

Olli Course 695 Fall 2022  
Tuesday 9:45-11:15.

Ten Tuesdays starting Sept. 20,2022  
In person

### THE ODD BUNCH

Excursions Among the Lives and Works of the Less Eminent Victorians  
*Revised Syllabus 9/20/22*

#### Texts:

Elizabeth Barrett Browning, "The Runaway Slave at Pilgrim Point," "The Cry of the Children" A Musical Instrument" (available on line)

Robert Browning, "My Last Duchess" and "The Flight of the Duchess" and "the Italian in England" (available on line plus one to be distributed)

Lucy Clifford, "The New Mother," Anyhow Tales. Available online at <http://seanconnors.net/eng3903/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/The-New-Mother.pdf>

Emily Eden, The Semi-Detached House (used in Virago Modern Classics and Inexpensive in Kindle)

George Gissing, New Grub Street (easily available used)

George and Weedon Grossmith, Diary of a Nobody (multiple editions)

George Meredith, Modern Love (a current edition in Forghotten Books and also on line

at [https://archive.org/stream/modernlove00mererich/modernlove00mererich\\_djvu.txt](https://archive.org/stream/modernlove00mererich/modernlove00mererich_djvu.txt)

John Stuart Mill, Autobiography (multiple editions used and in print).

Margaret Oliphant, The Chronicles of Carlingford. The Rector  
<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/29891/29891-h/29891-h.htm>

Violet Paget ("Vernon Lee"), selections from Hauntings. Available in Project\_Gutenberg: <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/9956>

Christina Rossetti, "Goblin Market" and Speaking Likenesses ("Goblin Market" is on line; Speaking Likenesses will be distributed.)

Robert Louis Stevenson, three tales from The New Arabian. Nights. Available in Project Gutenberg: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/839/839-h/839-h.htm>

#### Schedule:

#1 class cancelled because of illness.

# 2 September 27: Embodying the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Mind: John Stuart Mill as Made Man. READ: Autobiography. Concentrate on chapters 1,2, and 5. If you have the chance and the time, take a look at his essays: "Coleridge" and "Bentham."

#3 October 4: Performing the Jane Function: Emily Eden and the Austen Tradition. READ: The Semi-Detached House.

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#4 October 11: Narrating, Popularizing, Radicalizing Poetry: The Brownings' Liberation stories. READ: Elizabeth Barrett Browning, "The Runaway Slave at Pilgrim Point," "The Cry of the Children," "A Musical Instrument"; and by Robert Browning, "My Last Duchess," "The Flight of the Duchess," and "The Italian in England."

#5 October 18 Breaking the Tedium: Robert Louis Stevenson and Victorian Adventure Fiction: READ: three tales from the New Arabian Nights (available on-line in Project Gutenberg): "The Story of the Young Man and the Cream Tarts" (part of "The Suicide Club"), "A Lodging for the Night," and "The Sire de Maletroit's Door."

#6 October 25: Embracing the Tedium: George Grossmith and the Charms of Pooterism. READ: George and Weedon Grossmith, The Diary of a Nobody."

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#7 November 1: Divorcing: George Meredith and the Broken Victorian Marriage. READ: Modern Love.

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#8 November 8. Earning a Living: George Gissing and Fatigue. READ:New Grub Street.

#9 November 15: Amusing the Children: Christina Rossetti, Lucy Clifford and the Misopaedia of the Lady Writer: READ: Rossetti, "Goblin Market" and Speaking Likeness: Clifford, "The New Mother."

#10 November 22: Haunting the Victorians: "Vernon Lee" (Violet Paget) and the Victorian Ghost Story. READ: "Hauntings."

#11 DATE TO BE DETERMINED: Chronicling the Ordinary: Margaret Oliphant and the Chronicles of Carlingford. READ: The Rector  
<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/29891/29891-h/29891-h.htm>