John Keats died of tuberculosis at the age of 25 after writing a remarkable poem. Keats also addressed the merits of other poets, including Milton. Keats's "On the Imagination" and "A Life of Sensations rather than of Thoughts": Letter to Benjamin I am certain of nothing but of the holiness of the Heart's affections. Book of the Heart: The Poetics, Letters, and Life of John Keats - Google Books Result. Ode To A Nightingale: My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness. He was one of the main figures of the second generation of romantic poets along with Lord Byron. Although his poems were not generally well received by critics during his life, his reputation grew.