Thomas Beddoes Encyclopedia Article

Thomas Beddoes

The following sections of this BookRags Literature Study Guide is offprint from Gale's For Students Series: Presenting Analysis, Context, and Criticism on Commonly Studied Works: Introduction, Author Biography, Plot Summary, Characters, Themes, Style, Historical Context, Critical Overview, Criticism and Critical Essays, Media Adaptations, Topics for Further Study, Compare & Contrast, What Do I Read Next?, For Further Study, and Sources.

(c)1998-2002; (c)2002 by Gale. Gale is an imprint of The Gale Group, Inc., a division of Thomson Learning, Inc. Gale and Design and Thomson Learning are trademarks used herein under license.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Encyclopedia of Popular Fiction: "Social Concerns", "Thematic Overview", "Techniques", "Literary Precedents", "Key Questions", "Related Titles", "Adaptations", "Related Web Sites". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Guide to Literature for Young Adults: "About the Author", "Overview", "Setting", "Literary Qualities", "Social Sensitivity", "Topics for Discussion", "Ideas for Reports and Papers". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

All other sections in this Literature Study Guide are owned and copyrighted by BookRags, Inc.

Contents

Thomas Beddoes Encyclopedia Article.....1

Contents.....2

Thomas Beddoes.....3

Thomas Beddoes

1760-1808

English physician who explored therapeutic uses of gas inhalation and befriended chemist Humphry Davy. After medical school in Edinburgh, Scotland, Beddoes returned to England to become one of the most popular professors in the history of Oxford University. However, his support of the American and French revolutions cost him a prestigious post at the university, so he resigned in 1792 and moved to Bristol to continue the research on gases he had begun at Oxford. In 1798 he opened the Medical Pneumatic Institute and hired a young Davy as research director. The research on gases ended in early 1800 in failure and public ridicule, but Davy left for London and a career as a great chemist. Beddoes was highly critical of the medical practice of his time and suggested numerous remedies, including more published case studies by physicians and better statistics by hospitals.