

Pastoral. Pastoral is the name given to a certain class of modern literature in which the "idyl" of the Greeks and the "eclogue" of the Latins are imitated. It was a growth of humanism at the Renaissance and its birth home was Italy. Pastoral as it appeared in Tuscany in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, was really a developed eclogue, an idyl which had been expanded from a scene into a drama. (dramatic pastoral)

In the west of Europe there were various efforts made in the direction of non-dramatic pastoral, which it is hard to classify.

In England the movement in favour of Theocrican simplicity which had been introduced by Spenser in the Shepherds' Calendar was immediately defeated by the success of Sir Philip Sidney's Arcadia.

Pastoral came into fashion again early in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The controversy in the Guardian the famous critique on Ambrose Philips' Pastorals, the anger & rivalry of Pope ----- since 1708 a considerable importance in the annals of bucolic writings.

A far better writer of pastoral than either <sup>was</sup> 2.  
 is Gay, whose Shepherds' week was a serious <sup>(Paper & Philip)</sup>  
 attempt to throw to the winds the ridiculous  
 Arcadian tradition of Nymphs and Swains  
 and to copy Theocritus in his simplicity