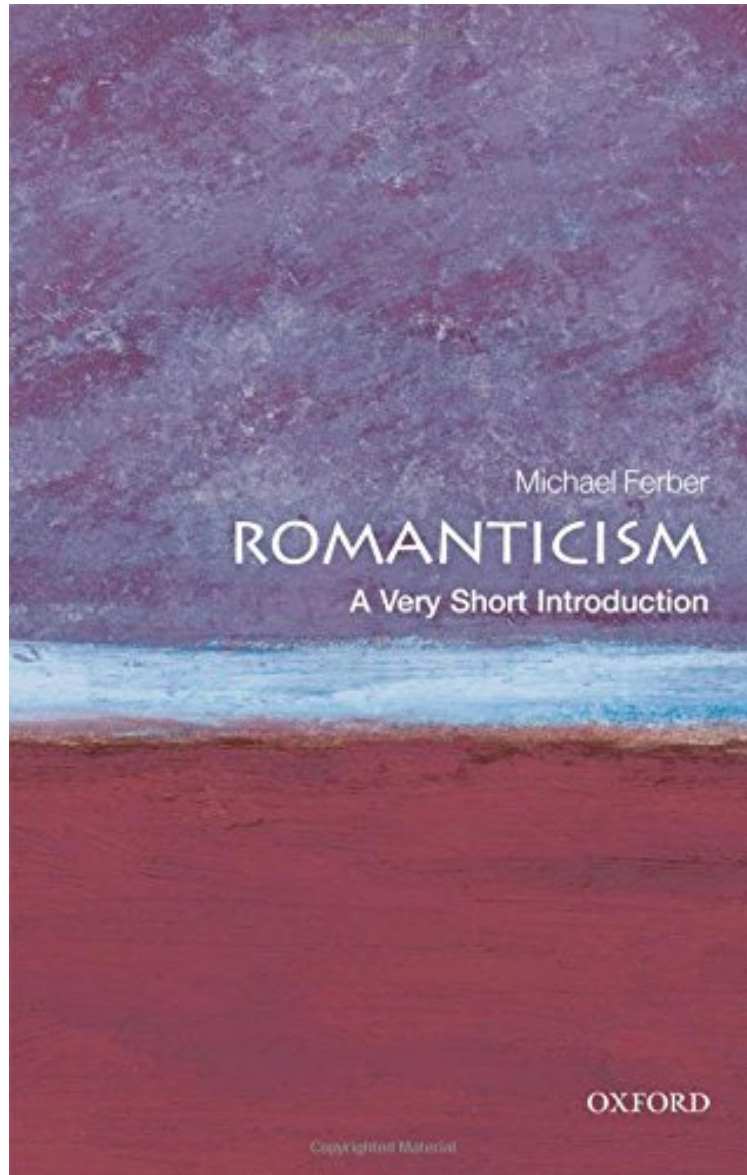


## Romanticism: A Very Short Introduction

*Michael Ferber*

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**Michael Ferber : Romanticism: A Very Short Introduction** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Romanticism: A Very Short Introduction:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A reviewBy scooperCertainly informative, but unnecessarily loquacious. One cannot help but wonder if Ferber could not have been equally as insightful with half as many words (especially for a book with the preface 'a very short introduction'). Not truly 'fun' to read, yet it delivers all it out

promises. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Useful overview of European romanticism By Jeanne Holland It's too easy in an English course to limit one's understanding of romanticism to the Anglo-American versions of it. This informative, interesting book provides essential background information as to the roots of romanticism which developed in Europe. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The power of the Imagination By Tim Lukeman Romanticism covers such a wide somewhat nebulous territory that it would be difficult to encompass even in a much larger book. Yet this slim volume gives enough of a thoughtful, insightful overview to at least establish a good overall framework, complete with plenty of fascinating details. I'm especially pleased to see that it covers more than just the English Romantics (a personal passion of mine), more than just the German philosophers, offering a truly international examination of -- but what was/is Romanticism? A specific historical period? A movement? A philosophy? An ongoing continually relevant worldview? This little book delves into all of that, which is another high mark in its favor. For any beginner interested in Romanticism, this is a fine starting point. For those already immersed in it, this is still a fine guide; the odds are that you'll still learn new things from it. Highly recommended!

In this Very Short Introduction, Michael Ferber explores Romanticism during the period of its incubation, birth, and growth, covering the years roughly from 1760 to 1860. This is the only introduction to Romanticism that incorporates not only the English but the Continental movements, and not only literature but music, art, religion, and philosophy. Balancing lively details with intriguing topics, it sheds light on such subjects as the "Sensibility" movement, which preceded Romanticism; the rising prestige of the poet as inspired prophet; the suffering and neglect of the poet; the rather different figure of the "poetess"; Romanticism as a religious trend; Romantic philosophy and science; and Romantic responses to the French Revolution, the Orient, gypsies, and the condition of women. Ferber offers a definition and several general propositions about this very diverse movement, as well as a discussion of the word "Romantic" and where it came from. Finally, some two hundred authors or artists are cited or quoted, many at length, including Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, Keats, Emerson, Hugo, Goethe, Pushkin, Beethoven, Berlioz, Chopin, and Delacroix.

About the Author Michael Ferber is a Professor of English and Director of Graduate Studies at the University of New Hampshire. His research interests include romantic poetry, western literature from the Greeks forward, and war and peace studies.