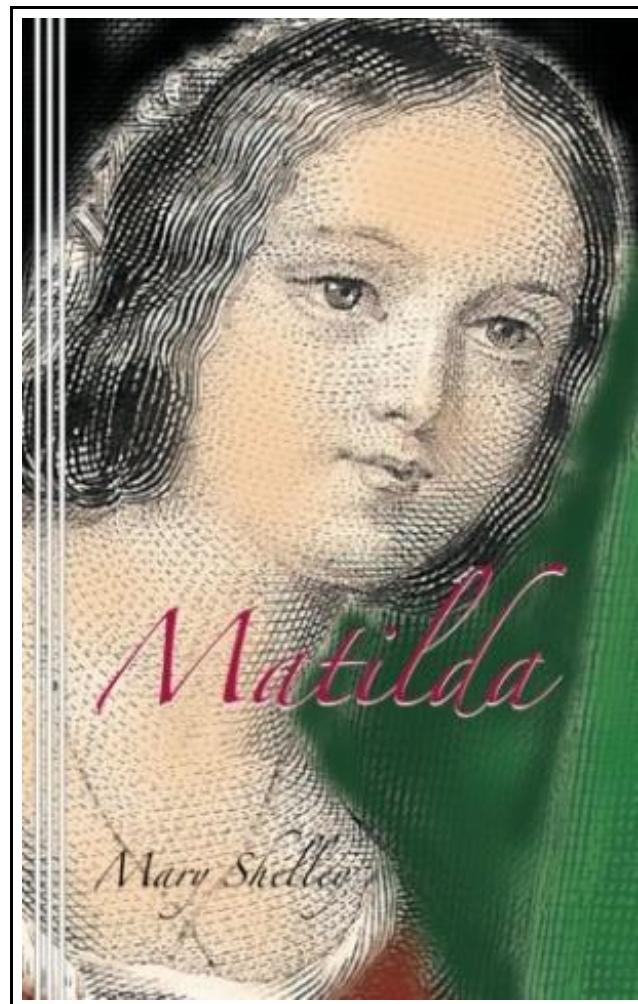


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Bandanna Books, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 200 x 124 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Mary Shelley wrote *Matilda* not long after the phenomenal success of her first novel, *Frankenstein*, The Modern Prometheus ( However, that publication did not carry her name until the second printing five years later. She sent the manuscript of *Matilda* to her father, William Godwin, who refused to return it to her, probably because of the intimation of incestuous feelings by a father to a daughter. Whether this was autobiographically based or not, readers would assume the worst. Over a hundred years would pass before *Matilda* would reach the public. Her parents, William Godwin and Mary Wollstonecraft, were famous radicals. Mary Wollstonecraft, an early feminist, died shortly after giving birth to Mary. Godwin did remarry, but his interests were with his equals rather than his daughter; he often entertained other leading writers and intellectuals, such as Charles Lamb, Coleridge, Hazlitt - and Percy Bysshe Shelley, whom she met when she was 14. At 16, the two of them eloped. On a stormy night on Lake Geneva, Dr. Polidori, Byron, and the Shelleys indulged in a contest to see who could come up with the scariest story - this was the era of the Gothic novel, vampires, and ghosts. And Mary Shelley had just lost her second child. Her contribution to the evening's entertainment was soon turned into the novel *Frankenstein*, which was an immediate sensation. Innovative in its storyline rather than its style, *Frankenstein* is sometimes touted as the first true science fiction novel. The Shelleys lived together in various places in Europe for eight years, when Shelley died in a boating accident. Mary turned to writing novels to make her way. True to the Romantic...

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