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THE ROAD TO THE DEATH OF "THE FATHER OF MADNESS"

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There are many mysterious individuals in the world of literature, but in my opinion, one of the most mysterious is the cult writer Howard Phillips Lovecraft. The author of the "myths of Cthulhu" became world famous only after his death at the age of 46, and was nicknamed by his fans as "The Father of Madness". All his life he suffered from mental and physical health problems. Our study aims at examining the reasons of death of the writer who made a great contribution to modern literature and culture in general.

The first thing that affected the writer's mental health was that his father was sent to a mental hospital because the latter said and did strange things. Throughout his life, Lovecraft himself did not believe in the diagnosis of doctors and claimed that his father fell into a paralytic state due to lack of sleep and overfatigue.

After his father was hospitalized, the writer lived in a family home with maternal relatives, two aunts and a grandmother. At that time, grandfather Whipple replaced Lovecraft's father. The grandfather influenced his grandson's literary tastes by encouraging him to read classical literature and telling him scary stories that the grandfather himself invented by frightening and impressing his grandson.

Grandmother's unexpected death also affected the young writer. He recalled that the event plunged his family into darkness. His mother and aunts in black mourning dresses frightened five-year-old Lovecraft, and after that, he began to be troubled by nightmares that haunted him all his life and were depicted in his works. At this age, the future master of the word became interested in chemistry, reading astronomy all night, he slept all day, and because of this he had a pale skin tone. He also studied the books on anatomy available to him in the extensive library. Studying the features of human reproduction, which he did not know, he found out that it almost killed his interest in it. Lovecraft began attending elementary school at the age of eight, but was expelled a year later due to health problems and a tendency to argue.

In the spring of 1904, one of his grandfather's Whipple largest enterprises failed. As a result, the old man's health deteriorated and he died of a stroke a few months later.

After the death of old Whipple, Susie (the writer's mother) was unable to support the Phillips estate and moved. Lovecraft called this time one of the gloomiest in his life, noting in a letter in 1934 that he no longer saw meaning in life. In the autumn of the same year he went to high school where he was often suspended from classes due to his nervous breakdowns. During school, he shows good knowledge of physics and chemistry, but suffers from insufficient knowledge of mathematics, which is then mentioned in the letters. A letter describing 1908 stated that he was suffering from headaches, insomnia and general nervous weakness. Lovecraft did not finish school

and did not attend it again, and this shattered his dreams of studying at Brown University.

A few years later, his mother was admitted to the same mental hospital as the writer's father due to a nervous breakdown. In 1919, the writer's mother died because of complications of the operation. And Lovecraft, in addition to his childhood attacks of chorea and cold intolerance, fell into an atypical depression.

After marrying to Sonny Green on March 3, 1924, from which all refused him, the author moved to her Brooklyn apartment at 793 Flatbush Avenue. Sonny Green soon lost her business, and her assets were lost due to the bankruptcy of the bank, during that time she fell ill. Lovecraft tried to support his wife with a permanent job, but could not find it because of the lack of his previous experience. His wife moved from the writer to Cleveland to find a normal job. In addition to previous failures, Lovecraft's apartment at Clinton Street 169 was was robbed, leaving only the clothes he was wearing. In 1926, moving to Providence, he began creating, forgetting about normal life. After living separately for a long time, Green and Lovecraft agreed to divorce.

The writer could never cover his expenses by selling his stories and doing paid literary work for others. He lived modestly, using a legacy that was almost exhausted. Sometimes he went hungry to pay for postage.

As a result of the Great Depression, he moved to socialism, condemning both his beliefs and the growing wave of fascism. Lovecraft's physical health was deteriorating. He suffered from the disease, although he thought it was the "flu". He was examined a month before his death and was diagnosed with bowel cancer. The writer lived in constant excruciating pain until his death on March 15, 1937. He kept a diary of his disease and recorded his feelings until he was able to hold a pen.

The study shows that the causes of Howard Phillips Lovecraft's early death became: negative impressions of his father's death and subsequent deaths of his loved ones, his congenital and acquired mental and physical diseases, despair and unrecognizability during his lifetime. The latter one resulted in the lack of money, that is why, the writer had an unhealthy lifestyle that led to his deadly disease.

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