

Coleridge - page 300

Coleridge and Wordsworth were friends, and also collaborated → they created strong bonds

Friendship was a substitute of family → some of them had difficult familial situations (like Blake, Wordsworth, Keats → they lost close relatives)

Shelley and Byron were shunned by their families → because they had an unconventional lifestyle, not approved by the aristocratic families they came from

At some point they started to disagree → Coleridge wanted to write more elaborated poetry, and considered Wordsworth's works simplistic

Christabelle → is a gothic poem (with gothic elements, not in the style)

Gothic novel

Gothic literature: mainly made up of novels → it is an expression of pre-romanticism
The first gothic novel was "Castle of Otranto" → written by H. Walpole (1764)

Walpole was the son of the first British prime minister

Other important gothic novels are:

- "The Monk" → Lewis
- "The Mysteries of Udolpho" → Radcliffe (female author)

The rise of the novel → women were central in the development of the novel → first time in history that women took part in the dev. of a literary genre

Women were frequent readers → some of them even wrote them (like Bradly, Aphra Behns → she wrote "The royal slave" at the end of the 17th century)

The royal slave is considered the first novel in English literature

Canon = the authors that are considered the most representative of a nation

Behns was disappeared from the Canon for a long time → she was a female and the novel was anti-colonial

The slave was an African prince who was captured → but he led a riot against the owner → he is a positive character

Gothic novels were like horror stories → dealing with mystery, crimes → they tend to be set in South Europe (in particular in Catholic countries) → demonisation of Catholic Europe → British authors were Protestant

Crimes were committed by villains in dark places like abbeys → the protagonists are mainly innocent people

Some of them have supernatural elements (like ghosts)

Interpretation of the acient mariner

Other interpretation is a colonial one →the albatross is a native of the place and helps the visitors →but then gets killed

The last thursday of november the Thanks Giving day is celebrated in USA and Canada →in 1621 was celebrated for the first time

The piligrim fathers wanted to celebrate their first harvest →in the newly founded colony in new england →they thanked God and the native americans →they helped the piligrim fathers

But then they were persecuted by americans

Colerdge may have made a critique to the persecution of native americans by the colonizers

Pilgrim fathers were puritans →they were persecuted by the anglican king James I →they left in year 1620