

The Fantasy Literature of England



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In this first book on English fantasy, Colin Manlove shows that for all its immense diversity, English fantasy can best be understood in terms of its strong national character rather than as an international genre. Showing its development from "Beowulf" to Blake, the author describes English fantasy's modern growth through the secondary world, metaphysical, emotive, comic, subversive and children's fantasy. Fantasy is often seen as being the same all over the world, but in fact it is strongly national in character, and as this book shows, nowhere more so than in England.

作者介绍:

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评论

曼洛夫初衷是歌颂本国幻想文学独特的包容性，但无意中完成了幻想文学批评史上经典的六大类型划分。他的体系一边是以稍后美式史诗奇幻常见的第二世界为核心，辅以启蒙时期后流行的情感幻想和中世纪至19世纪的玄奥幻想。前者又包括田园牧歌式的感伤与怀旧奇幻和暴露人性欲念和恐惧的挽歌式黑暗幻想文学，后者描述超自然与不可能之力的宗教与哲理性幻想。体系另一边则以对立的欧式颠覆性幻想故事为核心，辅以喜剧性幻想故事，两个子类涉及戏仿、讽刺、漫画、怪诞、游戏、梦幻、潜意识等后现代式变形技巧和革新形式，利用时间和空间错位推翻读者对现实理性的自信。一边是超脱我们世界的幻想建设，一边是改变我们现实的幻想破坏，最终五类幻想的材质共同构成包括以上的第六类幻想文学：那便是源自浪漫主义诗学童心与想象的儿童幻想，也即英式幻想文学的巅峰

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