1. Record Nr. UNINA9910229242303321 Autore Brennan David John Titolo Murder ballads: exhuming the body buried beneath Wordsworth's Lyrical Ballads / / David John Brennan Pubbl/distr/stampa Brooklyn, NY, : punctum books, 2016 [Santa Barbara, California];; Earth:,: punctum books,, 2016 ©2016 **ISBN** 9780692734629 1 online resource (150 pages) : PDF, digital file(s) Descrizione fisica Soggetti English poetry - History and criticism Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Sommario/riassunto In 1798, William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge were engaged in a top secret experiment. This was not, as many assume, the creation of a book of poetry. A book emerged, to be sure—the landmark Lyrical Ballads. But in Murder Ballads, David John Brennan posits that the two poets were in fact pursuing far different ends: to birth from their poems a singular, idealized Poet. Despite their success, such Frankensteinian pursuits proved rife with consequence for the men. Doubts and questions plagued them: What does it mean to be a poet if your work is not your own? Who is best fit to lay claim to a parcel of poetic property that was collaboratively crafted and bequeathed to a fictitious Poet? How does one kill a Poet born of one's own hand? Blending critical examination with jocular playlets-in-verse featuring the authors of the two books in baffled conversation, Murder Ballads reopens a 200-year-old cold case that never received a proper investigation: Who was the first true Author of Lyrical Ballads, and how

exactly did he die?