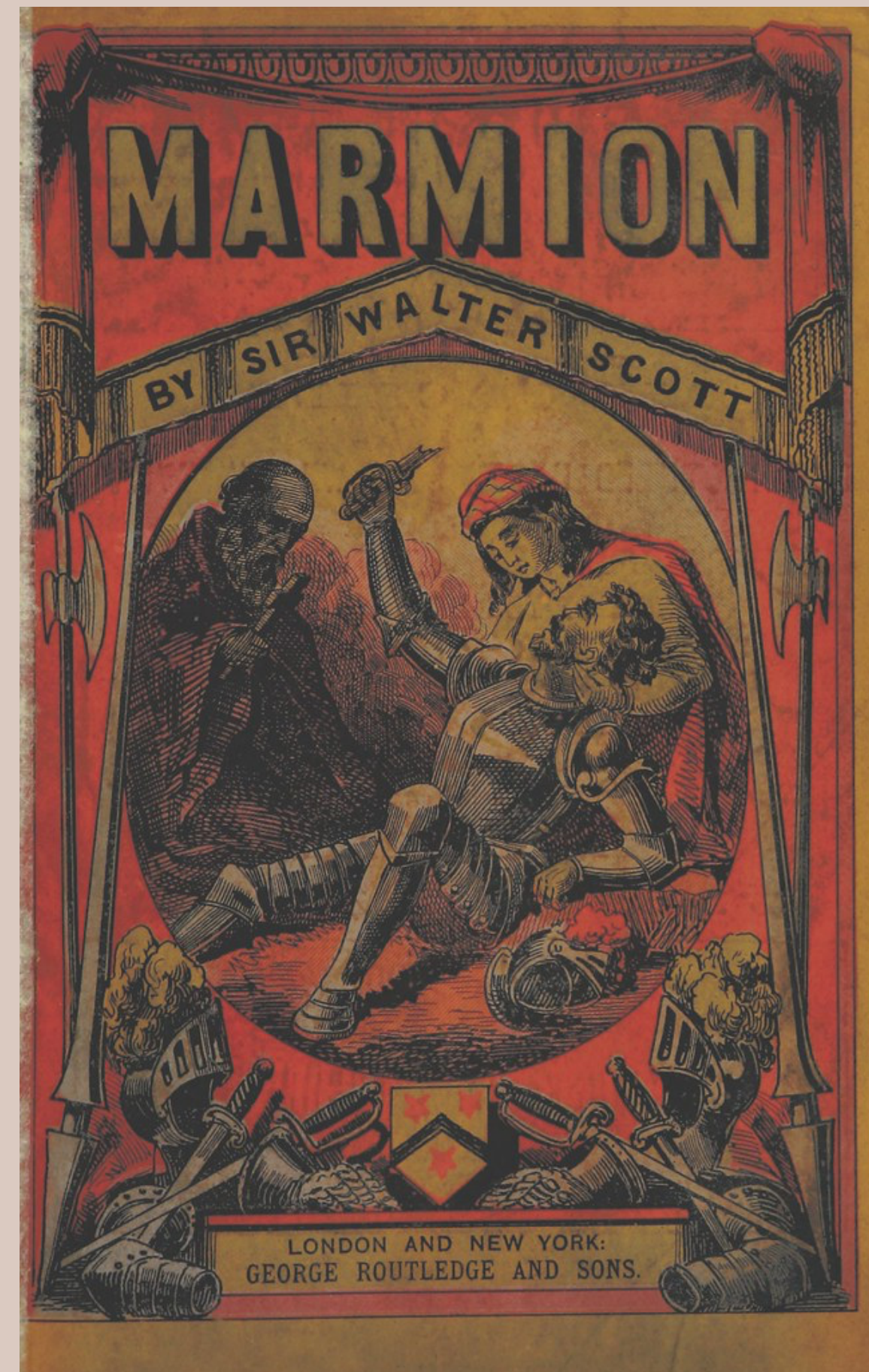
- Marmion by Sir Walter Scott
- The Lady of the Lake by Sir Walter Scott
- “The Giaour” by Lord Byron
- “The Bride of Abydos” by Lord Byron







Colin, Alexandre-Marie, The Giaour 1826  
<https://panathinaeos.com/2013/12/08/lord-byrons-giaour-a-fragment-of-a-turkish-tale/>



Marmion: by Sir Walter Scott, Bart. With all his introductions and notes, various readings and the editor's notes London, England 1868 <https://flic.kr/p/hTymSg>





# Who were these authors?



“Like Scott’s heroes, Byron’s are characterized by bravery, pride, and the capacity for violent action, but, unlike Scott, Byron refuses to balance these qualities with any of Malcolm’s sunny openness. The Giaour is “young and pale, ... scath’d by fiery passion’s brunt” (194-95). Conrad’s “dark eye-brow shades a glance of fire”; “And oft perforce his rising lip reveals / The haughtier thought it curbs, but scarce conceals” (Corsair 1.196, 205-06).” (Ford 78-79)

Meet our authors!

## Lord Byron (George Gordon Byron)

## Sir Walter Scott

- Born January 22, 1788- Died April 19, 1824
- Known for being a British Romantic poet who used satire
- “Byron’s first published volume of poetry, Hours of Idleness, appeared in 1807. A sarcastic critique of the book in The Edinburgh Review provoked his retaliation in 1809 with a couplet satire, English Bards and Scotch Reviewers, in which he attacked the contemporary literary scene. This work gained him his first recognition.” (Marchand)

- Born August 15, 1771- Died 1832, Scotland
- Also a Romantic poet
- Involved in politics
- Wrote a book anonymously
- “In his romances, courage and love are threatened by the lust for money or power.” (Ford 75)
- “Scott was the most successful writer of his day. Not only did he sell more books, but he was the author most generally admired. His books sold right through the nineteenth century, and he retained his reputation until the 1890s.” (Hewitt)

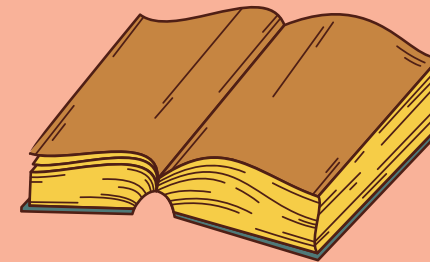
# Mentions of Poems in *Persuasion*

Examples of Jane Austen mentioning the poems in the text



## **Vol. 1 Chp. 11**

- Anne and Captain Benwick talk about their favorite poems and which ones they preferred
- “richness of the present age” (Austen 129)
- How Giaour was pronounced
- Emotions of the poems



## **Vol. 2 Chp. 6**

- Anne thinking about Louisa and Captain Benwick
- “they had fallen in love over poetry” (Austen 186)
- “He would gain cheerfulness and she would learn to be an enthusiast for Scott and Lord Byron” (Austen 186)



# Why is this important to the text?

- Caroline Franklin
  - “Austen’s parody of the Byronic” (Franklin 172)
  - “Anne sees woman’s role as that of ‘ministering angel’, in the words of Scott’s Marmion” (Franklin 184)
    - Persuasion pg. 91
- Susan Allen Ford
  - “In citing romances by these writers, Jane Austen sets her novel in context of a mode with great cultural appeal. Persuasion uses familiar character types and generic elements to explore a world that might seem closer to home than the usual world of romance. Combining emotional engagement and critical detachment, its lyrical ironies evoke the dangerous power of love.” (Ford 73)
  - “Frederick Wentworth, even more than Benwick, seems designed to help Anne learn romance, both its attractions and its threats. Like the heroes of Scott and Byron, Wentworth is brave, willful, and proud.” (Ford 81)



# Works Cited



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