



## ERICH MARIA REMARQUE'S LIFE AND CREATIVE PATH

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**Annotation:** *This article examines the life and creative activity of Erich Maria Remarque, one of the prominent representatives of 20th-century world literature, focusing on his literary views and analyzed based on scholarly studies. The author's works from various periods—particularly his novels addressing pressing issues related to life and society—are explored to analyze his principles of literary realism, character system, and artistic style.*

**Keywords:** *Vitality, realism, deep spiritual analysis, writing, suffering, the idea of humanity, simplicity and expressive style.*

## ЖИЗНЬ И ТВОРЧЕСКИЙ ПУТЬ ЭРИХА МАРИИ РЕМАРКА

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**Аннотация:** *В данной статье рассматриваются жизнь и творческая деятельность Эриха Марии Ремарка, одного из выдающихся представителей мировой литературы XX века, уделяется внимание его литературным взглядам и проводится анализ на основе научных исследований. Произведения писателя разных периодов — в особенности романы, затрагивающие актуальные проблемы жизни и общества — изучаются с целью анализа его принципов литературного реализма, системы образов и художественного стиля.*

**Ключевые слова:** *жизненность, реализм, глубокий психологический анализ, писательская деятельность, страдания, идея гуманизма, простота и выразительный стиль.*

### INTRODUCTION

The idea of national independence is closely connected with the upbringing of a morally mature and well-developed

individual. A perfect person is understood as someone who is intellectually, spiritually, and morally developed. In the cultural traditions of our people, the



concept of a well-rounded individual has always been highly valued. For instance, the great scholar Abu Nasr al-Farabi in his famous work *“The Virtuous City”* discusses the qualities of an ideal person and the ways of achieving moral perfection.

Both in the past and today, an educated individual studies not only the history and literature of their own nation but also the languages and literary heritage of other peoples. This naturally requires learning foreign languages and becoming familiar with world literature. It is difficult to imagine human life without literature and art. Literature has a powerful influence on human consciousness: it refines the soul, nurtures kindness, and broadens a person’s worldview. Therefore, a well-educated individual studies not only national literature but also the best examples of world literature. In this context, it is appropriate to examine the life and creative work of Erich Maria Remarque, one of the most prominent representatives of twentieth-century world literature.

## METHODOLOGY

Erich Maria Remarque is widely recognized as a writer who vividly portrayed the tragedies of war in literature. In his works, themes such as human destiny, psychological trauma, the senselessness of war, and humanity’s longing for peace occupy a central place. The strength of Remarque’s novels lies in their realism, vivid depiction of life, deep psychological analysis, and the author’s personal experiences as a witness to

historical events. For this reason, he holds a special place in German and world literature of the twentieth century.

Erich Maria Remarque was born on June 22, 1898, in the city of Osnabrück, Germany, into the family of a craftsman. From an early age, he showed a strong interest in literature, music, and art. After completing secondary school, he worked as a teacher for a short period of time. However, the outbreak of the First World War drastically changed the course of his life.

In 1916 he was drafted into the German army and fought on the Western Front. The experiences of war—injuries, deaths, and the suffering endured by soldiers—left deep emotional scars on him. Later, these experiences became the central theme of many of his literary works. After returning from the war, Remarque worked in various professions. He was employed as a newspaper editor, journalist, car dealer, advertising agent, and even a school teacher. These experiences provided him with valuable life material that later enriched his literary творчество and contributed to the development of his writing career. Remarque’s entry into literature occurred gradually. At first he wrote short stories, essays, and articles for newspapers. His real literary breakthrough came with the publication of the novel *“All Quiet on the Western Front”* (*Im Westen nichts Neues*) in 1928. The novel depicts the horrors of war from the perspective of ordinary soldiers and strongly criticizes militarism. Due to its realism and courage in



revealing the harsh truth about war, the novel quickly gained worldwide recognition.

The book was translated into dozens of languages and later adapted into a successful film. However, its success also brought criticism and persecution in Germany. When the Nazi regime came to power, Remarque was declared an “enemy of the people,” and his books were publicly burned. In 1933 he was forced to leave Germany. This marked the beginning of his life in exile, which, on the other hand, opened new opportunities for his creative development. Remarque first moved to Switzerland and later emigrated to the United States. Even in exile he continued to write and produced a number of important novels.

Among his most well-known works are “*Three Comrades*” (*Drei Kameraden*), which depicts friendship, poverty, and human values in the postwar period, and “*Arc de Triomphe*”, which portrays the life of political refugees in Paris and reveals the consequences of totalitarian oppression through the story of Dr. Ravic.

Other notable works include “*The Gift of Time*,” “*Heaven Has No Favorites*,” “*A Time to Love and a Time to Die*,” “*The Black Obelisk*,” and “*The Night in Lisbon*.”

## ANALYSIS

In almost all of Remarque’s works, themes such as human life, love, loss, war, and peace occupy a central place. The writer skillfully portrays the inner

experiences of his characters with sincerity and psychological depth. The artistic features of Remarque’s works can be characterized by several important aspects.

First, realism and authenticity play a crucial role in his novels. He does not romanticize war; instead, he reveals its tragic, destructive, and meaningless nature. Second, psychological analysis is one of the main elements of his narrative style. Remarque carefully describes the inner world of his characters and the psychological trauma caused by war. Third, the idea of humanity forms the core of his creative philosophy. For Remarque, human life is more valuable than any political ideology. His characters struggle to preserve their humanity in extremely difficult circumstances. Finally, his literary style is notable for its simplicity and emotional impact. Even complex philosophical ideas are expressed in clear and accessible language through realistic events and situations.

The works of Erich Maria Remarque have left a profound mark on world literature. He is considered one of the writers who introduced a new interpretation of war in fiction. Many modern anti-war novels are influenced by the literary traditions established by Remarque.

Even today, his works encourage readers to value peace and remind humanity that human life is the highest and most precious value. The destinies of his characters are universal and remain relevant for different societies and



historical periods. Remarque died in Switzerland in 1970. Nevertheless, his works continue to attract millions of readers around the world.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Erich Maria Remarque was a great writer who depicted human destinies filled with war, suffering, love, and tragedy. His literary

heritage occupies an important place in world literature. Remarque's novels not only reflect historical realities but also reveal the deepest layers of the human soul.

Even today, his books encourage readers to reflect on life, appreciate peace, and understand the true value of humanity.

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