

William Langland

- - William Langland Biography



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Among the contemporaries of Chaucer the pride of place is given to John Gower, William Langland and John Barbour of Scotland.

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Some scholars have argued that Chaucer based his Plowman on the figure of Piers Plowman. If Langland was the poem's author, who was living in Bristol at the time, it would mean he returned to the west before his death, sometime around the year 1400.

William Langland as a major poet of the age of Chaucer.

With hym ther was a PLOWMAN, was his brother, That hadde ylad of dong ful many a fother; A trewe swynkere and a good was he, Lyvynge in pees and parfit charitee. As a literary master Chaucer stands definitely superior to Langland who lacks his artistic harmony and comic sense. Where as the latter is a social chronicle with engaging tales, Piers Plowman is an impressive allegory, more deeply concerned with religious, ethical, social and economic problems of the time.

William Langland as a major poet of the age of Chaucer.

New York: The Macmillan Co. He is as exact and realistic as Dante, however inferior in the greatness of his conceptions or in nobleness of poetic form

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