



possessors of a unique political stability, vigorous industrial revolution, and a world-wide empire. These may have been British achievements; but the virtues which brought about this transformation tended to be perceived as specifically English. Ideas of what constituted Englishness changed from a stock notion of waywardness and unpredictability to one of discipline and dedication. The evolution of the so-called national character - today once more the subject of scrutiny and debate - is traced through the impressions and analyses of foreign observers, and related to English ambitions and anxieties during a period of intense change.

*Thomas Hardy* Claire Tomalin 2007-01-18 "A masterful portrait" (The Philadelphia Inquirer) from a Whitbread Award-winning biographer, and author of *A Life of My Own*. The novels of Thomas Hardy have a permanent place on every booklover's shelf, yet little is known about the interior life of the man who wrote them. A believer and an unbeliever, a socialist and a snob, an unhappy husband and a desolate widower, Hardy challenged the sexual and religious conventions of his time in his novels and then abandoned fiction to reestablish himself as a great twentieth-century lyric poet. In this acclaimed new biography, Claire Tomalin, one of today's preeminent literary biographers, investigates this beloved writer and reveals a figure as rich and complex as his tremendous legacy.

*Corrosive Solace* Daniel O'Quinn 2022-10-11

*Elizabeth Gaskell* John Chapple 1997-06-15 This absorbing study of Elizabeth Gaskell's early life up to her marriage in 1832 is based almost entirely on new evidence. Also, using parish records, marriage settlements, property transfers, wills, record office documents, letters, journals and private papers, John Chapple has recreated the background of one of the nineteenth century's greatest novelists.

*Clear Cut* 2011 How much can we lose and still remain whole? In the course of her life, Ginny Jordan has lost both breasts and her ovaries to cancer, undergone chemotherapy, experienced debilitating vertigo, and other conditions--at the same time as she has been a daughter, wife, mother of three, and member of a large, active family. In prose that is startling and evocative, witty and generous, *Clear Cut* explores biographically, symbolically, and culturally the meanings of nine different parts of the body, of how much we can lose and still remain whole and know who we are. Jordan mourns for and celebrates the.

*The Life and Death of Mary Wollstonecraft* Claire Tomalin 1985