

examples of expressionism in literature

Expressionism in literature emerged as a significant movement during the early 20th century, primarily as a reaction against realism and naturalism. It sought to convey emotional experience rather than physical reality, focusing on the inner turmoil of characters and the subjective perceptions of reality. This artistic approach was prevalent in various forms of art, but literature provided a unique platform for exploring the depths of human consciousness. In this article, we will delve into notable examples of expressionism in literature, examining key authors, works, and themes that illuminate the movement's distinct characteristics.

The Origins of Expressionism in Literature

Expressionism was born amid the social upheavals of the early 20th century, including the industrial revolution, World War I, and the subsequent existential crises experienced by people. Writers sought to break free from traditional storytelling methods and instead focused on depicting their emotional and psychological realities. The movement was heavily influenced by other art forms, including painting and theater, where the representation of raw emotion and abstract forms was already being embraced.