

Remake of American Literature - Tue 4 - 6.B

Made with a creative frenzy

Colonial/Early

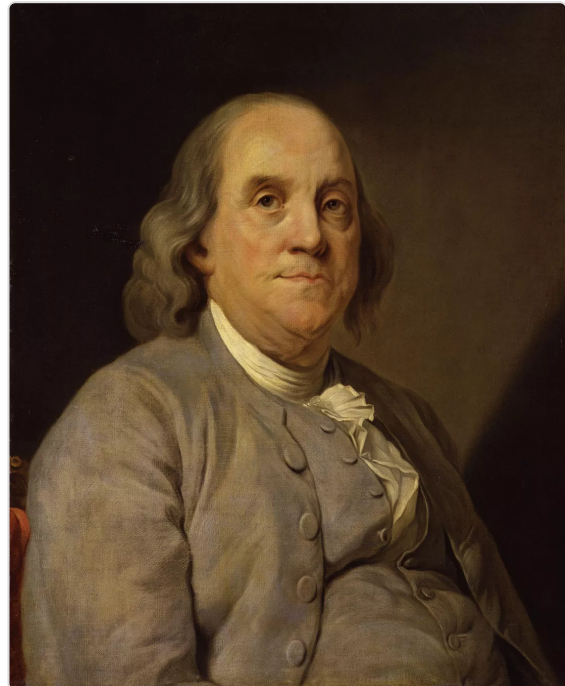
↻ Period of early American history, includes early religious and political writers before/during the American Revolution as well as creation of an American identity soon afterwards.

(Religious leaders were influential in early colonies/settlements/communities and their sermons and intercommunication are some of the most organized records of early American writing available.)

Political writings such as the Federalist Papers and the AntiFederalist Papers were written by the "Founding Fathers" including the most famous, although they were published as essays and anonymously at the time. (Feds - James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, Antifeds - Jefferson)

Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin - combines the political with the idealized, "rags to riches" story (mostly fictionalized)

↻ Benjamin Franklin



Romanticism

↻ Romanticism

basic info:

- artistic, literary and intellectual movement originated in Europe
- 19th century (mainly first half)

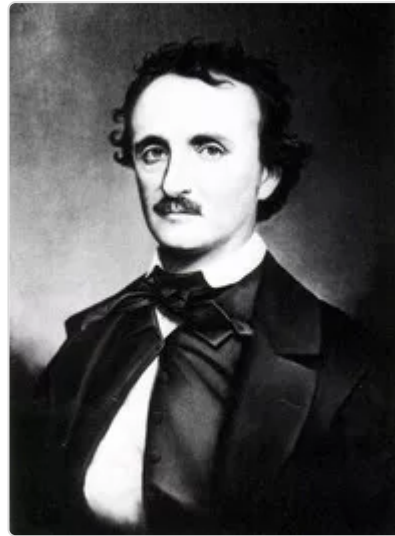
- themes: emotions, individualism, imagination, beauty of nature, finding truth, freedom
- typical characters: outcasts, pilgrims, people who has been rejected by society

authors:

- poets:
Walt Whitman (Leaves of Grass)
Edgar Allan Poe (The Raven)
- prose:
Herman Melville (Moby Dick)
Edgar Allan Poe (The Tell-Tale Heart)
James Fenimore Cooper
(The Last of the Mohicans)
Nathaniel Hawthorne (The Scarlet Letter)

Martin Exner, Pavel Drahorád

⇒ **Edgar Allan Poe**



⇒ **Tennessee Williams**

- playwright, screenwriter
- Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, The Glass Menagerie, Streetcar named Desire
- he introduced "plastic theatre"
- he reflected his own unhappy family background

Naturalism

⇒ **Naturalism - basic info**

- 1870-1910
- intensified form of realism
- detailed and unembellished vision of the world as it truly was
- combine realism and romanticism

⇒ **Authors**

- Stephen Crane
- The Open Boat

portray a naturalistic view of man with his depiction of a group of survivors adrift in a boat
articulate the illusion of gods and the realization of the universe's indifference

Jack London

- The Call of the Wild
heredity vs environment
- The Sea-Wolf

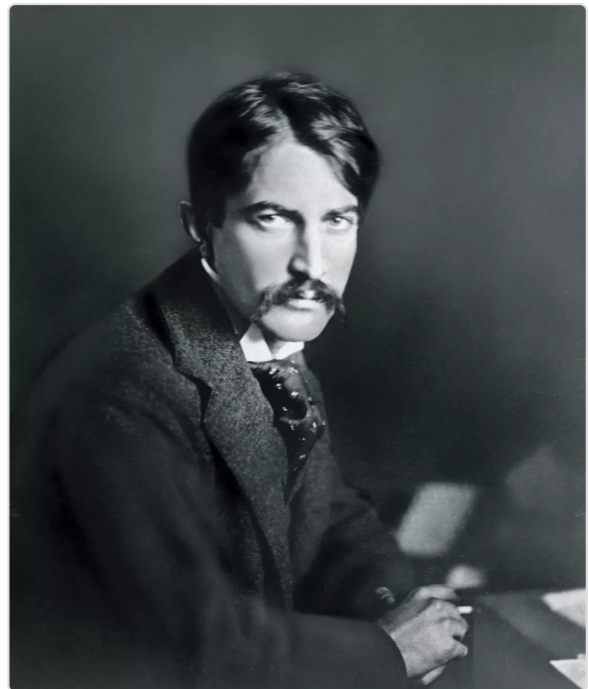
Theodore Dreiser

- An American Tragedy
about a man who desires for fortune,
then he find out that his wife precludes
it and because of that he kill her

William Faulkner

- A Rose for Emily
a story about a woman who killed her lover
an example of a narrative
within the naturalism category

↳ Stephen Crane



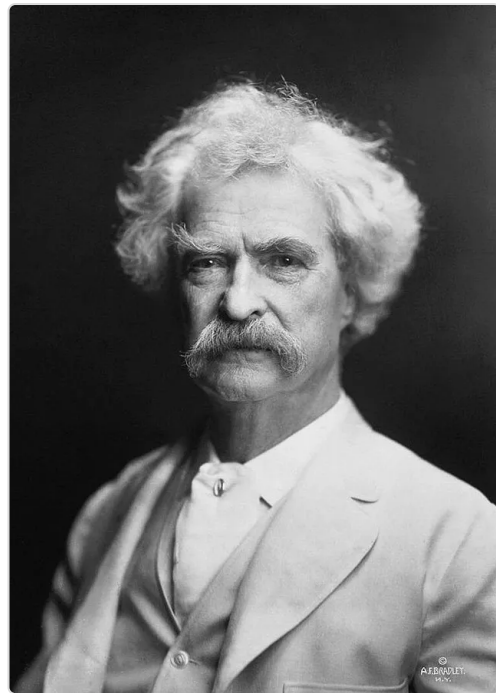
Realism

↳ characteristics

- in the first half of 19th century
 - depiction of everyday life
 - portraying ordinary people and events without idealization
 - It was a reaction against romanticism
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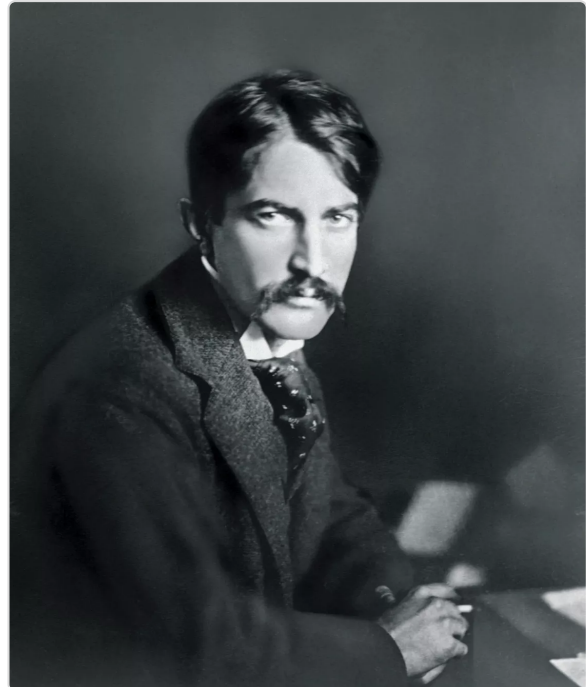
↪ Mark Twain

- Real name = Samuel Clemens
- 1835-1910
- born in Florida
- "the father of American literature"
- journalist, humorist and essayist
- "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County and Other Sketches" - made him famous
- most famous books
 - "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" and
 - "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"
 - depiction of slavery and how it was looked on, autobiographic elements



↪ Stephen Crane

- 1871-1900
- born in Newark
- poet, novelist and short story writer
- Also wrote books of naturalism and impressionism
- "Maggie: A Girl of the streets" - depiction of prostitution, the first novel
- "The Red Badge of Courage" - story during American Civil War, about a Deserter



The Lost Generation

↪ ...

↪ The Lost Generation

The "Lost Generation" refers to a group of writers and artists who came of age during or just after World War I. This term was coined by Gertrude Stein to describe the disillusioned and aimless feeling of many young people in the aftermath of the war. The term became popularized after Ernest Hemingway used it as an epigraph for his novel "The Sun Also Rises."

↪ Key figures

Key figures associated with the Lost Generation include Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Gertrude Stein, T.S. Eliot, Ezra Pound, and John Dos Passos, among others. These individuals often shared common themes in their works, including disillusionment with society, a sense of alienation, and a search for meaning in a world that seemed to have lost its traditional values.

↳ **Literature**

The literature of the Lost Generation often reflects these themes: masculinity, war, and the search for meaning in a chaotic world, an emptiness of the American Dream and the moral decay of the Jazz Age.

↳ **Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald**

- *This Side of Paradise* (1920)
- *The Beautiful and Damned* (1922)



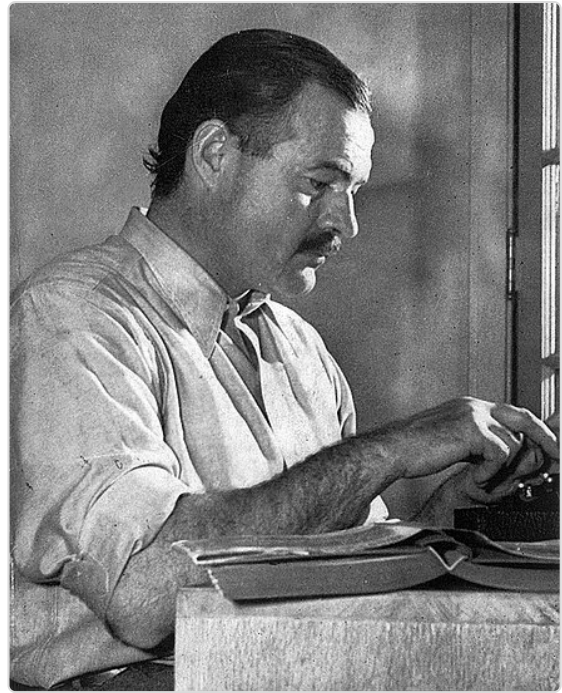
↳ **Thomas Stearns Eliot**

- *The Rock* (1934)
- *Murder in the Cathedral* (1935)



↳ **Ernest Miller Hemingway**

- *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1940)
- *The Old Man and the Sea* (1952)



The Beat Generation

↳ **taken**

↳ **BEAT GENERATION**

Time period 1950s, mostly USA, but international
They rejected traditional narrative structure and instead they favored spontaneous prose and free verse
They experimented with stream of consciousness writing
Use of drugs and alcoholic beverage
Themes: rebellion against mainstream society, spirituality and sexual liberation, search for individual identity
Impact on American literature, music, and culture

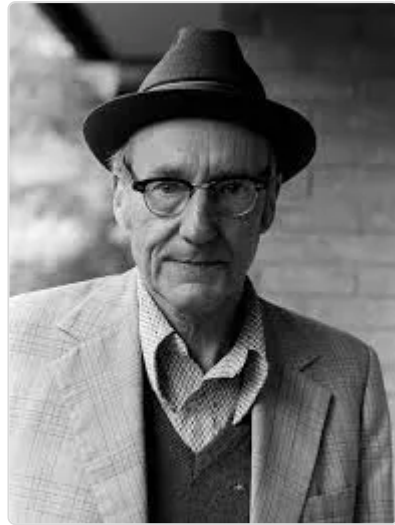
Allen Ginsberg - Howl
William S. Burrough - Naked lunch
Neal Cassady - The first third

novelists
Jack Kerouac - On the road

↩ Allen Ginsberg



↩ William Seward Burroughs



↩ Neal Cassady



Modern/Contemporary

↩ modern

↩ MODERN

- late 19th - early 20th century
- realism and naturalism - authors want to portray life and society as accurately as possible

- authors were affected by war (World War I) which led to breakdown of traditional values, and the Great Depression
 - F. S. Fitzgerald, Richard Wright, Ernest Hemingway
-

⇨ **CONTEMPORARY**

- World War II, the Cold War
 - diversity, multiculturalism and globalization
 - technology advancements
 - blurs boundaries between genres like science fiction, fantasy or mystery
 - storytelling
 - reflects the evolving cultural, social and technological landscape of its time period
 - diverse perspectives
 - Arthur Miller, Tennessee Williams and Edward Albee
-

⇨ **Alice Walker**

- novelist, short story writer, poet and social activist
- born in Georgia (1944)
- the first African American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction
- novel *The Color Purple*
- contemporary

