

POST WORLD WAR II: ANALYSIS OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

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ABSTRACT: American literature saw some notable advancements and transformations following World War II. The literature of the era reflected the war's tremendous effects on American society and culture. A wide range of issues and literary styles define American literature written after World War II. The rise of the Beat Generation, a group of writers who rejected conventional American culture and tried to experiment with alternative forms of expression, was one of the most important developments of this era. Many Beat writers, including Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg, wrote about their experiences with drugs, sexuality, and spirituality. Their writing greatly influenced other writers and artists in the following years.

KEYWORDS : Post-world war II, American literature, beat generation, modernist writers

INTRODUCTION

A mood of disenchantment and mistrust toward conventional ideals and institutions defined the post-World War II era in American literature. The literature of the era reflected the profound psychological effects that the war's pain and destruction had on the American people as a whole. The Beat Generation, which began to develop in the 1950s, was one of the most important literary trends of the post-war era. The Beat writers championed nonconformity, experimentation, and spontaneity while rejecting conventional wisdom. Themes of alienation, self-discovery, and the pursuit of meaning in an apparently meaningless world were frequently tackled in their works. Among the notable authors of the Beat Generation are William S. Burroughs, Allen Ginsberg, and Jack Kerouac.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It's common to refer to the years between the two World Wars, specifically the 1920s and 1930s, as the "second flowering" of American literature. The literary daring and inventiveness of this era had a significant influence on American literature and culture. It was during this time that American writers started to adopt new subjects and techniques in place of more conventional literary forms and styles. Modernist authors that tackled issues of disillusionment, fragmentation, and the erosion of old values included Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and William Faulkner. Additionally, they experimented with non-linear storytelling and stream-of-consciousness narrative techniques.

The interwar period was referred to as the "second flowering" of American writing by literary historian Malcolm Cowley. Undoubtedly, the 1920s and 1930s saw a new maturity and rich diversity in American literature, and important works by a number of influential authors from those years were released after 1945. Not of the same caliber as before the war, but nonetheless, Faulkner, Steinbeck, Hemingway, and Katherine Anne Porter wrote remarkable fiction, and Frost, Eliot, Wallace Stevens, Marianne Moore, E.E. Cummings, William Carlos Williams, and Gwendolyn Brooks produced significant poetry.

The conflict not only produced a new generation, but it also produced one with a very distinct ethnic, geographical, and socioeconomic makeup from the one that came before it. The younger writers included African Americans, who had just recently emerged from slavery, children of

immigrants, many of whom were Jews, and finally women, who would ultimately take on a new voice with the development of feminism.

CONCLUSION

A wide range of genres and techniques, from William S. Burroughs' experimental fiction to Flannery O'Connor's darkly hilarious works, defined post-World War II American literature. As demonstrated by the writings of John Cheever and Sylvia Plath, many writers of this era were likewise interested in delving into the complexity of the human experience and the human psyche. All things considered, American writing after World War II was characterized by a wide variety of themes, styles, and voices during this innovative and creative time. It is still regarded as a pivotal time in American literary history and continues to inspire and have an impact on authors today.

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