

Contents

	Foreword	<i>page</i> vii
1	What is Literature?	1
2	What is English Literature?	9
3	The First English Literature	15
4	The Coming of the Normans	23
5	Chaucer and After	29
	Interlude—The English Bible	39
6	The Beginnings of Drama	44
7	The Beginnings of English Drama	51
8	Early Elizabethan Drama	61
9	William Shakespeare	73
10	Other Elizabethan Dramatists	83
11	Tudor Poetry and Prose	93
12	The Age of Milton: End of a Period	103
13	The Age of Dryden	120
14	The New Drama	132
15	Poetry in the Age of Reason	141
16	Prose in the Age of Reason	154
17	The Romantics	165
18	The Victorian Age	178
19	Fresh Life in the Drama	197
20	The Coming of the Modern Age	207
21	To the Present Day	215
22	The British Novel Since 1950	226
	English Verse Forms	234
	Chronological Table	245
	Suggestions for Further Reading	256
	Index	264