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THE STREAM OF CONSCIOUS NOVEL

INTRODUCTION

One of the most important developments in the technique of the modern novel is the stream of consciousness. The phrase "Stream of consciousness" was first used by William James in "principles of psychology" to denote the chaotic flow of impressions and sensations through the human consciousness. The particular kind of novel is also called the subjective novel or psychological novel.

The stream of consciousness technique was influenced by the symbolism of the French poets and the novelist, Marcel Proust by the new researches in psychology by Freud and by the writings of William James and Henry Bergson. The psychological novelists aimed at not presenting human character in the traditional sense.

In the early 20th century people were disgusted with Victorian superficiality and were turning inward. In England Dorothy Richardson, James Joyce and Virginia Woolf wrote interior novels. We should consider the contribution of Dorothy Richardson James Joyce and Virginia Woolf to the development of the stream of consciousness technique.

DOROTHY MILLER RICHARDSON (1873-1957)



Dorothy Miller Richardson was a British author and journalist. Author of pilgrimage, a sequence of 13 novels, she was one of the earliest modernist novelist to use stream of consciousness as a narrative technique. Richardson also emphasizes in pilgrimage the importance and distinct nature of female experiences. She was one of the most intelligent novelists of the stream of conscious novel.

Her Novels

- The Quakers Past and Present(1914)
- Gleanings from the works of George Fox(1914)
- Pointed Roofs(1915)
- Backwater(1916)
- The Tunnel(1919)
- Interim(1920)
- Deadlock(1921)
- The Trap(1925)
- Oberland(1927)

JAMES JOYCE (1882-1914)



James Joyce is one of the greatest novelists of the twentieth century. He is one of the chief exponents of the stream of consciousness technique in English novel. As a novelist Joyce is mainly concerned with human relationship man in relation to himself, to society and to the whole race. He had an intimate and minute knowledge of the pettiness and meanness of modern society and of the evils which issue from it.

His Major Works

- Ulysses (1922) is Joyce's masterpiece
- The Dubliners (1914) a collection of short stories, is based on the slum life of the Dubliners.
- A portrait of the Artist As a Young Man (1916)
- Stephen Wake (1939)
- Work in Progress

VIRGINIA WOOLF (1882-1914)

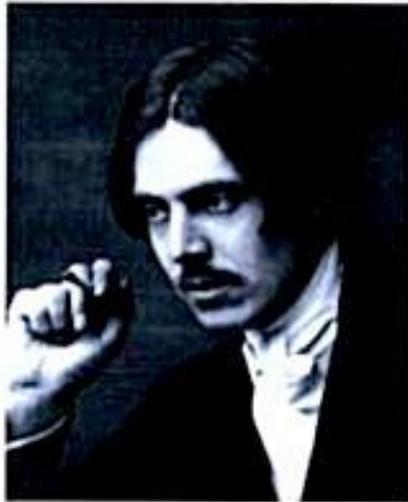


Virginia Woolf was the daughter of Sir Leslie Stephen, a renowned man of letters. Her imagination and literary sensibilities were nurtured in this academic atmosphere. She was an English writer and one of the foremost modernists of the twentieth century. During the interwar period, Woolf was a significant figure in the influential Bloomsbury Group of intellectuals.

Her Novels

- Jacob's Room(1922)
- Mrs.Dalloway(1925)
- To The Lighthouse(1927)shows a greater mastery of the stream of consciousness technique.
- The Waves(1931)is a significant development in the stream of consciousness technique.
- Flush(1933)
- The Years(1937)
- Between the Acts(1941)
- Orlando, a Biography(1928) was a popular work.

WYNDHAM LEWIS (1884-1957)



He was one of the outstanding novelists of the stream of conscious novel. He was an English painter and author. He was a co-founder of the vorticist movement in art, and edited the literary magazine of the vorticists,blast.He was a gifted artist,belived that intellect was of greater importance than emotion or imagination.

His Works

- Tarry(1912)
- The Childermass (1928)
- The Apes of God(1930)
- In Blast

Elizabethan Bowen (1899-1973)



She was an Anglo-Irish novelist and short story writer. She was a close follower of the technique of Virginia Woolf. Bowen was greatly interested in "life with the lid on and that happens when the lid comes off", in the innocence of orderly life, and in eventual, irrepressible forces that transform experience. The style of her works is highly wrought and owes much to literary modernism.

Her Novels

- The Hotel (1927)
- The House in Paris (1935)
- The Death of the Heart (1938)
- The Last September (1929)
- Friends and Relations (1931)
- To the North (1932)
- The Heart of the Day (1949)
- A World of Love (1955)
- The Little Girls (1964)
- Eva Trout (1968)

Ivy Compton Burnett (1892-1969)



She was an English novelist. She awarded the 1955 James Tait Black Memorial Prize for her novel *Mother and Son*. Her subject matter focused on the late-Victorian upper classes. She portrays her characters with great psychological insight and subtlety.

Her Important Works

- *Brothers and Sisters* (1929)
- *Men and Wives* (1931)
- *Daughters and Sons* (1937)
- *Parents and Children* (1941)
- *Elders and Betters* (1944)

CONCLUSION

The stream of consciousness is one of the most important developments in the technique of the modern novel. In this period there were number of novelists had produced great works. We already found the writers like D.M.Richardson, James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, Lewis, Bowen etc. They gave a great contribution to the English literature.