

# A Literary History Of The English People From The Origins To The Renaissance

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Delve into the comprehensive literary history of the English people, charting its profound evolution from ancient origins through to the vibrant cultural blossoming of the Renaissance period. This overview examines pivotal figures, movements, and key works that shaped early English literature.

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## A Literary History of the English People: From the origins to the Renaissance

A Literary History of the English People From the Origins to the Renaissance by J. J. (Jean Jules) Jusserand The people that now occupies England was formed, like the French people, by the fusion of several superimposed races. In both countries the same races met and mingled at about the same period, but in different proportions and under dissimilar social conditions. Hence the striking resemblances and sharply defined contrasts that exist in the genius of the two nations. Hence also the contradictory sentiments which mutually animated them from century to century, those combinations and recurrences of esteem that rose to admiration, and jealousy that swelled to hate. Hence, again, the unparalleled degree of interest they offer, one for the other. The two people are so dissimilar that in borrowing from each other they run no risk of losing their national characteristics and becoming another's image; and yet, so much alike are they, it is impossible that what they borrowed should remain barren and unproductive. These loans act like leaven: the products of English thought during the Augustan age of British literature were mixed with French leaven, and the products of French thought during the Victor Hugo period were penetrated with English yeast. Ancient writers have left us little information concerning the remotest period and the oldest inhabitants of the British archipelago; works which would be invaluable to us exist only in meagre fragments. Important gaps have fortunately been filled, owing to modern Science and to her manifold researches. She has inherited the wand of the departed wizards, and has touched with her talisman the gate of sepulchres; the tombs have opened and the dead have spoken. What countries did thy war-ship visit? she inquired of the Scandinavian viking. And in answer the dead man, asleep for centuries among the rocks of the Isle of Skye, showed golden coins of the caliphs in his skeleton hand. These coins are not a figure of speech; they are real, and may be seen at the Edinburgh Museum. The wand has touched old undeciphered manuscripts, and broken the charm that kept them dumb. From them rose songs, music, love-ditties, and war-cries: phrases so full of life that the living hearts of to-day have been stirred by them; words with so much colour in them that the landscape familiar to the eyes of the Celts and Germans has reappeared before

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### A Literary History of the English People, from the Origins to the Renaissance

Excerpt from A Literary History of the English People Many histories have preceded this one man) others will come after. Such is the charm of the subject, that volunteers Will never be lacking to undertake this journey so hard, so delightful too. As years go on, the journey lengthens: Wider grows the field, further advance the seekers, and from the top of unexplored headlands, through morning mists, they descry the outlines of countries till then unknown. They must be followed to realms beyond the grave, to the silent domains of the dead, across barren moors and frozen fens, among chill rushes and briars that never blossom, till those Edens of poetry are reached, the echoes of Which, by a gift of fairies or of muses, still vibrate to the melody of 'voices long since hushed. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at [www.forgottenbooks.com](http://www.forgottenbooks.com) This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

#### A Literary History of the English People, from the Origins to the Renaissance

In this 2002 volume, scholars examine the role of literature in the construction of 'Britishness'.

#### A Literary History of the English People

The Poetical gazette; the official organ of the Poetry society and a review of poetical affairs, nos. 4-7 issued as supplements to the Academy, v. 79, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 3 and 31, 1910

#### A Literary History of the English People from the Origins to the Civil War

First published in 1959. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

#### A Literary History of the English People

A study of the development of literary culture in sixteenth-century England that explores the relationship between the Reformation and literary renaissance of the Elizabethan period through the exploration of the theme of the 'common'.

#### A Literary History of the English People

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#### A Literary History of the English People: From the Renaissance to the Civil War

This comprehensive anthology collects together primary texts and documents relevant to the literature, culture, and intellectual life in England between 1550 and 1660.

#### A Literary History of the English People from the Renaissance to the Civil War

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#### A Literary History of the English People (Classic Reprint)

A Literary History of England: The Renaissance (1500-1600) by T. Brook