Thomas Wolfe is known as one of the most important writers of American literature. He is considered to be one of the giants of 20th century American literature. He was a man who expanded inordinate energy in life and in art; his great compulsion for experience in art is undoubtedly responsible for the successes, as well as the failures, of his fiction nationalities, as well as blacks, Jews and Indians. He remains an important spokesman for the 1930s, since he portrayed many of the social, artistic, and political concerns of that decade. Most of all, though, Wolfe, is important in conveying the sense of a lost past, in fiction, he successfully rendered the emotions of the loneliness, sorrow, alienation, love and lost love.

Thomas Wolfe wrote four long novels and many short stories and autobiographical strain is the main aspect of his writings. Wolfe's subject was always himself and his experiences which were transmuted by the imagination and elevated by the power of his rhetoric. His effort to put a person, himself, fully on record through the guise of fiction was a major and masterful
accomplishment in the American novel. At the time of his death he was ranked among the top three or four twentieth-century American novelists. His critical stock has fallen severely since his death in 1938, yet his command of language, the strength of his characterization, and the power with which he could describe the experiences and feelings of youth were all such that his place as a permanent figure in American writing seems assured.

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(ANKITA JAIN)