WALTER SCOTT- A FOUNDER OF A GENRE OF A HISTORICAL NOVEL IN ENGLISH LITERATURE

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ANNOTATION: Walter Scott who added his contribution of blooming the English literature. He had a plenty of works which are very famous during a lot of periods. In this article you can find almost full information about him

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Walter Scott was born on 15 August 1771 in a third-floor flat on College Wynd in Edinburgh's Old Town, a narrow lane leading from Cowgate to the gates of the old University of Edinburgh. He was the ninth child (six died in infancy) of Walter Scott (1729-1799), a member of the Cadet Division of Clan Scott and Recorder of the Signet, and his wife Anne Rutherford, sister of Daniel Rutherford

and both Clan Swinton and Haliburton a descendant of his family (whose descendant gave the Walter family burial rights at Dryburgh Abbey). Through the Haliburtons, Walter was a cousin of London property developer James Burton (d. 1837), who was born with the surname "Haliburton" and was related to his son, the architect Decimus Burton.Walter became a member of the Clarence Club, of which the Burtons were members. Scott's childhood in Sandyknowes, in the shadow of Smailholm Tower, introduced him to the tales and folklore of the Scottish Borders. The Scott family home in George Square, Edinburgh, circa 1778. In 1773, a childhood bout of polio left Scott paralyzed, a condition that would have a major impact on his life and work. To improve his lameness, he was sent in 1773 to a village in the Scottish Borders to live on his grandparents' farm at Sandyknoe, near the ruins of Smailholm Tower, the former family home . Here he was taught to read by his aunt Jenny Scott, and from her he learned the patterns of speech and many of the tales and legends that would later shape much of his work. In January 1775 he returned to Edinburgh, and that summer he and his aunt Jenny were treated at a spa at Bath in Somerset, Southern England, where they lived at 6 South Parade. He returned to Sandyknoe in the winter of 1776 and returned the following summer with another attempt at water cure at Prestonpans. In 1778, Scott returned to Edinburgh for a private education to prepare him for school, and joined his family in a new house, one of the first to be built in George Square. In October 1779 he began work at the Royal High School (High School Yards) in Edinburgh. He was then able to walk and explore the city and surrounding countryside. His reading included chivalric novels, poetry, history and travel books. He was privately tutored in arithmetic and writing by James Mitchell, and from him studied the history of the Church of Scotland with an emphasis on the Covenanters. In 1783, his parents, believing he had developed strength, sent him to stay with his aunt Jenny for six months in Kelso, in the Scottish Borders: there he attended Kelso Grammar School, where he met James Ballantyne and his brother John, who later became his business partners and became printers. Scott began studying classics at the University of Edinburgh in

November 1783, aged 12, a year younger than the other students. In March 1786, at the age of 14, he began an apprenticeship in his father's office to become a Signet writer. At school and university, Scott became friends with Adam Ferguson, whose father, Professor Adam Ferguson, hosted literary salons.

Scott met the blind poet Thomas Blacklock, who gave him books and introduced him to the Ossian poems of James Macpherson. In the winter of 1786-1787, 15-year-old Scott met the Scottish poet Robert Burns in one of these salons, their only meeting. When Burns saw a publication describing the poem "Justice of the Peace" and asked who wrote it, Scott himself named the author as John Langhorne and was thanked by Burns. “Of the 26 works of this genre, only one," St. Ronan's Waters", covered contemporary events, while the rest describe mainly the past of Scotland. The first novel, called "Waverley", was published in 1814, and the author preferred to hide his name, which he did for more than 10 years, for which the public called him the Great Incognito. In 1820, George IV awarded Walter Scott the title of baronet. During the 20-30s. he not only wrote novels ("Ivanhoe", "Quentin Dorward", "Robert, Count of Paris"), but also undertook a number of historical studies (published in 1829-1830 two volumes of "History of Scotland", and a nine-volume "Life of Napoleon" which was published in 1831-1832)).”[3] During this second university spell, Scott became prominent in student intellectual activity: he founded the Literary Society in 1789 and was elected to the Speculative Society the following year, becoming librarian and secretary-treasurer a year later. After completing his law degree, Scott practiced law in Edinburgh. He made his first visit as a solicitor's secretary to the Scottish Highlands, where he directed the move. He was admitted to the Faculty of Advocates in 1792. He had an unsuccessful love affair with Williamina Belsches of Fettercairn, who married Scott's friend Sir William Forbes, 7th Baronet. In February 1797, the threat of a French invasion persuaded Scott and many of his friends to join the Royal Edinburgh Volunteer Light Dragoons, who had served in the early 1800s, and was appointed quartermaster and secretary. Daily practice sessions that year starting at 5 a.m. show the determination with which he took on

the role. Scott was encouraged to pursue a literary career in Edinburgh in the 1790s by his enthusiasm for modern German literature. Recalling the period in 1827, Scott said he was "of a German mind". In 1796 he produced English versions of Gottfried August Bürger, Der wilde Jager and Lenore's The Chase, and two poems of William and Helen. . Scott responded to the German interest of the time in national identity, folk culture, and medieval literature, which was linked to his passion for traditional balladry. Thomas Percy's Memoirs of Old English Poetry was a childhood favorite. In the 1790s, he searched for oral ballads in manuscript collections and on frontier "raids." With the help of John Leyden, he produced in 1802 the two-volume The Monasteries of the Scottish Borders, containing Leyden and his own 48 traditional ballads and two imitations. 26 of the 48 traditions were published for the first time. The following year, an enlarged edition appeared in three volumes. With many of the ballads, Scott combined the various versions into more coherent texts, which he later rejected. Minstrelssy was the first and most important of his editorial projects over the next two decades, including the 1804 medieval romance Sir Tristrem (which was attributed to Thomas the Rhymer), the works of John Dryden (18 vols., 1808), and the works of Jonathan Swift (19 vols. 1814). On a trip to England's Lake District with old college friends, he met Charlotte Charpentier ("Dadgor" in English), daughter of Jean Charpentier of Lyons in France and an Anglican Lord Downshire ward of Cumberland. After three weeks of courtship, Scott proposed and they were married on Christmas Eve 1797 at St Mary's Church in Carlisle (now Carlisle Cathedral). After renting a house on George Street in Edinburgh, they moved to nearby South Castle Street. Their eldest child, Sophia, was born in 1799 and later married John Gibson Lockhart. Of their five children, four survived Scott himself. His eldest son, Sir Walter Scott, 2nd Baronet (1801–1847), inherited his father's estates and estates: on 3 February 1825 he married Jane, only daughter of William Jobson of Lochore (d. 1822) by his wife Rachel Stewart. married Jobson. (died 1863), heiress of Lochore and nephew of Lady Margaret Ferguson. In 1799, Scott was appointed deputy sheriff of Selkirk County, based at the courthouse in the

Royal Burgh of Selkirk. In his early married days, Scott made a decent living from his law practice, his salary as a deputy sheriff, his wife's income, a portion of his writing income, and his share of his father's modest estate. Between 1805 and 1817, Scott composed five long, six-canto narrative poems, four shorter independently published poems, and numerous small metrical pieces. Scott was the most popular poet of the day until Lord Byron published the first two cantos of Childe Harold's Pilgrimage in 1812 and followed them with his exotic Oriental poems.

"Scott's historical novels were read and admired throughout Europe. Those which dealt with Scottish themes, like *Heart of Midlothian* and *Waverley*, have had a major influence on how Scots see their own past and on how Scotland is viewed from outside. This portrait was one of the last Raeburn ever worked on, the artist dying only days after its completion. Scott, however, is shown at the peak of his career. Within four years he was bankrupt, and his health was destroyed from the need to write his way out of debt."[2]

The Last Minstrels' Way (1805), in the guise of a medieval romance, arose out of Scott's plan to add his own long original poem to the second edition of Minstrels: it was to be a 'romance of border chivalry' was magic". It owed its peculiar irregular accent in four-beat meter to Coleridge's Christabel, read by John Stoddart. (It was not to be published until 1816.) Scott was a 16th-century poet. drew upon his unrivaled familiarity with the history and legends of the Borders, gleaned from childhood, both from oral and written sources, to present a vivid and highly colorful picture.Scotland, which impressed both the general public and its great writings, also appealed to the antiquarian student.The poem has a strong moral has a theme because human pride is placed at the end of a version of the Dies irae in the context of the last judgment.The work was an immediate success, going through five editions in a year, with almost all reviewers and readers in general. The most famous lines are the last stanza. The opening lines are:

Breathes there the man, with soul so dead, Who never to himself hath said, This is my own, my native land! Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned,

As home his footsteps he hath turned, From wandering on a foreign strand!— If such there breathe, go, mark him well; For him no minstrel raptures swell.

In 1813, Scott was offered the post of Poet Laureate. He denied that "such an appointment would be a poisoned chalice" because the name Laureate had fallen into disrepute due to the decline in the quality of the work of the previous holders, "because the first poets threw out traditional and frivolous ghazals. royal.

He sought the advice of the 4th Duke of Buccleuch, who advised him to maintain his literary independence, a position which fell to Scott's friend Robert Southey.

“About this time, he renewed his friendship with a schoolfellow, James Ballantyne, and it was he who published for Scott in 1799 some original ballads and translations under the title 'Apology for Tales of Terror.' Scott later went into partnership with Ballantyne and in the next few years they published many of his poems including Marmion, The Lady of the Lake, Rokeby, The Bride of Trierman, The Lord of the Isles and Harold the Dauntless. Most of these became very popular, in particular the ballad The Lay of the Minstrel published in 1805 which earned him tremendous popularity.

In 1812 he was able to move to Abbotsford, a large and romantically placed house on the River Tweed.”[4]

Scott's career as a writer was met with uncertainty. The first few chapters of Waverley were completed by about 1805, but the project was abandoned as a result of unfavorable criticism from a friend.

Shortly thereafter, Scott was asked by publisher John Murray to posthumously edit and complete the final chapter of Joseph Strutt's unfinished romance.

Queenhoo Hall, published in 1808 and set in 15th-century England, was not a success due to its archaic language and excessive display of antiquarian references.

In 1810, the success of Scott's Highland poem The Lady of the Lake seems to have prompted him to continue the story and follow his protagonist Edward Waverley's journey to Scotland. Scott knew his material better than anyone: he could rely on the oral tradition and extensive written sources in his ever-expanding library (many books rare and some rare copies). In general, these pre-1820 novels have attracted the attention of modern critics – especially: Waverley, for his presentation of the Jacobites of 1745 as outmoded and fanatical idealists of the Highland clans; Old Mortality (1816) was a fanatical and often comical treatment of the Covenants of 1679 (prompting John Galt to create a contrasting picture in his 1823 novel Ringan Gilhaize); The Heart of Mid-Lothian (1818), with its low-born heroine Jeanie Deans, makes a perilous journey to Richmond in 1737 to secure a promised royal pardon for her sister, falsely accused of infanticide; and the tragic The Bride of Lammermoor (1819), a poignant tale of a decadent aristocratic family in which Edgar Ravenswood and his bride fall prey to the wife of a fledgling lawyer during the pre-Act of Union political power struggle." Scott's health had begun to fail throughout this period, and he decided to set off on a voyage to Malta and Naples in a bid to recover.

The trip proved too much for him, however, and he suffered a stroke on his way home. This proved to be the final straw, resulting in paralysis and leaving Scott bedridden. He died at Abbotsford on the 21st of September 1832, aged 61. He was buried alongside his wife, Charlotte, who had passed away in 1826, in the town of Melrose."

Eight of the next 17 novels also have medieval settings, although most of them are from the end of the period, for which Scott had contemporary sources. His familiarity with Elizabethan and 17th-century English literature, which arose partly from editorial work on pamphlets and other minor publications, means that four of his works were a fortune in England at the time—Kenilworth (1821), Nigel and Peveril. Peak (1821) and Woodstock (1826) - provide rich pictures of their societies.

However, the most respected of Scott's later fictions are three short stories: a supernatural tale in Scots, The Wanderings of Willy in Redgauntlet (1824), and The Highland Widow and The Two Drivers in the Canongate Chronicles. . (1827). Although Scott died in debt, his novels continued to sell, and the heavy debts owed to his estate were paid off shortly after his death.

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