

Bildungsroman

Bildungsroman is a literary genre that focuses on the psychological and moral growth of the protagonist from youth to adulthood (coming of age), in which character change is important. Usually the character must overcome a difficult experience or situation before growing up or maturing.

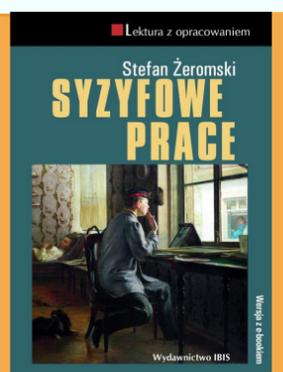
Characteristic of Bildungsroman

- **Questioning** - The main character is questioning something in their life. This might be caused by a big loss or some emotional change.
- **Journey** - The journey they take toward enlightenment and maturity is full of twists and turns. The outcomes might change, or their life takes a twist they don't expect.
- **Seeking answers** - The questioning they feel inside pushes them to gain life experience or seek knowledge. The protagonist is usually pushed to his or her limit while trying to find themselves.
- **Maturing** - Through their journey, the character grows mentally and physically. They gain a maturity they didn't have earlier.

EXAMPLES OF BILDUNGSROMAN STORIES IN POLISH LITERATURE

Szyfowe Prace by Stefan Żeromski

The book tells about the growing up of a Polish nobleman, Marcin Borowicz, at school during the partitions. Overcoming his problems and situation at that time.



PRZEDWIOŚNIE

Stefana Żeromskiego



Przedwiośnie by Stefan Żeromski

The writer presented his growing up, gaining experience, which is directly related to historical facts, like the revolution in Russia, Poland's regaining independence and the reconstruction of all spheres of life in the country.

EXAMPLES OF BILDUNGSROMAN STORIES IN WORLD LITERATURE AND FROM CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens is an amazing tale of one boy struggling to find his place in society and to overcome a boyhood crush.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

CHARLES DICKENS

KHALED HOSSEINI THE KITE RUNNER

'Devastating' Daily Telegraph
'Unforgettable' Isabel Allende
'Heartbreaking' The Times
'Harrowing' Independent

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

It is a brilliant story of two friends from different social classes growing into their friendship in a tumultuous time in Afghanistan.

Harry Potter Series

In the beginning of the series, Harry Potter is just a boy. Through his wizarding education and life experiences, he matures. In the final book, Harry shows his growth from a lost boy to a wizard.

