

### 13:12a—*Sylvia Plath*



Sylvia Plath (1932-1963)—had a very short writing career.

Published not only her very successful autobiography *The Bell Jar*, but also an incredible collection of poetry

In the last weeks of her life—sometimes produced two or three poems a day, a frenetic pace symbolic of the troublesome life she lived.

Suffered from what was then termed manic-depression.

Tried unsuccessfully to take her life at the age of 19

This incident was the pivotal point in her autobiography—became the focus of *The Bell Jar*.

Blamed her emotional turmoil on the death of her father when she was only eight years old

Turned for solace to writing poetry

Published her first poem shortly after her father's death

Earned the position of guest editor at *Mademoiselle* when she was only eighteen years old

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### 13:12b—Sylvia Plath

Her first book of poetry, *The Colossus*—published in 1960, four years after she married the English poet Ted Hughes.

Her second collection of poetry, *Ariel*—published posthumously in 1965 by her husband.

Committed suicide in 1963 during a separation from her husband as she struggled to raise two very young children alone in an unheated London apartment

In 1998--Hughes published another volume of Plath's poetry entitled *Birthday Letters*.

Contained selections about their relationship