



在加拿大历史上，有一群人，他们或同或异的品质对当代加拿大文学的发展起了重要作用。他们按照自己的理解和感受，寻求文学创作的多姿多彩的方法，并在此过程中丰富了加拿大文学、奠定了加拿大文学的国际地位。细读他们的作品，我们可以发现加拿大民族个性的原型形象，为我们更好地解读加拿大文化提供了一把可靠的钥匙。



# Chapter 1

加拿大蜚声世界的文学巨匠





## 01 Alexander McLachlan 亚历山大·麦克拉伦——加拿大的“彭斯”

Alexander McLachlan (1818–1896), called "the Canadian Burns" in his own time, was born in Johnstone, Scotland. He worked in a cotton factory until he was apprenticed to a tailor in Glasgow. In 1840 he immigrated to Caledon, Upper Canada (Ontario), to take possession of the farm of his father, who had died. He sold it the next year and cleared land for three other farms before moving in 1850 to Erin Township, where he worked as a tailor to support his family of eleven children; achieving a reputation as a speaker, he also gave lectures for the Mechanics' Institute.

For his idylls about log houses, "hosses", and oxen in the bush, McLachlan is the poet of the backwoods pioneers; in his time he was known as "the Burns of Canada" for his celebration of the democratic spirit of brotherhood and the toil of the common man. He was described as "the first notable Canadian example of what might be called proletarian verse". McLachlan was at his best in light lyrics that document the customs of country life. Like Burns, he complements his high respect for the common man with kindly humour, satirizing skinflints and mistreaters of oxen. Occasionally, as in "We live in a rickety house", he rises to the ironic pitch of a Blakean nursery song in condemning the naivety of pious charity workers who fail to recognize the church's responsibility for the ignorance and crime that exist among the poor. Of his five volumes of verse—*The spirit of love and other poems* (Toronto 1846), *Poems* (Toronto 1856), *Lyrics* (Toronto 1858), *The emigrant and other poems* (Toronto, 1861), and *Poems and songs* (Toronto 1874)—the 1874 volume is his best collection, while "The Emigrant" is his most ambitious single poem, an unfinished epic in narrative couplets and songs telling of the Scottish immigrants who sailed across the ocean to clear land for a home in the backwoods of Upper Canada. "The Emigrant" was acclaimed to be "a breath of badly needed fresh air in..... mid-Victorian Canadian literature". McLachlan wrote many poems about Scotland: the song "The halls of Holyrood" won The British Workman's prize for the best poem about Queen Mary's palace; other Scottish poems, like the rousing "Curling song", are in dialect.

McLachlan, like Burns, was interested in the delineation of character, but his gift for characterization was that of the mimic. The probing of character achieved no more depth than the glimpse at the faith that sustains a long-suffering widow in "Old Hannah". As E. H. Dewart noted in his introduction to the posthumous collection *The poetical works of Alexander McLachlan* (Toronto, 1900), McLachlan "was too often satisfied with putting the passing thoughts that occupied his mind into easy, homely rimes."

Alexander McLachlan lived humbly but not inconspicuously. Six volumes of poetry were



published in his lifetime; his work was anthologized, recited in schools, praised by Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and other Americans, and revered by an influential group of Canadians including Thomas D'Arcy McGee, George Brown, and George Monro Grant. McLachlan achieved this surprising fame partly because of contemporary hunger for a "native bard" and partly because of his strong lyric expression of pioneer attitudes.



#### 阅读链接 LINKS

亚历山大·麦克拉伦从苏格兰移民加拿大，其诗风传承苏格兰诗人彭斯，有“加拿大的彭斯”之称。如果说彭斯是英国浪漫主义诗歌的先行者，那么麦克拉伦就是加拿大英语诗歌中最早传承浪漫主义的诗人之一。麦克拉伦对加拿大的热爱丝毫不逊于彭斯对苏格兰的热爱。这种浓浓的爱国精神在其《移民》一诗中得到反映。爱国精神和对自由、爱情的追求是麦克拉伦作品的主题。其诗歌语言朴素、自然，具有加拿大的环境特色，但充满强烈的节奏和社会活力，令作品久读不衰。文如其人，麦克拉伦既坚定好斗、又浪漫温柔，其作品也充满矛盾性：反抗与效忠、对“故国”绵绵的爱与对新国家高涨的热情纠结盘错，体现出他那一时代的加拿大人独有的性格特征。

#### 词汇 WORDS TIPS

◆ apprentice: 当学徒	◆ pious: 虔诚的, 尽责的
◆ idyll: 田园诗, 牧歌	◆ delineation: 描绘, 记述
◆ democratic: 民主的	◆ mimic: 模仿, 仿制
◆ proletarian: 无产阶级的	◆ posthumous: 死后出版的
◆ complement: 补充, 补足	◆ bard: 吟游诗人



## 02 Margaret Atwood 玛格丽特·阿特伍德——加拿大文学女王

Margaret Atwood was born on November 18, 1939. She is a Canadian poet, novelist, literary critic, essayist, and environmental activist. While she may be best known for her work as a novelist, she is also a poet, having published 15 books of poetry to date. Many of her poems have been inspired by myths and fairy tales, which have been interests of hers from an early age. She is among the most-honoured authors of fiction in recent history; she is a winner of the Arthur C. Clarke Award and Prince of Asturias Award for Literature, has been shortlisted for the Booker Prize five times, winning once, and has been a finalist for the Governor General's Award seven times, winning twice.

Atwood began writing at age six and realized she wanted to write professionally when she was 16. In 1957, she began studying at Victoria College in the University of Toronto. She graduated in 1961 with a Bachelor of Arts in English (honours) and minors in philosophy and French. In late 1961, after winning the E.J. Pratt Medal for her privately printed book of poems, *Double Persephone*, she began graduate studies at Harvard's Radcliffe College with a Woodrow Wilson fellowship. She obtained a master's degree (MA) from Radcliffe in 1962 and pursued further graduate studies at Harvard University for 2 years, but never finished because she never completed a dissertation on "The English Metaphysical Romance". She has taught at the University of British Columbia (1965), Sir George Williams University in Montreal (1967–68), the University of Alberta (1969–70), York University in Toronto (1971–72), the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa (1985), where she was visiting M.F.A. Chair, and New York University, where she was Berg Professor of English.

### 阅读链接

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有人曾说加拿大文学没有皇帝，但有位女王，她就是玛格丽特·阿特伍德。玛格丽特·阿特伍德素有“加拿大文学女王”之称。阿特伍德是多栖作家，在小说、诗歌、评论几方面都取得了令人瞩目的成就。她成名很早，文学声望扶摇直上，成为享誉世界的文学大师。从1969年她的第一部小说《可食用女人》出版后，在不到10年的时间里，阿特伍德声名鹊起，20世纪70年代后逐渐成为加国文坛领袖。1977年《玛拉巴特评论》出了一期评论阿特伍德及其作品的专辑，将她视为文学天才。1981年阿特伍德获得加拿大勋章，并出任加拿大作家协会主席。1984年至1986年间，她担任国际笔会加拿大分会主席，为提升加拿大文学的国际地位作出了贡献。

阿特伍德正式出版的作品有长篇小说11部、诗集14部、短篇小说集5部、文学评论3部，其作品迄今已在全球35个国家出版。阿特伍德小说成就最大，11部小说都取得不

Atwood's contributions to the theorizing of Canadian identity have garnered attention both in Canada and internationally. Her principal work of literary criticism, *Survival: A Thematic Guide to Canadian Literature*, is considered outdated in Canada but remains the standard introduction to Canadian literature in Canadian Studies programs internationally. In *Survival*, Atwood postulates that Canadian literature, and by extension Canadian identity, is characterized by the symbol of survival. This symbol is expressed in the omnipresent use of "victim positions" in Canadian literature. These positions represent a scale of self-consciousness and self-actualization for the victim in the "victor/victim" relationship. The "victor" in these scenarios may be other humans, nature, the wilderness or other external and internal factors which oppress the victim.

俗的成绩。她的小说《女仆的故事》、《猫眼》与《别名格雷斯》曾获加拿大吉勒奖与意大利普雷米欧·蒙德罗奖。《盲刺客》曾获2000年英国布克小说奖。阿特伍德的小说有独特的意境，能够轻松地把怪异的、热闹的、恐怖的情绪糅合在作品之中，使人们欣赏的不仅是她深刻的洞察力还有她那富有艺术性的表达。其文学评论著作《幸存：加拿大文学主题指南》具有奠定加拿大文学学科地位的重大意义。

#### 词汇 WORDS TIPS

◆ myth: 神话	◆ outdated: 过时的, 不流行的
◆ minor: 辅修	◆ postulate: 要求
◆ fellowship: 奖学金	◆ omnipresent: 无所不在的, 普遍存在的
◆ dissertation: 论文	◆ victim: 牺牲者, 牺牲品
◆ metaphysical: 形而上学的	◆ self-actualization: 自我实现
◆ garner: 储存	◆ scenario: 剧情, 情况





## 03 Susanna Moodie

### 苏珊娜·穆迪——加拿大先驱女作家

Susanna Moodie (1803-1885), a Canadian poet, novelist, and essayist, is chiefly remembered for her classic account of the lives of early settlers in what is now the province of Ontario. The name Susanna Moodie has become synonymous with pioneering life in early Canada.

Susanna was born on December 6, 1803 in Bungay, Suffolk, England, the last of six sisters, including Catherine Parr-Traill. Like her other sisters, she began to write at an early age. Susanna wrote her first children's book in 1822, and published at least seven children's stories while in England, as well as contributing poems, short stories and articles to various collections and journals. She was also introduced to the injustices of slavery by fellow poet Thomas Pringle, and produced pamphlets describing the lives and sufferings of two Caribbean female slaves. Active in the Anti-Slavery Society, Moodie abandoned her strong Anglican roots to attend a Nonconformist Chapel of Congregationalists. Though her family was unhappy with this choice, Moodie's religious experiences often became the subjects of her poetry and prose. In 1830, Susanna met Lt. John Wedderburn Dunbar Moodie, an officer on half-pay and a minor writer. They married in 1831, and after their first child was born, they decided to emigrate to Canada in 1832, with hopes of a better life and more stable income as reported by many early settlers. There they settled in Upper Canada (Ontario) on a half-cleared farm. But bad investments lead them to sell the farm and move into the "bush", where they stayed until her husband became sheriff of the newly formed county of Hastings. They were neither happy nor successful in either location because they were not prepared for the experiences they faced that were so different from life in England.

During this time, in order to make ends meet, Susanna began publishing in local journals and ladies' magazines. She published sketches of Canadian and English life as well as serialized novels from 1838 to 1851. Her greatest success was *Roughing it in the Bush*; or, *Life in Canada*, published in two volumes in 1852, which came of a suggestion by her editor that she write an "emigrant's guide" for British people looking to move to Canada. With honesty, humor and sometimes bitterness, Susanna described her new life in Canada, and her difficulty of adapting to a new country, rather than the advantages to be had in the colony. She claimed that her intention was not to discourage immigrants but to prepare people like herself, raised in relative wealth and with no prior experience as farmers, for what life in Canada would be like. It was with the essentially non-fiction *Roughing it in the Bush* and *Life in the Clearings versus the Bush* (1853) that attracted the most critical attention. Though Moodie has been



viewed at times as anti-Canadian, her depictions of the emigrant experience are generally regarded as insightful and revealing.



#### 阅读链接 LINKS

苏珊娜·穆迪与凯瑟琳·帕尔·特雷尔是一对姐妹作家。妹妹苏珊娜的文学影响远远大于姐姐凯瑟琳。苏珊娜十多岁展露写作才能，19岁开始出版青少年故事读物。1832年苏珊娜与丈夫从英国移民加拿大。长达6年的丛林拓荒生活成为她文学创作的主要素材。拓荒题材的作品成就了苏珊娜·穆迪在加拿大文学史上独特的地位。19世纪50年代是苏珊娜·穆迪创作的黄金时代，最著名的《丛林中的艰苦岁月》于1852年在伦敦出版，1853年和1854年又分别出版了《拓荒生活》和《弗洛拉·林赛》两部以加拿大为背景题材的作品。

苏珊娜·穆迪在《丛林中的艰苦岁月》中表达了移民们对加拿大又爱又恨的双重心理：爱它是因为加拿大壮美的景色深深吸引了他们；恨它是因为人与自然、人与周围环境的矛盾令他们时时陷于生存危机。这种双重心理成为加拿大国民性格特征的原型形象。加拿大当代著名小说家、诗人、文学评论家玛格丽特·阿特伍德把它总结为“极度双重性”（**extreme dualities**），体现出加拿大人的群体性格特征。苏珊娜·穆迪开创了加拿大拓荒文学的幸存主题，这一主题成为加拿大文学的传统主题。

#### 词汇 WORDS TIPS

◆ account: 叙述, 介绍	◆ sketch: 梗概, 草图
◆ synonymous: 同义的, 同名的	◆ serialize: 连载
◆ contribute: 投稿	◆ adapt: 适应
◆ pamphlet: 小册子	◆ abandon: 放弃, 抛弃
◆ emigrate: 移居国外	◆ stable: 稳定的
◆ colony: 殖民地	◆ claim: 声称
◆ prior: 先前的	◆ revealing: 有启迪作用的



## 04 Charles Sangster 查尔斯·桑斯特——殖民地时期桂冠诗人

Charles Sangster (July 16, 1822 – December 9, 1893), a Canadian poet, was born in Ontario. At first an imitator of Byron, he became, with the publication of *Hesperus and Other Poems and Lyrics* (1860), the first notable Canadian poet to make use of native themes and settings.

Sangster had humble beginnings and an unremarkable, unfortunate life. Throughout his life he was just as concerned with making ends meet practically as with making words meet poetically. He was the son of a joiner in the British Navy, and the grandson of a United Empire Loyalist, a Scotch soldier who had fought in the American Revolution. Sangster was but two years old when his father died. His twin sister died in infancy, and when he was but fifteen years of age, he retired from school to assist his mother in providing for the family. As a result, his formal education was rudimentary.

Sangster first gained national attention as a poet in 1850, when his poetry began appearing in Canada's *Literary Garland* magazine. Soon he was publishing in other magazines, such as *Anglo-American Magazine*, as well. Sangster published his first book of poetry, *The St Lawrence and the Saguenay, and Other Poems*, in 1856. The book was widely praised by reviewers and readers. Susanna Moodie wrote to Sangster; "If a native of Canada, [one] may well be proud of her bard, who has sung in such lofty strains the natural beauties of his native land..." *The National Magazine of London* echoed the same sentiment: "Well may the Canadians be proud of such contributions to their infant literature.... In some sort, and according to his degree, Mr. Sangster may be regarded as the Wordsworth of Canada." In 1860 Sangster published another book named *Hesperus, and Other Poems and*

### 阅读链接

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被誉为“殖民地时期桂冠诗人”的查尔斯·桑斯特出生于安大略省金斯顿。读书时期，桑斯特对学校的课程不感兴趣，认为课程脱离生活、老师严厉呆板。15岁时，他离开学校，一边挣钱养家，一边自学成才。1850年桑斯特开始崭露头角，引起公众的关注。他的诗歌发表于当时最有影响力的《文学花环》杂志。1856年其代表作《圣劳伦斯河与萨格奈河及其他诗》问世，受到了广泛的赞誉。桑斯特的创作灵感来自他钟爱的三个主题：爱情、自然和宗教。他擅长用诗歌吟诵加拿大壮美的景色，并溶入历史、经典和神话以及英美作家风格，如莎士比亚、拜伦、华兹华斯和朗费罗等。其风格主要传承了华兹华斯和拜伦的自然诗风格。桑斯特因此被称为“加拿大的华兹华斯”。

1859年桑斯特为纪念抗击美国入侵战争中英勇牺牲的将领布洛克爵士，写下了爱国政治诗《布洛克》。这首诗是加拿大最早的爱国诗，激发了加拿大形成统一国家的民族意





*Lyrics*. His reputation, for a long time, rested primarily on these two books, the work of his youth and vitality, each book appearing in a year when he married (in 1856 to Mary Kilborn, who died eighteen months later; and in 1860 to Henrietta Charlotte Mary Meagher, a seventeen-year-old who was to bear him four children). The coincidence of marriage and publication in Sangster's life seems to fit with his predilection for sonnets, lyrics, and other love poems.

Sangster is the first poet to make appreciative use of Canadian subjects in his works. The Canadian Encyclopedia says that "Sangster's poetry distinguishes him as a lover and keen observer of the natural world. He displays overwhelming passion in some poems and equally extreme melancholy in others. Whatever his mood he is consistently and intensely serious and deeply religious." *The Dictionary of Canadian Biography* calls him "the best of the pre-confederation poets".

识。桑斯特的诗以加拿大为题材，咏诵加拿大美丽的自然风光，字里行间流动着诗人对加拿大的热爱、对自然的感悟：自然的生命亦喜亦悲，顺应自然，就会悲尽喜来。桑斯特对加拿大自然的双重性思考成为后来加拿大联邦诗人自然诗的主要神韵，他也因此被誉为“最好的前联邦诗人”。



#### 词汇 WORDS TIPS

◆ humble: 谦卑的，微贱的	◆ coincidence: 符合，重合，一致
◆ concern: 关心	◆ predilection: 偏爱，特别爱好
◆ infancy: 幼年，婴儿期	◆ overwhelming: 压倒的，占优势的
◆ rudimentary: 基本的，初步的	◆ melancholy: 忧郁
◆ lofty: 崇高的，极高的	◆ consistently: 一贯地，始终如一地
◆ strain: 口气，语调，内容	◆ intensely: 强烈地，一心一意地



## 05 Charles G. D. Roberts 查尔斯·罗伯茨——加拿大诗歌之父

Charles G. D. Roberts (1860-1943), known as the *Father of Canadian Poetry*, was born in Douglas, New Brunswick, on January 10th, 1860 and was raised in Westcock, near the Tantramar marshes, whose beautiful landscape was to dominate and inspire his work for a lifetime. Between the ages of 8 months and 14 years, he was homeschooled mostly by his father, who was proficient in Greek, Latin and French. He published his first writing, three articles in *The Colonial Farmer*, at 12 years of age. Roberts attended Fredericton Collegiate School from 1874 to 1876, and then the University of New Brunswick (UNB), earning his B.A. in 1879 and M.A. in 1881. At the age of 20, he published his first book of poems, *Orion, and Other Poems* (1880), and contemporary critics hailed Orion as the beginning of a new epoch in Canadian letters.

In 1897, Roberts moved to New York where financial pressures forced him to turn to prose writing, which commanded a larger audience and better fees. His most successful prose genre was the animal story, in which he drew upon his early experience in the wilds of the Maritimes. Along with Ernest Thompson Seton, Roberts is credited with inventing the modern animal story. *The Canadian Encyclopedia* says that "Roberts is remembered for creating in the animal story, along with Ernest Thompson Seton, the one native Canadian art form." Roberts published over a dozen such stories between *Earth's Enigmas* (1896) and *Eyes of the Wilderness* (1933). In 1907, he moved to Europe, where he continued to write. Roberts returned to Canada in 1925 and settled in Toronto where he began writing poetry again, producing *The Vagrant of Time* (1927) and *The Iceberg and Other Poems* (1934). He was a popular figure at this time, and lectured throughout Canada. As an active member of the Royal Society of Canada, Roberts was awarded the Lorne Pierce Medal for distinguished service to Canadian literature in 1926, and was knighted in 1935. Roberts continued to lecture and write until 1943 when he died at the age of 83.

Roberts is remembered as a prolific and versatile writer whose early poetry inspired a generation of writers and laid the foundation for future achievements in Canadian verse. He became a prominent member of the so-called "Confederation Poets". At his death he was regarded as Canada's leading man of letters. The deepest thing in his poetic passion and experience is his poetry of nature description. Its basis is, in general, a pure aestheticism. His poetic descriptions are vividly real, and exquisite in beauty of expression, whilst his animal stories in felicitous literary English, in accuracy of particulars, in intensity of dramatic interest, are beyond criticism.