

GOTHIC NOVEL IN THE ENGLISH LITERATURE OF THE 18–19th CENTURIES

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At the end of the 16th – beginning of the 18th centuries, the process of expansion of the British Empire was underway, as a result of which the English language and English-language literature began to spread throughout the world. The genre of Gothic novels that arose in the second half of the 18th century in the United Kingdom was distinguished by its originality and unique character. The article gives a brief overview of the features of the Gothic novel, as well as the life and work of Mary Shelley, Anna Radcliffe, Matthew Gregory Lewis and Jane Austen, who contributed to the genre of Gothic novels in English literature of the 18-19th centuries. The Gothic novel, which appeared in English literature at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries, influenced the works of outstanding writers of all subsequent periods. The gothic novel fills the reader with horror and fear, describing supernatural beings, mysterious adventures, fantasy and mystical elements. The genre of the Gothic novel, known in some sources as the “black novel”, is widely developed, first of all, in English literature. Gothic novels play an important role not only in English, but also in world literature. They had a significant impact on the further development of many literary trends, both in Europe and in other parts of the world. The emergence of this genre is associated with the features of the development of English society of the 18th century, with socio-economic and spiritual life, with cultural values and self-consciousness of people living in this society. In addition, the image of unusual events and phenomena, the feelings of heroes is also a reflection of the perception by society of new directions in capitalist development. We are talking about scientific discoveries and industrial development based on them. Subsequently, interest in Gothic novels did not decrease, and research began on the influence of Gothic novels on subsequent literary processes on the English language. Currently, many works of this genre are published and filmed. Gothic novels, which occupy a special place in English literature, had a great influence on world literature. The study and promotion of Gothic novels in various aspects of world literature is relevant today.

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