

Percy Bysshe Shelley

He was born in 1792 into a family belonging to the country gentry. He was very rich.

He was expelled from the University College in Oxford because he wrote a pamphlet in which he denied the provability of the existence of God.

In 1811 he eloped with his first wife, Harriet Westbrook.

But their marriage ended up in failure after three years of nomadic existence.

In 1814 he married Mary Godwin (famous as Shelley). She was really in love with him, but he was a very free person. He lost a lot of children and thought that was a God's punishment.

Percy died in 1822 when he was drowned in a boating accident in Spezia.

He didn't believe in God, but he thought that there is a universal power ("Love" or "the One") which pervades nature and man. (Man has to

co-operate with it to reach a "rebirth" of the social system. In fact oppressed people are fighting against oppressors in his age. The poet is in close contact with nature and finds the manifestation of the "universal power" in the mind and the skybook.

So the poet is a prophet of the rebirth of society. He wrote poems in many different forms (sonnets, poems with a lot of stanzas, etc) and used a highly figurative language full of similes, metaphors, images.