

The characteristic of the American Literature in famous Novels

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Abstract:

This study is divided into two sections and a conclusion. Section one is an introduction about this type of literature which we called novels and critical reception to the most important novels in American literature, whereas the second section deals with novels its themes, characters and plots.

The conclusion sums the main findings of the study.

Keywords: (American literature, famous American novels).

خصائص الادب الامريكى في بعض من الروايات الامريكيت المشهورة روايت

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الملخص:

تتقسم هذه الدراسة الى قسمين وخاتمة . القسم الاول هو مقدمة عن هذا النوع من الادب الامريكى الذي يدعى رواية والاستقبال النقدي لاهم الروايات في الادب الامريكى . بينما يتناول الموضوع الثاني اهم الروايات ومواضيعها وشخصياتها وحكمتها . تلخص الخاتمة النتائج الرئيسية للدراسة. الكلمات المفتاحية: (الادب الأمريكي، الروايات الامريكية المشهورة).

Introduction and Critical Reception

American literature contains the body of literary works in English language produced in the United States. Prior to the formation of U.S. as a nation, American literature was hugely influenced by literature in Great Britain. Post American Revolution, writers in the United States started developing a style that was unique and distinctly different from that in Britain. Published in

1789, *The Power of Sympathy* by William Hill Brown is widely considered to be the first American novel. The second half of the next century saw some of the great American novels that continue to be widely read. These include *Moby-Dick* by Herman Melville; *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott; and the *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain. Along with *Huck Finn*, *The Great Gatsby*, produced in the first half of the 20th century, is often cited as the "Great American Novel". Moreover, post-World War II American novels *Catch-22* and *The Catcher in the Rye* are generally regarded as masterpieces of 20th century literature. Here are the 10 most famous novels by American authors. Ernest Hemingway was one of the leading figures of 20th century literature. The last major work of fiction by Hemingway that was published during his lifetime, *The Old Man and the Sea* is a short novel which tells the story of an aging Cuban fisherman named Santiago who is involved in a struggle to catch a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream. Real life fisherman Gregorio Fuentes is often regarded as the model for Santiago, the protagonist of the novel. *The Old Man and the Sea* was an instant success and won the 1953 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. It was also cited by the Nobel Committee as a factor in awarding Hemingway the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1954. It has been adapted for the screen three times; continues to be popular; and is widely regarded as a 20th century classic. Though *The Sun Also Rises* is often rated as List of some of the best American novels from classic writers, like Nathaniel Hawthorne, to more modern names, like Stephen King, with room for the list to grow. There is an option to add your favorite American novels to the list if yours is not already on there.

The list asks the question, "What is the best American novel?" with novels from William Faulkner, Toni Morrison, Philip Roth and Nathaniel Hawthorne, plus many more that have written great American novels since then. More modern American novels are included, such as *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy and *The Stand* by Stephen King, which may be more familiar.

Famous American Novels

American novels can represent the spirit of the age in the United States during the time it was written or the time it was set in. The American novel is written by those who are knowledgeable about the state, culture and even the perspective of those during that time.

Some of these best American novels may have also been on the reading curriculum in school, like Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe, The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne, The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien or To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee. Be sure to vote not just on your favorite authors, but on your favorite novel of all time, as some authors may be listed twice for other novels that are considered the best. Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is a novel by Mark Twain, first published in the United Kingdom in December 1884 and in the United States in February 1885. Commonly named among the Great American Novels, the work is among the first in major American literature to be written throughout in vernacular English, characterized by local color regionalism. It is told in the first person by Huckleberry "Huck" Finn, a friend of Tom Sawyer and narrator of two other Twain novels. It is a direct sequel to The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. The book is noted for its colorful description of people and places along the Mississippi River. Set in a Southern antebellum society that had ceased to exist about twenty years before the work was published, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is an often scathing satire on entrenched attitudes, particularly racism. Perennially popular with readers, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn has also been the continued object of study by literary critics since its publication. To Kill a Mockingbird is a novel by Harper Lee published in 1960. It was immediately successful, winning the Pulitzer Prize, and has become a classic of modern American literature. The plot and characters are loosely based on the author's observations of her family and neighbors, as well as on an event that occurred near her hometown in 1936, when she was 10

years old. The novel is renowned for its warmth and humor, despite dealing with the serious issues of rape and racial inequality. The narrator's father, Atticus Finch, has served as a moral hero for many readers and as a model of integrity for lawyers. One critic explains the novel's impact by writing, "In the twentieth century, *To Kill a Mockingbird* is probably the most widely read book dealing with race in America, and its protagonist, Atticus Finch, the most enduring fictional image of racial heroism." As a Southern Gothic novel and a Bildungsroman, the primary themes of *To Kill a Mockingbird* involve racial injustice and the destruction of innocence. Scholars have noted that Lee also addresses issues of class, courage, compassion, and gender roles in the American Deep South. *The Great Gatsby* is a 1925 novel written by American author F. Scott Fitzgerald that follows a cast of characters living in the fictional town of West Egg on prosperous Long Island in the summer of 1922. The story primarily concerns the young and mysterious millionaire Jay Gatsby and his quixotic passion and obsession for the beautiful former debutante Daisy Buchanan. Considered to be Fitzgerald's magnum opus, *The Great Gatsby* explores themes of decadence, idealism, resistance to change, social upheaval, and excess, creating a portrait of the Jazz Age or the Roaring Twenties that has been described as a cautionary tale regarding the American Dream. Fitzgerald—inspired by the parties he had attended while visiting Long Island's north shore—began planning the novel in 1923, desiring to produce, in his words, "something new—something extraordinary and beautiful and simple and intricately patterned." Progress was slow, with Fitzgerald completing his first draft following a move to the French Riviera in 1924. His editor, Maxwell Perkins, felt the book was too vague and convinced the author to revise over the next winter. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain is an 1876 novel about a young boy growing up along the Mississippi River. The story is set in the fictional town of St. Petersburg, inspired by Hannibal, Missouri, where Twain lived. *Moby-Dick; or, The Whale* is a novel by Herman Melville considered an outstanding work of Romanticism and the American

Renaissance. Ishmael narrates the monomaniacal quest of Ahab, captain of the whaler Pequod, for revenge on Moby Dick, a white whale which on a previous voyage destroyed Ahab's ship and severed his leg at the knee. Although the novel was a commercial failure and out of print at the time of the author's death in 1891, its reputation as a Great American Novel grew during the twentieth century. William Faulkner confessed he wished he had written it himself, and D. H. Lawrence called it "one of the strangest and most wonderful books in the world", and "the greatest book of the sea ever written". "Call me Ishmael" is one of world literature's most famous opening sentences. The product of a year and a half of writing, the book is dedicated to Nathaniel Hawthorne, "in token of my admiration for his genius", and draws on Melville's experience at sea, on his reading in whaling literature, and on literary inspirations such as Shakespeare and the Bible. East of Eden is a novel by Nobel Prize winner John Steinbeck, published in September 1952. Often described as Steinbeck's most ambitious novel, East of Eden brings to life the intricate details of two families, the Trasks and the Hamiltons, and their interwoven stories. The novel was originally addressed to Steinbeck's young sons, Thom and John. Steinbeck wanted to describe the Salinas Valley for them in detail: the sights, sounds, smells, and colors. The Hamilton family in the novel is said to be based on the real-life family of Samuel Hamilton, Steinbeck's maternal grandfather. A young John Steinbeck also appears briefly in the novel as a minor character. According to his third and last wife, Elaine, Steinbeck considered it his magnum opus. Steinbeck stated about East of Eden: "It has everything in it I have been able to learn about my craft or profession in all these years." He further claimed: "I think everything else I have written has been, in a sense, practice for this."

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