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Edited by Michaela George, Elizabeth Drummeay

# Recovering Lost Voices

*Nineteenth-Century British Literature*

SERIES IN LITERARY STUDIES

Drummeay and George have assembled an extraordinarily broad and vivid collection of essays that promises to turn critical attention to “lost” literary works of the nineteenth century. Recovering Lost Voices celebrates the painstaking archival research and ethical vision of its authors and editors, and reminds us that recovery work, while never complete, will always offer new and surprising literary delights.

**Dr. James Krasner**

Professor, Department of English  
College of Liberal Arts  
University of New Hampshire

## Summary

‘Recovering Lost Voices’ explores what recovery work looks like in the twenty-first century and why its continued practice is necessary. This collection is concerned with the volume of lost British texts and authors of the nineteenth century and offers a practical and personal approach to the act of recovery and the continued practice of re-recovery. Spanning the course of the nineteenth century, the included recovered works provide glimpses into the forgotten lives of poets, playwrights, and authors, enriching the working understanding we hold of this period. Our contributors explain their unique and original personal methods and experiences of discovering their lost work and detail the process of re-recovery. This volume ultimately functions as guidance for university students and early career scholars interested in uncovering what recovery and re-recovery work entails through personal accounts. The included contributions approach recovery in archives, street markets, digital access, and manual transcribing. Re-recovery takes the form of applied lenses of analysis, such as queer, post-colonial, gender, disability, and trauma studies.

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## About the editors

**Michaela George** received her Ph.D. in Literature from the University of New Hampshire in 2025. She currently holds a faculty position at Georgia College & State University. Her research interests include illness, feminism, and mother-daughter relationships. She has engaged with the concepts of the labor of care in her examinations of mother-daughter inheritances. Her dissertation, titled ‘A Daughter’s Inheritance: The Construction of Motherhood through Death’, is concerned with how the construction of motherhood occurs in deathbed scenes in Romantic literature. She received her MA from Northern Arizona University in 2018. Her essay “The Symbolism of Trees in Tess of the d’Urbervilles” is published in ‘The Explicator’.

**Elizabeth Drummeay** is an independent scholar who received her Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of New Hampshire in 2025. Her research interests include overlooked Victorian women writers, the nineteenth-century literary marketplace, and the Gothic novel. Her dissertation, “She wrote too much”: Overproduction, Canonicity, and Victorian Women Novelists’, explores how accusations of “writing too much” have kept prolific and popular novelists like Margaret Oliphant, Mary Elizabeth Braddon, and Charlotte Riddell out of the literary canon. Her article “A novel in two years was thought the proper course”: Overproduction and the Quality of Literature in Charlotte Riddell’s ‘A Struggle for Fame’ is forthcoming in ‘Victoriographies’.

March 2026 | Hardback 236x160mm | 254 Pages | ISBN: 979-8-8819-0425-8

**SUBJECTS** History, Language and Linguistics

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