John Keats (1795-1821)

--troubled life (started with being tiny 5 ¾ inches tall)

--mom died of tuberculosis (TB) when he was 15

--brother died 8 years later, TB

--He nursed brother and died 3 years later, with TB at age 25

-- went to school to be DOCTOR, SURGEON and APOTHECARY, but before

he could be licensed, he realized he had TB and decided to be a POET

--reviews of first book very critical, caused doubts, but kept writing

--fell in love, refused to marry due to failing health, money problem, felt

he had nothing to give her

--knew Shelley (buried in same cemetery)

--lived with death and savored life, wanted to write as much as possible

before dying

--critics believe he could have been as great as Chaucer, Shakespeare, Spenser,

Milton, Pope, or Wordsworth had he lived (none of them had been a

Literary success at the age of 25!)