

George Eliot
(Mary Ann Evans)
1819-1880

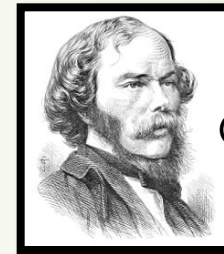


Life:



- Mary Ann Evans was born on 22nd November, 1819 , at Arbury Farm.
- George Eliot was the pseudonym of Mary Ann Evans.
- She was leading Victorian Novelist.
- Mary Ann Evans used a *male pen name*. There was no acceptance of female writers at that time so, to ensure her works would be taken seriously she used this name. Another aspect was that she simply wanted to keep her privacy.

- She was novelist, journalist, translator and one of the well known writers of Victorian era.
- The philosopher and critic George Henry Lewes met her in 1854 and they had decided to live together. With the death of Lewes in 1878, the literary career of George Eliot came to an end.
- In 1880 , she married J.W. Cross , he was her great friend though twenty years junior.
- Her novels are well known for realism and psychological perceptions.
- George Eliot died on 22 December, 1880 at Chelsea . At the age of 61.



G.H. Lewes



Works:

Novels:-

1. Adam Bede (1859)
2. The Mill on the Floss (1860)
3. Silas Marner (1861)
4. Middlemarch (1871-72)
5. Daniel Deronda (1876)
6. Romola (1862-1863)
7. Felix Holt, The Radical (1866)

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- Eliot's *Middlemarch* had been described by the novelists *Martin Amish* and *Julian Barnes* as the greatest novels in English language.

Other Novelists of Victorian Age:

- Charles Dickens (1812-1870)
- William Makepeace Thackeray (1811-1863)
- The Brontes:
 - Charlotte (1816-55)
 - Emily (1818-48)
 - Anne (1820-49)
- George Meredith (1828-199)



Characteristics of George Eliot's Novels:

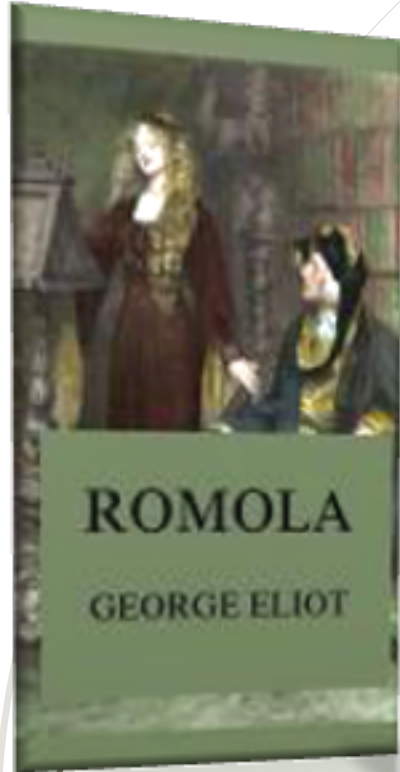
- *Realism* . G. Eliot was a “truth teller”. Who didn't idealise or caricature.
- *Subtle Psychological Analysis*. She is considered among the pioneers of analysing child psychology.
- *Emphasis on Inner Conflict or Mental Struggle* .
- *Thorough understanding of human weaknesses*.
- *Organic relation between characters and incidents*.
- *The Moral View point* .
- *Man as a mortal being*.

- *A tragic vision of life .*
- *A lucid and simple style.*
- *Depiction of Society and Social analysis.*

“ In her best work , there is a depth and reality that no English novelist has surpassed; nor can any or them surpass her in her power of taking the reader into her created world”–

(Lettice Cooper)





GEORGE ELIOT

