

Contents

Acknowledgements

xi

1. Introduction

1. Argument
2. Inferences
3. Assumptions

1
1
6
8

PART 1. ANTIQUITY

2. The Old World Literary System

1. Introduction
2. The Near Eastern Invention of Literature, 3000–1200 BCE
3. Literacy and Literature, 1200–500 BCE: Chinese, Hebrew, Greek
4. Imperial Literary Languages, 550 BCE–750 CE
5. Conclusion

17
17
18
20
28
41

3. Empire and Its Discontents in Classical Latin

1. Introduction
2. Plautus and the Early Republic
3. The Late Republic and Golden Age / Augustan Age
 - a. Introduction
 - b. Horace, the Cleopatra Ode
 - c. Virgil, *Aeneid*
4. The Silver Age / Early Empire / Principate
 - a. Introduction
 - b. Lucan, *Civil War*
 - c. Tacitus, *Annals*
5. Late Classical Latin Literature / Later Empire / Dominate
 - a. Apuleius and the Later Empire
 - b. Christianity and the Revival of Latin Literature
 - c. Augustine and Late Antiquity
6. Rome in Antiquity

43
43
45
47
47
49
54
57
57
58
62
65
65
70
72
77

PART 2. THE VERNACULAR: FROM THE MIDDLE AGES TO EARLY MODERNITY

4. The Vernacular

1. The Spoken Vernacular
2. The Written Vernacular
3. The Medieval European Written Vernacular

83
83
92
108

5. Medieval Epic

1. Latin and the Vernacular Epic
2. Celtic Epic

117
117
119

3. Germanic Epic	120
4. Romance Epic	126
5. Epic beyond Western Europe	130
6. Conclusion	137
6. Medieval Lyric	140
1. Introduction	140
2. Greek and Latin	142
3. Celtic and Germanic Poetry	150
4. Semitic Lyric	152
5. Occitan Lyric and Its Influence	161
7. Medieval Narrative after 1100	168
1. Romance	169
2. Allegory	177
3. Frame-Tale Collection	189
4. Conclusion	198
8. Language, Literature, and Popular Culture in the Age of the Reformation	200
1. Literature	201
a. The Continental Sonnet	201
b. The English Sonnet	203
c. Epic and Drama	211
2. Religion	216
a. The Language of the Reformation	216
b. Luther	220
c. Milton	226
3. Western Europe and South Asia	232

PART 3. EARLY MODERNITY

9. The Representation of Empire in the Renaissance, 1: Europe and the Mediterranean	239
1. Nation and Empire	240
2. Europe	240
a. Introduction	240
b. Shakespeare, <i>Hamlet</i>	244
3. The Mediterranean	251
a. Shakespeare and the Mediterranean	252
b. Shakespeare, <i>Othello</i>	257
c. Cervantes, <i>Don Quixote</i>	261
10. The Representation of Empire in the Renaissance, 2: Global Perspectives	273
1. The Old World: Camões	273
2. The New World	280
a. America and the Renaissance	280
b. The Literature of America	285
c. Shakespeare and Overseas Expansion	294
3. Conclusion	305

11. Eurasian Literature through the Eighteenth Century	309
1. Literature and Empire in Western Europe, 1650–1800	310
2. The Realist Novel in Europe before 1800	315
3. Asian Fiction	318
4. Drama	324
5. Epic and Drama	327
6. Drama and Novel	331
7. Literature and History	334
 PART 4. MODERNITY	
12. Nineteenth-Century Poetry: Romanticism and After	343
1. Europe	344
a. Introduction	344
b. Pushkin and Mickiewicz	345
2. Beyond Europe	350
a. Introduction	350
b. Leopardi	356
3. Conclusion	366
13. Nineteenth-Century Fiction	368
1. The Realist Novel	368
2. Alternatives to Realism	373
3. The European Periphery	379
a. Russia	380
b. The United States	384
i. Introduction	384
ii. Melville, <i>Moby-Dick</i>	387
4. Beyond the European Periphery	398
5. The Legacy of <i>Tristram Shandy</i>	403
14. Jewishness and Modernist Fiction	406
1. Jewishness and Fiction	407
2. Modernism	413
3. Proust	421
4. Kafka	426
5. Joyce	432
6. Conclusion	440
15. World Literature and Contemporary Fiction	443
1. Introduction	443
2. Narrators	448
3. Writing	453
a. Introduction	453
b. Nabokov, <i>Pale Fire</i>	455
4. Coherence	470
5. The Supernatural	478

6. History	483
7. Conclusion	491
16. Conclusion	493
1. The Critical Heritage	493
2. Culture	498
3. World Literature	500
<i>Bibliography</i>	507
<i>Index</i>	581