

**“I do not wish women to have power over men; but over themselves.”**

—Mary Shelley



**Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley** was born on August 30, 1797, to philosopher William Godwin and feminist writer Mary Wollstonecraft in London, England. When she was 16, Mary eloped with Percy Bysshe Shelley, a renowned Romantic poet. During a trip to Switzerland in 1816, after a challenge by the poet Lord Byron, Mary wrote a ghost story that would later be published as *Frankenstein*. After Percy's unexpected death in 1822, Mary continued to write novels, including *Valperga* and *Lodore*. Mary passed away from a brain tumor on February 1, 1851.



  
**authorspeak**  
thoughts behind the printed page

©2019 Prestwick House, Inc.

PRESTWICK HOUSE  
**FREE LIBRARY**  
[www.prestwickhouse.com/free-library](http://www.prestwickhouse.com/free-library)