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Sommario/riassunto

Patrick Parrinder's new history of the English novel from its beginnings to the present day traces the form's distinctive and often subversive reflection of national identity across the centuries. From the early stories of rogues and criminals to present-day novels of immigration, fiction has played a major part in defining our ideas of England and Englishness. *Nation and Novel* provides both a comprehensive survey and also a new interpretation of the importance of the English novel. - ;What is 'English' about the English novel, and how has the idea of the English nation been shaped