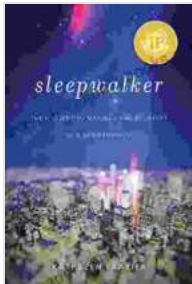


# The Mysterious Makings and Recovery of Somnambulist



## Sleepwalker: The Mysterious Makings and Recovery of a Somnambulist by Kathleen Frazier

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2374 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 254 pages
Lending	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled



## An In-Depth Exploration

Emily Dickinson, one of the most celebrated poets of the 19th century, left behind a legacy of enigmatic and introspective verse that continues to captivate readers today. However, her literary legacy almost took a different turn when one of her most ambitious works, a novel titled *Somnambulist*, vanished without a trace.

The story of *Somnambulist* is shrouded in mystery. Dickinson is believed to have begun writing the novel in the early 1860s, and she is said to have worked on it sporadically for several years. However, the novel was never completed, and there is no record of its fate after Dickinson's death in 1886.

For over a century, *Somnambulist* remained a lost literary artifact, known only through fragments and tantalizing references in Dickinson's letters and poems. Literary scholars and enthusiasts alike speculated about the novel's contents, its themes, and its potential significance within Dickinson's oeuvre.

But in 2015, a remarkable turn of events occurred. A long-lost manuscript, hidden away in a private collection for decades, was rediscovered. The manuscript was identified as *Somnambulist*, and its recovery sent shockwaves through the literary world.

The rediscovery of *Somnambulist* has sparked renewed interest in Dickinson's work and her life. The novel, which had long been shrouded in mystery, is now available to readers for the first time. It provides a unique glimpse into the mind of one of America's greatest poets, and it offers a tantalizing glimpse of what might have been.

## **A Journey into the Unseen**

*Somnambulist* is a complex and challenging novel that explores the themes of identity, loss, and the nature of reality. The novel follows the journey of a young woman named Clara, who is haunted by a mysterious illness that causes her to sleepwalk. As Clara's condition worsens, she begins to lose her grip on reality, and she finds herself drawn into a strange and unsettling world.

Dickinson's writing in *Somnambulist* is as lyrical and evocative as ever. Her use of language is both precise and poetic, and she creates a vivid and immersive world that draws the reader in from the very first page.

The novel is also notable for its experimental structure. Dickinson abandons the traditional linear narrative in favor of a more fragmented and episodic approach. This structure reflects the fragmented nature of Clara's own experience, and it creates a sense of disorientation and unease.

## **A Literary Mystery Unraveled**

The recovery of *Somnambulist* has been a major literary event, and it has shed new light on the life and work of Emily Dickinson. The novel is a testament to Dickinson's genius, and it is a valuable addition to the American literary canon.

But the mystery of *Somnambulist* is not entirely solved. Questions remain about the novel's composition, its fate after Dickinson's death, and its true significance within her oeuvre. These questions are likely to be debated by scholars and enthusiasts for years to come.

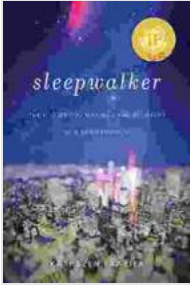
For now, however, we can be grateful that *Somnambulist* has been recovered and that we can finally read this lost masterpiece. It is a work that is both haunting and beautiful, and it is sure to captivate readers for generations to come.

## **Additional Resources**

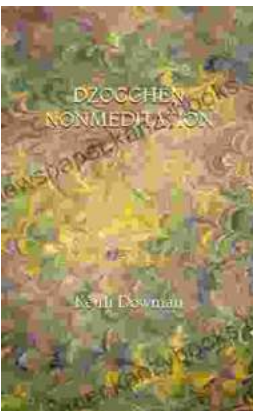
- The Emily Dickinson Museum
- The Poetry Foundation
- The Library of Congress

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