

Friday, March 4th will be

Romanticism Day

in room 204



On this day, I would like for students to share their insights, inspiration, creativity, and visions in the spirit of Romanticism. Some ways to participate are the following:

- write a Romantic poem, in imitation or under the inspiration of one of the Romantic poets we've read in class and/or dealing with common Romantic themes.
- write a short story that is Romantic in nature—it might be a Gothic story, one that might have been told at that villa on Lake Geneva—or maybe an alternate ending to *Frankenstein* or some aspect of the story that remains untold in Shelley's narrative.
- write a personal essay, if creativity is not your thing, in which you express some supernatural, spiritual encounter, some emotional experience, a profound experience with nature, your "Tintern Abbey," etc. Keep in mind, if you take this route, the heightened emotional nature of the Romantics, the pains they take in their descriptions, and, of course, the relation of personal feelings or instincts caused by said experience.
- create a painting or drawing, etc., if the visual arts are your forte, that expresses some aspect of Romanticism (nature, beauty, the supernatural) or that depicts a scene from one of the Romantic works we've read this quarter (*Frankenstein*, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, "Ozymandias," etc.)
- perform a dramatic reading of one of the Romantic poems studied this quarter or an excerpt from *Frankenstein*. I am especially interested in one student reading "Ode on a Grecian Urn" on 3/9.
- if you have another creative idea, run it by me. Please, no research essays, PowerPoint presentations, or group projects. A true Romantic is a highly creative and independent thinker.

Guidelines and Procedures:

- All candidates for extra credit must be prepared to present their extra credit project on Friday, March 4th, but must approve their project with me by Tuesday, March 1st.
- Candidates for extra credit will be graded based on the seriousness of their approach and their demonstration of Romantic themes.
- I reserve the right to deny extra credit to any project that I deem irrelevant or lacking in some way.