

THE SECOND WORLD WAR IN AMERICAN LITERATURE.

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ABSTRACT

Global culture underwent a significant transition as a result of World War II, and these consequences are still evident today. It is important to note that the majority of the physical carnage was separated from one of the war's main donors, the United States, by an entire ocean. Soldiers had to be sent overseas, and the only things available to the civilians who stayed behind to engage with the war were propaganda and their own imaginations. Because of this, the United States' post-war experience was very different from that of other European nations, and its post-war cultural psychology was especially distinct.

KEY WORDS: culture, transition, World War 2, nation, results

INTRODUCTION

Almost every aspect of American society was impacted by World War II, including seemingly insignificant items like the food, movies, and music people listened to and consumed. Every imaginable kind of entertainment and culture was centered around the war, particularly the efforts of the Allies to win it. This included songs, movies, comic books, novels, artwork, comedy routines, and more. Furthermore, the authors of these pieces and themselves were frequently actively involved in the war effort.

FINDINGS

The Second World War experiences of Americans offered enough of material for storytelling as well as a necessity. There was a broad consensus in the USA following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, on the political and moral need of overthrowing the Japanese military hegemony in Asia and its fascist European allies. US military personnel were stationed all over the world during the ensuing conflict—on land, at sea, and in the air—for almost four years. Estimates suggest that between 1939 and 1945, two million people perished in battle, as a result of bombing, malnutrition and disease brought on by the conflict, imprisonment in camps for prisoners of war and concentration camps, and other causes. In addition to dealing with a wide range of operational scenarios and forms of military action, American troops not only faced a multitude of different theaters of operation and types of military action, they also had to learn to live with the awesome destructive

powerunleashed by the first US nuclear bombs, with the horror they found whenliberating Nazi death camps, with prolonged POW experience, and with theirnew role as members of an occupation force responsible for re-educating,administering, and reconstructing a number of morally, socially, and eco-nomically devastated countries. Following the experience of the First WorldWar, attitudes towards conflict itself were more pragmatic and providedmuch less ground for the disillusionment of great romantic expectations;war was seen as an unpleasant obligation rather than an opportunityMale initiation rites or individual bravery. The military's approach had also changed dramatically: Both the infantry and the high command had mastered the effective use of advanced weapons in more mobile fighting organizations. Long-term trench combat rarely resulted in the deaths of infantry soldiers during World War II.Because they produced tangible military gains, even very fatal engagements like the D-Day landings in Normandy or the recapture of the Pacific Islands were approved. Not to mention, the United States of America won the war in 1945 and remained the dominating military force until the 1950s. In light of these cultural and military contexts, "acts of literary sense-making" had to be attempted.The majority of writers decided to share their stories in novel form, and there are (based on the inclusivity of theto the definition) between 1,500 and 2,200 American books set in the Second World War, most of which were released between 1945 and 1958. Along with a plethora of poetry, significant plays that illustrate widely differing perspectives of what became known as "the good war," there are also a ton of memoirs, personal stories, letters, and diaries that are too many to include here.

CONCLUSION

World War II had a profound impact on American literature, leading to a shift in themes, styles, and perspectives. It sparked a deeper exploration of the human condition, critique of war, reflection on identity and society, psychological exploration, and experimentation with narrative techniques. These changes continue to shape and influence American literature to this day

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