

## Coleridge - page 300

Coleridge and wordsworth were friend, and also collaborated →they created strong bonds

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

Shelley and Byron were shawnt 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 →colerdige wanted to write more elaborated poetry, and considered wordsworth works simplistic

Christable →is 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 the "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 raise of the novel →women were central in the development of the novel →first time in history that women took part to 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 rapresentative of a nation

Behns was disapeared 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 lead a riot against the owner →he is a positive character

Gothic novels were like horror stories →dealing with mistery, 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 ancient 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

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

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