



THE TWENTIETH CENTURY (PART 2)

Survey of Contemporary English Literature

WHAT HAPPENED...?

- The Interwar: The Roaring 20s and The Swinging 30s
- World War II
- Post War



THE INTERWAR (1920-1939)

- 1917-18: The Russian Bolshevik Revolution
- 1920: American women got the right to vote
- Late 1920s and early 1930s: The great Depressions (malaise)
- The rise of Marxism and communism



THE INTERWAR: LITERARY MOVEMENT

- Influence of Modernism and Marxism
- Themes:
 - sense of disorder and disillusionment
- Literary Criticism: New Criticism
- Structures:
 - stream of consciousness
 - Irresolute endings



POST WAR

- The emerging of new nations in Asia and Africa
- The Cold War: USA vs. USSR
- The Race of space technology
- Regional wars
- Women's Lib
- Internationalism



POST WAR: LITERARY MOVEMENT (1)

○ Genres:

- Fantasy
- Detective and espionage stories
- Science Fiction
- Experimentalism
- Absurdities

○ Themes:

- Democratic vs. elitists
- Traditional vs. anti-traditional
- Puritan vs. free expressions of sex and politics
- Provinciality vs. international culture



LITERARY MOVEMENT (2)

- The rise of non-Anglo-Saxon writers
- Influence:
 - Existentialism
 - Postmodernism
- Literary Criticism:
 - Deconstruction
 - Post colonialism
 - Feminism/Gender studies
 - Ecocriticism



LITERARY FIGURES: POETRY

British

- A.E Housman
- Ford Maddox Ford
- W.H. Auden
- Dylan Thomas
- Seamus Heaney
- Philip Larkin

American

- Robert Frost
- William Carlos
William
- E.E. Cummings
- Langston Hughes
- Sylvia Plath



LITERARY FIGURES: PROSE

British

- James Joyce
- Aldous Huxley
- W.S. Maugham
- D.H. Lawrence
- George Orwell
- Graham Greene
- William Golding

American

- John F. Fitzgerald
- William Faulkner
- John Steinbeck
- Ernest Hemingway
- J.D. Salinger
- Kurt Vonnegut
- Vladimir Nabokov



LITERARY FIGURES: DRAMATISTS AND SCREEN WRITERS

- George Bernard Shaw
- Evelyn Waugh
- Noel Coward
- Samuel Becket
- Eugene O' Neil
- Harold Pinter



THE RISE OF WOMEN WRITERS

- Harper Lee
- Muriel Sparks
- Doris Lessing
- Irish Murdoch
- Tony Morrison
- Maya Angelou

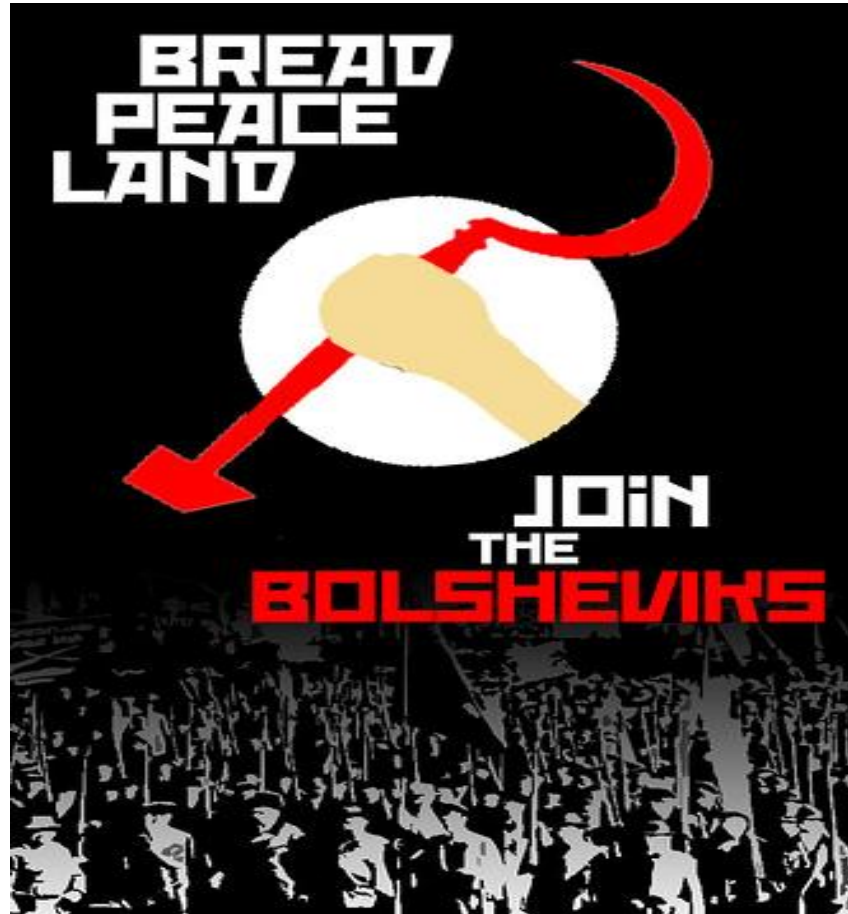


THE RISE OF THIRD WORLD (-BORN) WRITERS

- Chinua Achebe (Nigerian)
- V.S. Naipul (Trinidad-born Indian)
- Salman Rushdie (Indian-born British)
- Arundhati Roy (Indian)
- Amy Tan (Chinese American)









HOME IS SO SAD (1964)

Home is so sad. It stays as it was left,
Shaped to the comfort of the last to go
As if to win them back. Instead, bereft
Of anyone to please, it withers so,
Having no heart to put aside the theft

And turn again to what it started as,
A joyous shot at how things ought to be,
Long fallen wide. You can see how it was:
Look at the pictures and the cutlery.
The music in the piano stool. That vase.



THIS IS JUST TO SAY (1934)

I have eaten
the plums
that were in
the icebox

and which
you were probably
saving
for breakfast

forgive me
they were delicious
so sweet
and so cold

