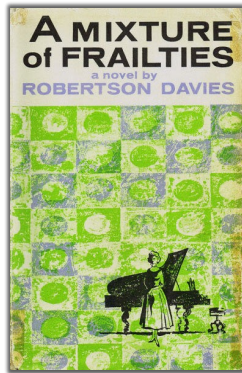


 **Davies, *A Mixture of Frailties***



- first published in 1958 by Macmillan
- original title was *Water Parted*
- drew extensively on Davies' time living in England and Wales
- conceived as a more "serious" novel than its two predecessors
- first novel to fully reflect Davies' interest in Jungian psychology
- received mixed reviews from critics, but was reviewed widely in Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States

Bildungsroman

Bildungs | roman
formational | novel

- Brontë, *Jane Eyre* (1847)
- Dickens, *David Copperfield* (1850)
- Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables* (1908)

Künstler | roman
artist | novel

- Butler, *The Way of All Flesh* (1903)
- Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (1916)
- Wolfe, *Look Homeward, Angel* (1929)

- German for *formational novel*
- a kind of novel that follows the development of the hero or heroine from childhood or adolescence into adulthood
- describes the life processes, experiences, epiphanies, etc. by which the hero or heroine achieves maturity or identity
- related to the *Künstlerroman*, or *artist novel*, which describes the youthful development of an artist hero or heroine (Baldick 39, 194)

 **Davies, *A Mixture of Frailties***

character	inspiration
Louisa Bridgetower	Florence Davies (mother)
Humphrey Cobbler	Percival Kirby (eccentric Renfrew piano teacher)
Benedict Domdaniel	Sir Adrian Boulton (great British conductor)
Ellen Gall	Cynthia and Martha McKay (Florence's sisters)
Ma Gall	Lavinia McKay (maternal grandmother)
Hopkin-Griffithses	Buckley-Joneses (Philip Heseltine's mother and stepfather)
Murtagh Molloy	Bertie Scott (Old Vic voice coach)
Giles Revelstoke	Philip Heseltine (eccentric British composer Peter Warlock)

 **Davies, *A Mixture of Frailties***

original title
Water Parted

- source: Thomas Augustus Arne, "Water Parted" (ca. 1796-98)

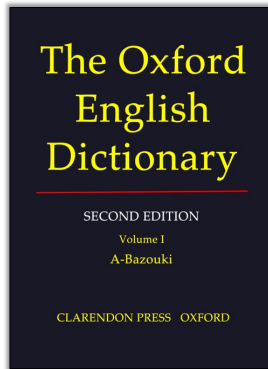
Water parted from the sea
May increase the river's tide—,
To the bubbling fount may flee,
Or through fertile valleys glide.
Tho' in search of lost repose,
Thro' the land 'tis free to roam.
Still it murmurs as it flows,
Panting for its native home.

final title
A Mixture of Frailties

- source: Sir George Savile, *Miscellanies* (1717)

Nothing softeneth the *Arrogance* of
our *Nature*, like a Mixture of some
Frailties. It is by them we are best
told, that we must not strike too
hard upon others, because we our
selves do so often deserve Blows....

“dead hand”



1. the ever-present, oppressive influence of past events
2. from the French *mortmain*, the perpetual holding of land, especially by a corporation, religious institution, or charitable trust (OED)

Paolo Tosti (1846-1916)



- Italian composer and music teacher; began studying violin and composition at age eleven
- after a period of illness and poverty, moved to Rome and found a wealthy patron; performed for the future queen of Italy
- went to London in 1875 and rose to the highest levels of Victorian society; became singing master to the Royal Family
- by 1885 was the most famous composer in England (*Wikipedia*)

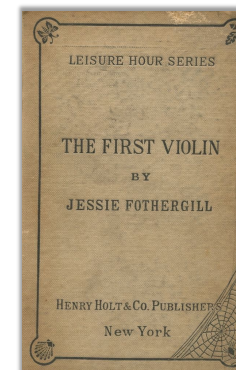
Tosti, “Goodbye” (1881)



Falling leaf and fading tree,
Lines of white in a sullen sea,
Shadows rising on you and me;
Shadows rising on you and me;
The swallows are making them ready
to fly,
Wheeling out on a windy sky,
Goodbye, Summer! Goodbye!
Goodbye!
Goodbye, Summer! Goodbye!
Goodbye! (1-8)

- the most famous of the Victorian parlour songs (i.e., songs meant to be performed in homes by amateur pianists and singers)
- a “goodbye song” (i.e., a song in which two lovers sadly part ways forever)
- lyrics were written by George J. Whyte-Melville (1821-1878), Scottish novelist and poet
- begins with two melancholy verses set to a drooping melody, followed by an emotionally climactic final section (*Victorian Web*)

The First Violin



- novel (1877) by Jessie Fothergill (1851-1891), English novelist
- tells the story of an English girl who travels to Germany to take voice lessons
- inspired by Fothergill’s own experience studying music for fifteen months in Düsseldorf
- originally rejected by publishers because it features adultery
- sold very well in Britain and America, establishing Fothergill as an author (*Wikipedia*)

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