Professional Notes and Comment

Although the items printed in this section are meant to serve the professional interests of the membership, the editor does not solicit the items and cannot vouch for their reliability. Members should exercise reasonable judgment in responding to them. Contributors may send items to Professional Notes and Comment, *PMLA*, Modern Language Association, 26 Broadway, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10004-1789 (fax: 646 458-0030; pnc@mla.org).

JUAN TOMÁS ÁVILA LAUREL. Contributions are sought for a collection of essays on the Equatorial Guinean writer Juan Tomás Ávila Laurel. Poet, essayist, playwright, novelist, and editor, Ávila Laurel (1966–) is considered by many to be one of the most important contemporary writers living in Equatorial Guinea. His roots in Annobon, an island that is politically and economically marginalized within the geopolitical context of this country, have permitted Ávila Laurel to develop a singular perspective on the Equatorial Guinean experience. Ávila Laurel fictionalizes the complex social landscape of this sub-Saharan nation through such diverse themes as slave trading, Spanish colonization, gender dynamics, dictatorship, and perpetuation of feudal-like patterns in social relations. Through them, he reveals a discursive machinery that reclaims a just literary representation of Equatorial Guinean society. This anthology of essays aspires to address a gap in African Hispanophone studies by fostering analysis of Ávila Laurel's works. Send proposals and inquiries by 1 August 2005 to the editors, Baltasar Fra-Molinero, Dept. of Spanish, Bates Coll., Lewiston, ME 04240 (bframoli@bates.edu), or Elisa Rizo, Dept. of Spanish, Westminster Coll., Fulton, MO 65251 (rizoe@jaynet.wcmo.edu).

CHILDREN ONSTAGE IN EARLY MODERN DRAMA. Submissions are invited for a collection of essays on child actors, characters, and roles in plays written from about 1500 through 1700, to be submitted initially to Wayne State University Press's series Landscapes of Childhood. Topics might include any of the following: children in Shakespeare, child characters in works of his contemporaries, child actors and roles in Continental Renaissance theater, children's acting companies, early modern conceptions of children onstage, stage history and practice of representing children's roles, transvestite theatrical performance and children, antitheatrical criticism (e.g., homoeroticism, pederasty), gendered definitions and performances of childhood, metaphoric and figurative childhood in early modern drama, early modern conceptions of children's language and speech, early modern stages of childhood, children and violence on- and offstage, children's economic roles (e.g., wardship, apprenticeship, pages), children and education. Submit inquiries, abstracts, proposals, and articles, no more than 30 pages in length, by 1 July 2005 to Mark Heberle, Dept. of English, Univ. of Hawai'i, Mānoa, Honolulu 96822 (heberle@hawaii.edu).

VIETNAM WAR, THIRTY YEARS AFTER. Submissions are invited for a collection of essays on American and Vietnamese literature of the war in Vietnam (with some room for film and other cultural productions). The book is intended to analyze, interpret, and evaluate literary and other cultural products of the war. General issues and

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The Intimate Life of L.M. Montgomery

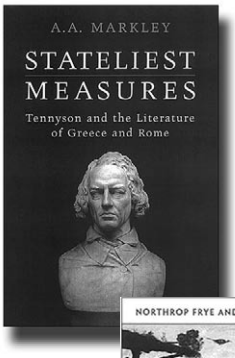
Edited by Irene Gammel



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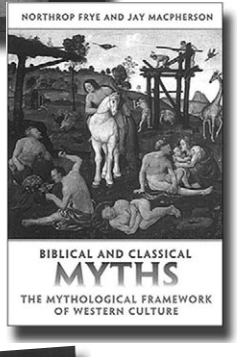
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Tennyson and the Literature of Greece and Rome

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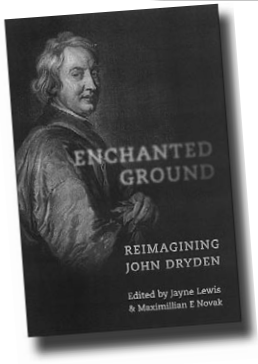
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problems to be considered include canonization; differences between American and Vietnamese works; defining and evaluating war literature; influence of the war on literary history, criticism, and theory as well as other arts and humanities disciplines. Papers addressing any of these broad issues are welcome. Inquiries, proposals, and abstracts should be sent no later than 1 June 2005 to Mark Heberle, Dept. of English, Univ. of Hawai'i, Mānoa, Honolulu (heberle@hawaii.edu). Completed articles will be due by 1 November 2005, and the volume will be submitted for publication early in 2006.

SOCIAL USES OF DRAMA. Submissions are sought for *Praxis: Drama as Reflective Action for Social Transformation*, an edited volume on social uses of drama and dramatic techniques. The focus of the volume is interdisciplinary; pieces must combine approaches from drama with sociological theoretical perspectives. Submissions should demonstrate why dramatic techniques are especially appropriate in effecting social change, critique, and action. Unique characteristics of dramatic techniques, such as spontaneity (i.e., improvisation), role-playing in interactions, and physicality in bringing ideas and thoughts into an embodied form of expression, are relevant. The goal is to elucidate how using drama for social purposes is essentially different from using art, sport, writing, music, and so forth. Subject matter may include areas such as acculturation processes for immigrants and asylum seekers; development of awareness and acceptance of cultures and subcultures by social-work professionals; working with offenders; education; training in disability, children's rights, and women's issues. Submissions must not describe a practical setting or activity without explicitly embedding that practice within sociological theory with a view to social change. Send two hard copies of submissions (5,000–10,000 words in length, double-spaced, in Harvard style) by 20 March 2005 by mail to either Marnie Carroll, 13C Seton Village, Santa Fe, NM 87505 (marniecarroll@yahoo.com), or Lisa Fitzpatrick, Dept. of Applied Arts, School of Humanities, Waterford Inst. of Tech., Waterford, Ireland (lfitzpatrick@wit.ie).

IMPRISONMENT IN VICTORIAN FICTION. Submissions are invited for a collection of original essays exploring the representation of prisons and imprisonment in British Victorian fiction. The volume intends to explore new ways of investigating how imprisonment is textualized in and through narrative and how prison literature supports, complicates, or questions the construction of discursive subject positions. Prison fiction is here understood to encompass both the literary expression of a prisoner's own inside experience and any depiction of incarceration by outside observers. While any approach is welcome, contributions that engage theoretical or historical issues or reassess existing critical paradigms are particularly encouraged. Possible topics include literary representations or classifications of prisoners and their identities; depictions of physical space, liminal areas, or life in jail; perceptions of the prison administration and economy; the possibilities and limitations of "transcending" imprisonment; connections between narrative techniques or structures and the (re)presentation of imprisonment; possible relations between literary conceptions, the realities of incarceration, and Victorian penal reforms; metaphoric treatments; the reception or rewriting of Victorian prison literature. Send all inquiries, abstracts, and final papers (approximately 6,000–9,000 words in length) by 30 April 2005 to Frank Lauterbach (flauter@gwdg.de) or Jan Alber (jan.alber@web.de).

CRITICAL MASCULINITIES. Book-length projects are invited for a new book series from the University of Wisconsin Press. The series focuses on an examination of cultural representations of manhood in which culture and masculinities are understood in the broadest sense. Centered in the humanities (with the option to publish stimulating work in the social sciences), the majority of the books will be concerned with one or more of the following areas: multicultural and transnational masculinities; female and queer masculinities; masculinities in literature, film, TV, music, theater, and dance; science and technology in relation to masculinities; and other areas of debate in which masculinities have come to figure as a crucial analytic category. Send inquiries or book proposals to any of the editors: Peter F. Murphy, Murray State Univ., general editor (peter.murphy@murraystate.edu); Matt Cohen, Duke Univ., associate editor (mxcohe@duke.edu); or Joel Morton, Saint Lawrence Univ., associate editor (jmorton@stlawu.edu).

HISTORY OF PERVERSION. Contributors are sought for a book collection on "the history of perversion, 1650–1850." Specifically sought are articles within the boundaries of the history of sexuality that examine so-called perversions; literary historical fields and interdisciplinary approaches are welcome. In sexuality studies of the 1980s and 1990s, there was a contention that discourse produced acts of perversion and that before naming events, such behaviors were unthinkable or unpracticed. This argument tends to bow toward the late nineteenth century, the epoch of Krafft-Ebbing and Freud, as the origin of multiple labeling of perversions. Critics of sexuality have noted that, while few women were called "lesbians" in eighteenth-century fiction and memoir, there were lots of "Frekes," "Tommies," and "Sapphists." The editors seek clearly written essays on instances of perversion in literary and historical texts that predate the official naming events of "inversion," "masochism," and so forth, thereby complicating the historical picture of discursive and sexual practice. Preference will be given to eighteenth-century sources, but 1650–1850 is the general range. Send one copy of complete articles by 1 May 2005 to each editor: Julie Peakman, 2 Kings Garth, 29 London Road, London SE23 3TT, England, and Bonnie Blackwell, Dept. of English, TCU Box 297270, Texas Christian Univ., Fort Worth 76129 (b.blackwell@tcu.edu). The anticipated date of publication is fall 2006.

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EVELYN WAUGH ESSAY CONTEST. *Evelyn Waugh Newsletter and Studies* announces the first annual Evelyn Waugh Undergraduate Essay Contest. Undergraduates should submit essays by 31 December 2005 to the editor, John H. Wilson, Dept. of English, Lock Haven Univ., Lock Haven, PA 17745. Essays will be judged by the *Newsletter*'s editorial board, and a winner will be announced in the Spring issue of 2006. The prize is $250.

AESOP AWARD WINNERS. The Aesop Prize, given annually by the Children's Folklore Section of the American Folklore Society, was awarded for two books in 2004: *Ayat Jamilah: Beautiful Signs: A Treasury of Islamic Wisdom for Children and Parents*, by Sarah Conover and Freda Crane and illustrated by Valerie Wahl (Eastern Washington UP), and *The Magic Gourd*, by Baba Wagué Diakité (Scholastic). Four books received the 2004 Aesop Accolades: *Bottle Houses: The Creative World of Grandma Prisbrey*, by Melissa Eskridge Slaymaker and illustrated by Julie Paschkis (Henry Holt); *The Painted Wall and Other Strange Tales*, selected and adapted by Michael Bedard from the Liao-Chai of Pu Sungling (Tundra); *Sure As Sunrise: Stories of Bruh Rabbit and His Walkin' Talkin' Friends*, by Alice McGill and illustrated by Don Tate (Houghton); and *Walking on Solid Ground*, by Shu Pui Cheung, Shuyuan Li, Aaron Chau, and Deborah Wei (Philadelphia Folklore Project). These awards are given for books of folklore that accurately reflect cultures, cite their sources, and further the child's understanding of folklore.

Journal Notes

Papers are invited for issue 16 of *Antípodas* (2005), dedicated to the narrative fiction of three celebrated novelists: the Salvadorean Claribel Alegría, the Argentine Abel Posse, and the Galician-Spaniard Ramón del Valle Inclán. Manuscripts should not exceed 20 double-spaced pages in length and must adhere to MLA style. Contributions are accepted in Spanish, English, and Galician. Contributors are asked to keep endnotes or footnotes to a minimum. Send manuscripts (original and two copies), together with an electronic version in *Microsoft Word* on a 3.5-inch disk, by 30 May 2005 to Roberto H. Esposto Caamaño, School of Languages and Comparative Cultural Studies, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland 4072 Australia (r.esposto@uq.edu.au).

Living as we do in an age dominated by such mechanically reproducible media as television, cinema, and photography, we are often hard-pressed to recall that for most Americans before 1900 the most widely available and accessible medium of visual entertainment was theater (and theater-like productions). A special issue of *Comparative Drama* will seek to illuminate and explore the wide range of theatrical productions in the United States before 1900. Topics of submitted essays may include popular melodrama; minstrelsy; touring performers and performances; Wild West shows, historical reenactments, and Indian plays; museums and traveling circuses; the rise of the Broadway impresario; the development of stage realism; technological innovation and stagecraft; race and gender as factors in popularity and in appeals to specific audiences; humbugs and hoaxes; regionalism and theater; the relation of theater with other arts (i.e., the contributions and representations crafted by painters, photographers, and novelists); social and cultural performance beyond the formal stage. Send completed essays (up to 25 pp. in length, double-spaced) by 31 July 2005 to Nicolas S. Witschi, Dept. of English, Western Michigan Univ., Kalamazoo 49008-5331. Queries may be directed to Witschi at nicolas.witschi@wmich.edu. For manuscript preparation guidelines, consult http://www.wmich.edu/compdr/Pages/submissi.html.

The issues of *e-misférica*, a peer-reviewed biannual online publication, are thematically structured around topics that explore the different uses of and interrelations between performance and politics in the Western hemisphere. Guest editors assemble each issue's written, digital, and interactive materials, fostering a dialogue among artists, academics, and activists from throughout the continent. The first issue, *Enacting Democracy*, launched just before the United States presidential elections, explores the performance of democracy and the many ways in which politics have become increasingly performatic and mediated. It is edited by Diana Taylor and includes essays by Victor Vich, Kavita Kulkarni, Fernando Calzadilla, Nina Mankin, and Jeanne Vaccaro, as well as two multimedia presentations (on Billionaires for Bush and Superbarrio), a roundtable, and a student panel. Readers can also see the new Hemi e-Gallery, whose featured artist for this issue is the Mexican political humorist Jabaz. The first issue of *e-misférica* is available at http://hemisphericinstitute.org/journal; the e-gallery can be found at http://hemisphericinstitute.org/gallery. See the section "Participate" to find out how to get involved in the discussion, submit articles, be a guest editor, and more.

Submissions are sought for *Faulkner and Whiteness*, a special double issue of the *Faulkner Journal*. William Faulkner lived and wrote when models of normative and deviant identity were increasingly racialized, even as racial identity was increasingly biologized. For this special issue, the guest editor, Jay Watson (Univ. of Mississippi), welcomes submissions that problematize whiteness in Faulkner's life and career. Topics could include perspectives on white masculinity and femininity; the role of whiteness in delineating gender identity and vice versa; intersections between Faulkner's writings and contemporaneous discourses of whiteness (eugenics, nativism, nationalism, colonialism, Jim Crow) or other literary explorations of whiteness; new approaches to poor-white characterization; performances of whiteness that destabilize the color line; the whiteness *of* Faulkner, as (mis)performed by the author or constructed by the academy; perspectives from

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Minimal Theologies

Critiques of Secular Reason in Adorno and Levinas

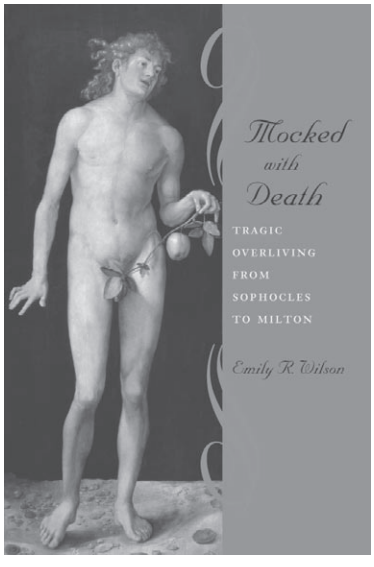
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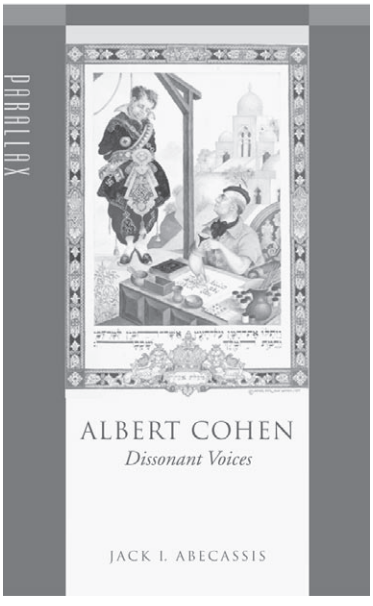
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materialist, postcolonial, psychoanalytic, historicist, gender, performance, or critical race studies on whiteness as identity or ideology in Faulkner; relations between whiteness and Faulkner's modernism; the economics, politics, ethics, poetics, psychology, spirituality, geography, or "queerness" of "trash" in Faulkner. Follow the submission guidelines in the *Faulkner Journal*; send two copies of manuscripts by 24 September 2005 to Jay Watson, c/o *Faulkner Journal*, Dept. of English, Univ. of Central Florida, PO Box 161346, Orlando 32816-1346 (inquiries: jwatson@olemiss.edu).

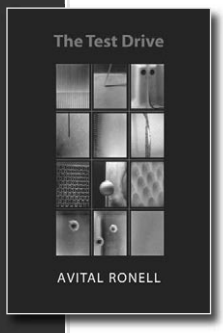
The *Journal of the Legal Writing Institute* is a peer-edited scholarly publication of the Legal Writing Institute, a nonprofit organization devoted to the promotion and discussion of issues concerning legal writing, analysis, and research. The journal publishes articles, research reports, empirical studies, book reviews, and critical commentary from persons interested in the theory and practice of legal writing, in writing issues with application to the field of legal writing or to the design of courses and curricula, and in teaching techniques for the classroom and law office. The journal solicits manuscripts from other disciplines that extend the boundaries of legal writing as well as those that seek to improve pedagogy and scholarship in the field of legal writing through interdisciplinary and empirical research. Submissions may involve a broad range of disciplines, including classical rhetoric, linguistics, composition, psychology, communication, and ethics. They may also encompass a broad range of skills, including analysis, research, interpretation, drafting, and storytelling. Submissions should address a gap in existing literature and be based on theory, original research, or both. In recognition that a variety of disciplines can contribute to knowledge about legal writing, the *Journal of the Legal Writing Institute* is multidisciplinary. Mail manuscripts to the editor in chief, Mary Beth Beazley, Moritz Coll. of Law, Ohio State Univ., 55 West 12th Ave., Columbus 43210, or e-mail them as *Microsoft Word* attachments to beazley.1@osu.edu. Citations must comply with the *ALWD Citation Manual* (ISBN 0-7355-3640-6); the journal will conform footnotes if they follow a different system of citation. To learn more about the institute, visit http://www.lwionline.org/.

Lit: Literature Interpretation Theory seeks submissions for *The Future of Academic Writing and the Essay*, a special issue devoted to the future of academic writing in literary studies. Now that the "golden age of criticism and theory" has passed, many new influences—cultural, ideological, and economic—are coming to bear on academic writing. Contributions to the issue should explore the forces that are creating a new ethos for scholarly writing. What role will the essay, still the predominant nonfictional form in the West, as opposed to the professional article, play in these developments? In sum, how should academics write and to what end? Each contribution should engage with at least one literary, essayistic, rhetorical, or theoretical text so as to illuminate the future of academic writing. Send contributions (2,000–4,000 words in length) by 1 March 2005 to the guest editor, Robert Con Davis-Undiano, Neustadt Professor of Comparative Lit., Univ. of Oklahoma, Norman 73019. *Lit* also publishes critical essays that interpret texts from engaging, coherent theoretical perspectives and that provide original close readings of texts. Because the journal addresses a general literate audience, essays unburdened by excessive theoretical jargon are encouraged. The journal's scope is not restricted to specific periods, genres, or critical paradigms. Submissions must use MLA citation style. Send three copies of essays (if you are outside the United States and Canada, one copy will do), along with 100-word abstracts, to Regina Barreca, Editor, *Lit: Literature Interpretation Theory*, Dept. of English, Univ. of Connecticut, Box 4025, 215 Glenbrook Road, Storrs 06269-4025 (litjourn@yahoo.com).

The editors of *Modern Fiction Studies* seek essays for inclusion in a special issue entitled *Paris, Modern Fiction, and the Black Atlantic*, to be published in Winter 2005. Welcome are new approaches to the study of diasporic modernism that challenge the traditional depiction of Paris as a meeting point of great minds. The issue aims to show Paris to be a site of provisional and contingent subjectivities, a city whose ties to the modern mark the emergence of work that seeks psychological and historical agency beyond the claims of the individual subject. Responding to recent critical studies of transnational black culture in the twentieth century, contributors should examine the literal or imaginative travels made to Paris by black writers of American, Caribbean, and African descent. As significant for its imaginary topography as for its actual landscape, the Paris inhabited by these writers offers a provocative means for exploring the circulation of objects and concepts that Paul Gilroy has named the Black Atlantic. Why did Paris become such an important place for such writers—especially those whose work fought against the dominance of capitals, boundaries, nations, or empires? The editors are especially interested in essays that explore how the interactions between black expatriate fiction writers and European intellectual movements (Marxism, psychoanalysis, cubism, surrealism, existentialism) became instrumental to broader intellectual and political projects: struggles against colonialism and imperialism; redefinitions of or resistances to colonial, national, or racial identity; or even the interrogation of individual subjectivity itself. Send two copies of essays (20–30 pp. in length and conforming to the current *MLA Style Manual*) by 1 March 2005 to the Editors, *MFS,* Dept. of English, Purdue Univ., 500 Oval Dr., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2038. Queries should be directed to one of the guest editors, Jonathan Eburne (jpe11@psu.edu) or Jeremy Braddock (braddock@english.upenn.edu).

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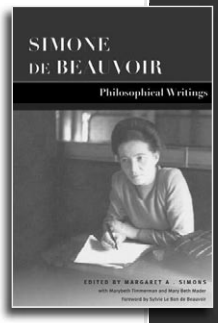


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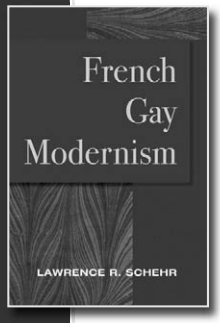
Philosophical Writings

SIMONE de BEAUVOIR

Edited by Margaret A. Simons with Marybeth Timmermann and Mary Beth Mader. Foreword by Sylvie Le Bon de Beauvoir

Beauvoir remains widely misunderstood and is typically portrayed as a mere philosophical follower of her companion, Jean-Paul Sartre. *Philosophical Writings* addresses this source of misunderstanding by providing complete, scholarly editions of Beauvoir's philosophical texts covering the first twenty-three years of her work, including some only recently discovered.

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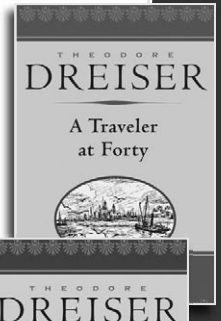


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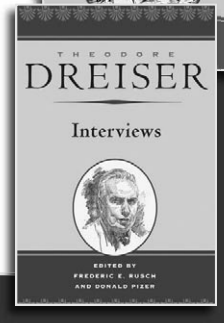


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➸ Essays are invited for a special issue of the *Sun Yat-sen Journal of Humanities* (a peer-reviewed journal published in Taiwan) on discipline in literature and literary studies. Discipline (the breakdown, imposition, subversion, lack, or embrace of it; returns to it and departures from it) forms an important element in the dynamics of literary form, history, stylistics, and reflection. Discipline can be considered an intellectual, ideological, moral, philosophical, religious, artistic, or stylistic category and can be related or opposed to such qualities as creativity, sentimentality, excess, rhapsody, (self-)indulgence, freedom, passion, openness, gibberish, romanticism, laxness, protest, innovation, and unknowingness. Essays could discuss discipline as it is embodied, implied, or thematized in specific literary works, or they could approach discipline as a way of understanding a genre, period, movement, or oeuvre or as a theoretical concept (e.g., in Foucault's sense) or an analytic tool (e.g., in the colonial meeting of peoples). Essays could also reflect on the weaknesses or strengths of literary studies as a discipline. Send inquiries or abstracts to Rudolphus Teeuwen, Dept. of Foreign Languages, National Sun Yat-sen Univ., Kaohsiung 80424, Taiwan (jeeuwen@mail.nsysu.edu.tw). Complete essays (3,000–6,000 words in length, following MLA format, and sent as e-mail attachments in *Microsoft Word*) should reach the editor by 18 March 2005.

➸ *Symplokē*, a journal of comparative theory and literature, seeks submissions for its special issue *Discouragement* (vol. 13, no. 2 [2005]). In an interview held after the fatwa on his life had been lifted, Salman Rushdie made the surprising remark that in its own way the fatwa had been a good thing because it showed that books could still matter enough for people to get shot for writing them. His comment cuts to the heart of a problem most intellectuals face today: the discouraging feeling that no matter how important or interesting their message may be, it will not galvanize change. How do intellectuals confront the present times? How do they make themselves heard? How do they make their words matter? Welcome are papers that analyze the present situation of the intellectual, a situation that is discouraging precisely because of its want of good sense. Send submissions by 1 July 2005 to either Jeffrey R. Di Leo, School of Arts and Sciences, Univ. of Houston, 3007 North Ben Wilson, Victoria, TX 77901 (editor@symploke.org), or Ian Buchanan, School of Creative Arts and Humanities, Charles Darwin Univ., Darwin, NT 0909, Australia (ian.buchanan@cdu.edu.au). For submission details, consult the journal's Web site (http://www.symploke.org/).

➸ *Synergies: Amérique du Nord*, a new research magazine launched by the Francophone Resource Center at the University of Southern California and the Gerflint (France), dedicates its next issue to the languages of the postcolonial. Twenty years later, how do we write postcolonial theory? How is postcolonial literature written? The goal of the issue is to propose a study of the "tongue" and "tools" used nowadays in postcolonial writings. Send papers (in French, 3,000–5,000 words in length, and following MLA style), for receipt by 15 February 2005, to Béatrice Mousli Bennett, Francophone Resource Center, Doheny Memorial Library, 116, Univ. of Southern California, Los Angeles 90089-1823 (inquiries: bbennett@usc.edu).

➸ *Victorian Literature and Culture* seeks articles for an upcoming special issue on food and the Victorians, edited by Ross Forman and Suzanne Daly. Essays should follow MLA guidelines and may address any aspect of the production or consumption of food or drink. Send two copies of manuscripts by 1 November 2005 to Suzanne Daly, Dept. of English, Bartlett Hall, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst 01003-9269. Inquiries may be directed to Daly (sdaly@english.umass.edu) or Forman (rf19@soas.ac.uk).

Internet News

Words without Borders (http://www.wordswithoutborders.org/) is a collaborative effort of editors, translators, and writers to promote international communication through literary translation. Its primary activity is the discovery, translation, and online publication of writing otherwise unavailable to the English-speaking reader. It also seeks to promote writers through public events and broadcasts. The site aims to expand the reach of students and educators by enabling them to access and download fresh, contemporary material in dual languages (print and audio); to recommend works to be translated for use in their classrooms; and to communicate with one another and with authors on the subjects of these works. Bringing to light hard-to-find literature from places of urgent political concern such as Iran, Iraq, and North Korea, *Words without Borders* provides perspective on current events through literature. Annotated links to the dozens of language-specific literature sites on the Web and engaging and provocative contextual features and articles—biographical, cultural, environmental, historical, and critical—help situate international literature not as a static, elite phenomenon but as a portal through which to explore the world. The editors hope to foster a "globalization" of cultural engagement and exchange, one that allows many voices in many languages to prosper. *Words without Borders* is a partner of PEN American Center and is hosted by Bard College.

Meeting of the MLA Executive Council

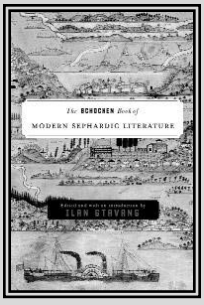
[Note: The Executive Council voted to approve these minutes at its October 2004 meeting.]

The council met on 21–22 May 2004 at the MLA office in New York. President Robert Scholes presided. The

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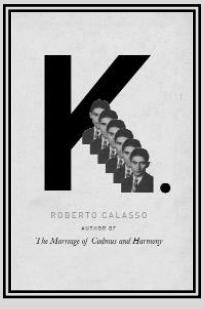
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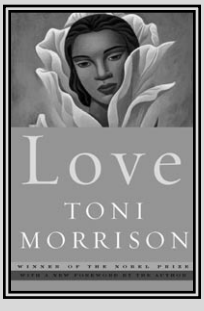
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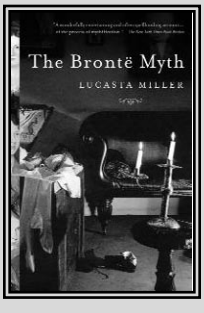
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officers present were First Vice President Domna C. Stanton, Second Vice President Marjorie Perloff, and Executive Director Rosemary G. Feal. The Executive Council members present were K. Anthony Appiah (21 May only), Michael Bérubé, Rey Chow, Marilyn Gaddis Rose, Yolanda Martínez–San Miguel, Tey Diana Rebolledo, Rosaura Sánchez, Amada Sandoval, and Guy Stern. The MLA staff members present were Director of Bibliographic Information Services and Editor of the *MLA International Bibliography* Barbara Chen, Managing Editor of MLA Publications and Director of Publishing Operations Judy Goulding, Director of Financial Operations Amilde Hadden, Director of Convention Programs Maribeth T. Kraus, Director of English Programs David Laurence, Director of Book Publications David G. Nicholls, Associate Executive Director and Head of the Division of MLA Operations Regina Vorbeck, and Assistant to the Executive Director and Coordinator of Governance Carol Zuses.

On 21 May, the council convened in regular session throughout the day to work through its agenda. On the morning of 22 May, the council first convened in executive session to review the salaries of senior staff members and to receive a report from the MLA's officers on their review, carried out before the start of the council meeting, of all staff salaries. Any council member who wished to review all staff salaries had the opportunity to do so. Using this new procedure for reviewing staff salaries was in keeping with standard practices for corporate boards and allowed the council to streamline the process of salary review. After the executive session, the council reconvened in regular session for the remainder of the morning to continue its consideration of agenda items. The council then held an hour-long session before lunch with three guests from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH): Chairman Bruce Cole, Deputy Chairman Lynne Munson, and Senior Counselor to the Chairman Cherie Harder. Cole described a number of new NEH initiatives (e.g., the We the People American history project, landmark workshops for teachers on American history, a national newspaper digital project, collaborative work with the National Science Foundation on digital infrastructure and on endangered languages) and encouraged council members to spread the word about these initiatives and to share their ideas for other new projects. Munson provided some details on how various NEH programs work, and Harder explained the congressional budget process and described NEH staff members' efforts to obtain increased funding for the NEH. Council members noted their concerns about the status of the humanities in higher education and in society at large and about the state of scholarly publishing. Rosemary Feal demonstrated the MLA Language Map for the council's NEH visitors. The council's conversation with Cole, Munson, and Harder continued informally during lunch. After lunch, the council reconvened briefly in regular session to conclude its business and adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

The council took the following actions:

1. *Administration and Finance.* The Finance Committee presented a midyear report on finances with a summary of association income and expenses in the fiscal year 2003–04 after seven months. The committee was still anticipating a deficit in the association's unrestricted fund but noted that the deficit was now lower than the one projected in February. The committee also presented to the council a tentative budget for the fiscal year 2004–05 that projected a small deficit of $11,830 in the association's unrestricted fund. The Finance Committee drew the council's attention to several features of the tentative budget, including higher expenses associated with the purchase of additional Oracle software licenses to support the association's accounting systems and with the travel grants for advanced graduate students attending the annual convention, which the council decided to double in October 2003 (see May 2004 *PMLA* 624). The tentative budget also reflected restructured pricing options for library subscriptions to *PMLA* and took account of shifts in bibliography income attributable to the discontinuation of the CD-ROM format offered by Ovid through SilverPlatter and to the addition of a vendor of online subscriptions. The Finance Committee also reported that monies from a restricted fund, the Modern Language Materials Revolving Fund, would be used to support the MLA Language Map and ADFL programs. After reviewing the tentative budget for the fiscal year 2004–05, the council voted to approve it.

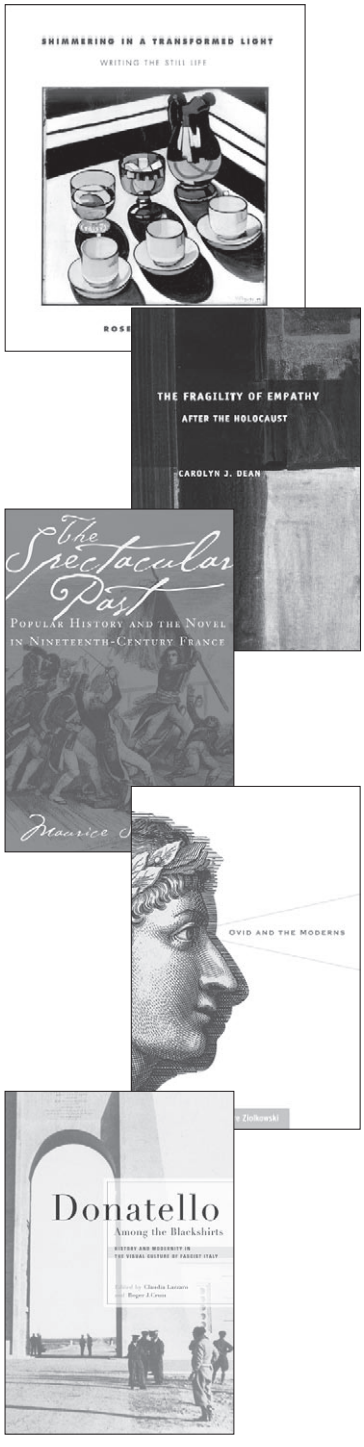
The council designated Deloitte and Touche to conduct the audit of the association's fiscal year 2003–04 accounts.

The council also reviewed and revised its procedure for making decisions between council meetings, because it found the existing procedure, which required a conference call of all council members, unworkable (see May 2001 *PMLA* 748). The council determined that this procedure would be used only when time-sensitive matters requiring council action before the next scheduled council meeting arise. Any member of the council may bring an issue to the council's attention. Information about the matter and a proposal for action will be circulated to the full council on its electronic discussion list. The matter and the proposed action will be discussed on the list for one week. At the end of that time, if a majority of council members have said that an action, either as proposed or as modified during the discussion period, should be taken, the council's advisory committee (composed of the officers and the council members who are in the last year of their council terms) will make a formal decision on the matter on behalf of the entire council. As soon as possible thereafter, the advisory committee will use the electronic discussion list to report its decision to the full council. Finally, the council will be asked to review and ratify the advisory committee's action at the next scheduled council meeting.

2. *Approval of the February 2004 Council Minutes.* The council approved the minutes of its February 2004 meeting for publication in the October 2004 issue of *PMLA*.

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3. *Report on Participation in MLA Activities.* The council received a report on the ranks, geographic locations, and institutions of members who served the association in various capacities in 2003 and early 2004 (i.e., as members of standing committees except for publication and prize committees, as members of ad hoc committees, as representatives to conferences and the American Council of Learned Societies, and as scholar bibliographers). The staff regularly provides this information because the council is concerned to involve a broad cross section of the membership in association activities. The information in the report will serve the council as a guide for future appointments.

4. *Nomination of an Honorary Fellow.* The council received a recommendation from the Committee on Honors and Awards (CHA) pertaining to the nomination of an honorary fellow. Acting on the CHA's recommendation, the council nominated Adrienne Kennedy for honorary fellowship in the association. Following the provisions of article 3.D of the MLA constitution, the election to honorary fellowship will be conducted during the 2004 Delegate Assembly meeting in Philadelphia.

5. *Further Discussion of Proposed Constitutional Amendment.* In 2003, the council agreed to propose a number of constitutional amendments that the Delegate Assembly Organizing Committee and the association's attorney had recommended to improve and tighten the procedures, set out in article 11, that govern the resolution process (see Jan. 2004 *PMLA* 170–72 and Oct. 2003 *PMLA* 1376). The staff consulted with the parliamentarian on the amendments while preparing to forward them to the Committee on Amendments to the Constitution. The parliamentarian said that it would be useful to expand one of the proposed amendments. The amendment in question involved the addition to article 7.B.3, which stipulates the conditions under which the council must withhold a resolution from ratification by the membership, of a cross-reference to article 9.C.10, which describes the permitted scope of resolutions. Because the limits that the constitution imposes on the scope of resolutions are dictated by the association's mission, the parliamentarian suggested supplementing the amendment's reference to article 9.C.10 with a reference to article 2, which sets forth the association's purpose or mission. The council agreed to propose the following expanded version of the amendment: "The resolution is not consistent with the provisions of articles 2 and 9.C.10."

6. *Charge for and Appointments to the Ad Hoc Committee on Foreign Languages.* The council received the report of the council subcommittee it had charged in February with drafting a charge for a new ad hoc committee that would focus on national language needs and policy issues and with compiling a list of suggested appointees (see Oct. 2004 *PMLA* 1390). The council discussed the draft charge at length and approved it. The charge reads as follows:

> The Ad Hoc Committee on Foreign Languages is charged with examining the current language crisis that has occurred as a result of 9/11 and with looking at the efforts of the US government (including some 40 agencies that are involved in teaching languages other than English) to meet the needs of national security. The ad hoc committee will consider the effects of this crisis on the teaching of foreign languages in colleges and universities, one of which is the current effort in Congress to create an advisory board to oversee Title VI grants. The committee will also consider the relation of the MLA to such organizations as the Middle East Studies Association and the Association for Asian Studies to see whether we should engage in joint outreach and advocacy efforts. The committee should work with advocacy groups in Washington of which the MLA is a member and recommend ways in which the MLA should promote dialogue with representatives from government agencies so as to present views on language acquisition that offer a rationale for language study that goes beyond the needs of national security (e.g., the importance of forming an informed and educated citizenry that can function in a globalized world, the value of multilingualism). The committee will produce documents relevant to its charge as its work progresses.

The ad hoc committee is to have a term of two years, hold its first meeting in the fall of 2004, and issue periodic reports to the Executive Council about its direction, goals, and progress. The council also made committee appointments. Serving on the ad hoc committee will be Michael E. Geisler, Middlebury Coll.; Claire Kramsch, Univ. of California, Berkeley; Scott McGinnis, Defense Language Inst., Washington Office; Peter Patrikis, The Language Consortium; Mary Louise Pratt, New York Univ. (chair); Karin C. Ryding, Georgetown Univ.; and Haun Saussy, Yale Univ.

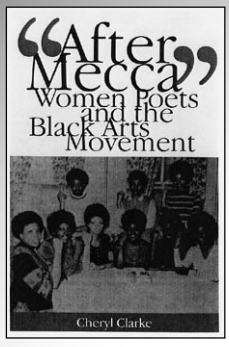
During its discussion of the committee's charge, the council identified additional issues (e.g., enrollments, language requirements) that it may wish itself to pursue.

7. *Charge for and Appointments to the Task Force on Evaluating Scholarship for Tenure and Promotion.* The council received the report of the council subcommittee it had charged in February with drafting a charge for the new task force and with making recommendations on the composition of the task force (see Oct. 2004 *PMLA* 1390). The council reviewed the draft charge and approved it. It reads as follows:

> The Task Force on Evaluating Scholarship for Tenure and Promotion is charged with examining the procedures used to evaluate scholarly publications for tenure and promotion. The task force will consider the effects of the widely discussed crisis in scholarly publishing (and the multiple forms that scholarly publishing now takes) on the criteria used to assess scholarly work in tenure reviews. The task force will review the guidelines

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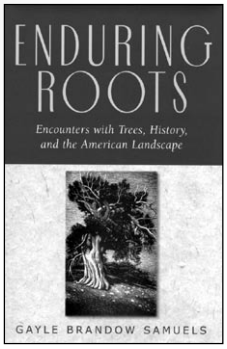
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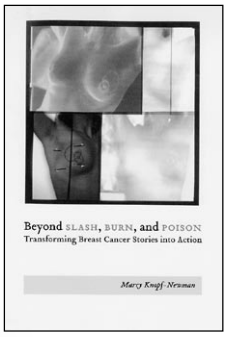
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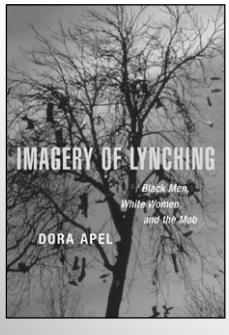
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> and documents that the MLA has issued in the past on matters relevant to its charge (e.g., recommendations on outside evaluation letters for tenure cases). The task force will acquire specific information from department chairs, deans of humanities, and faculty members recently reviewed for tenure about the requirements for tenure—and the outcome of tenure cases—in research institutions as well as liberal arts colleges and other kinds of postsecondary schools for the period 1999–2004. For the same period, the task force will compare the number of books (volumes) in the fields represented by the MLA published by academic presses. The task force will also discuss the issue of subventions and of multiple submissions of manuscripts to presses.

The ad hoc committee is to have a term of one year. It will hold its first meeting in the early fall of 2004 and its second meeting early in 2005. It is expected to submit a progress report to the council in October 2004 and its final report by the spring of 2005. The council also made committee appointments. Serving on the task force will be Idelber Avelar, Tulane Univ.; Michael Bérubé, Penn State Univ., University Park; Leonard Cassuto, Fordham Univ., Lincoln Center; Morris Eaves, Univ. of Rochester; John Guillory, New York Univ.; Donald E. Hall, West Virginia Univ., Morgantown; Sean Latham, Univ. of Tulsa; and Domna C. Stanton, Graduate Center, City Univ. of New York (chair).

8. *Request for an Ad Hoc Committee on MLA Style.* The staff reported that it had begun to plan for new editions of the *MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing* and the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* and that it would be necessary to assess the principles for citing electronic resources as currently set out in MLA style. To assist with this assessment, the staff asked the council to appoint an ad hoc committee on MLA style. The council agreed to do so and approved the following committee charge:

> The Ad Hoc Committee on MLA Style is charged with assessing the principles of citing electronic publications currently embodied in MLA style for adequacy and inclusiveness. The committee should report its findings and any recommendations to the Executive Council by February 2005.

The council also made the following appointments to the committee: David Bartholomae, Univ. of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh (chair); Donald Haase, Wayne State Univ.; Eric S. Rabkin, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor; David S. Shields, Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia; and Helene C. Williams, Harvard Univ.

9. *Review of the Charge of the Committee on the Status of Graduate Students in the Profession (CSGSP).* In October 2003, the council renewed the charge of the Committee on the Status of Graduate Students in the Profession, since the committee's initial charge covering the five-year period 1998–2003 was about to expire, and asked the committee to provide a report on its activities that would inform the council's review of the committee's charge, which was planned for 2004 (see May 2004 *PMLA* 630). At the present meeting, the council received the report it had requested and reviewed the committee's charge. It decided not to make any changes and confirmed that its renewal of the charge was for a second five-year period of committee activity, 2003–08.

10. *Review of the Executive Council's Report to the 2004 Delegate Assembly.* At its February 2004 meeting, following the provisions of article 7.B.3 of the MLA constitution, the Executive Council reviewed the resolutions that the Delegate Assembly had approved in December 2003 and determined that it could not forward one of them to the membership for ratification (see Oct. 2004 *PMLA* 1390–92). The resolution had a preamble that cited government spending on war and the defunding of higher education and a *resolved* clause that called on the MLA to urge "the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan and Iraq and reallocation of funds to reverse inattention to, and grave deficits in, funding of education and other human services." When the council does not forward to the membership a resolution that the Delegate Assembly has approved, the constitution requires the council to report to the assembly the reasons for its action. At the present meeting, the council reviewed and approved a draft of its report to the assembly.

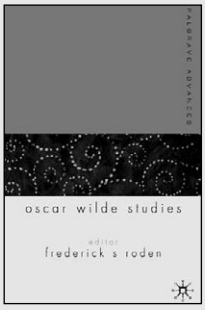
11. *Requests from the Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession (CSWP).* The CSWP, out of concern about the diversity of its membership, asked the council to establish a number of representational categories for appointments to the committee. The council did not approve this request and asked the staff to convey to the committee the council's assurance that the appointment process takes the need for diversity (e.g., of field, of rank, of institutional type) into account.

The CSWP's second request grew out of its current research project, which attempts to answer questions about the experiences of an academic group about which there is much interest but few data of sufficient detail to reveal key patterns: mid-career academics, especially those who have achieved tenure but whose further career progress appears slowed or stalled. The committee is interested in learning more about how people in this group balance research with other demands, notably those connected with departmental and institutional service and with personal responsibilities for family, child care, or elder care. Accordingly, the committee requested funding of $10,000 in the fiscal year 2004–05 budget to conduct a pilot survey of several hundred MLA members at the rank of associate or full professor. In a related request, the staff asked the council for authorization to explore possibilities for outside funding to cover all or part of the $10,000 that the committee requested. The CSWP noted that conducting the proposed survey would not only further the committee's project but would also provide an opportunity

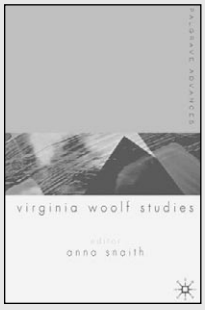
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to build and pilot an online infrastructure through which the MLA could regularly survey members. The council approved the CSWP's budget request. It also authorized the staff to seek outside funding for the proposed survey.

In the course of its discussion of the CSWP's requests, the council discussed the broad scope of the work of the committee and decided to review the committee's charge at the October council meeting, when the council will receive the CSWP's annual report.

12. *Recommendations from the Program Committee.* The council received and acted on the Program Committee's recommendations regarding allied and affiliate organizations and discussion groups. The council renewed for seven years the allied organization status of sixteen societies: Association for Business Communication, Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment, Council of Writing Program Administrators, John Donne Society, Eugene O'Neill Society, Radical Caucus in English and Modern Languages, Society for Critical Exchange, Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship, Society for the Study of Narrative Literature, Society for the Study of Southern Literature, Wallace Stevens Society, Thoreau Society, Edith Wharton Society, Women in German, Women's Caucus for the Modern Languages, Wordsworth-Coleridge Association. It also renewed for seven years the affiliate organization status of the National Communication Association. One organization, the Society for Textual Scholarship, applied for and received affiliate organization status.

The council renewed the allied status of the South Asian Literary Association for only two years because of concerns that the association was not sufficiently distinct from the MLA Discussion Group on South Asian Languages and Literatures. The officers of the association will be cautioned about the situation and urged to take corrective measures before the association's next review by the Program Committee. The council renewed for four years the allied status of two organizations—the American Association of Australian Literary Studies and the Société Rencesvals, American-Canadian Branch—out of concerns about the low attendance at these organizations' convention sessions. They will be encouraged to pursue two remedies: hold only one session to maximize attendance at that session and find ways to increase their membership rolls. The Society for German Renaissance and Baroque Literature was suspended for two years, after which it will be reviewed again. There were three reasons for the suspension: the society is not sufficiently distinct from the MLA Division on German Literature to 1700, there is little involvement of a large and diverse portion of the society's membership in the society's activities, and the society's membership numbers are low.

The council deferred for one year its decision on the renewal of the American Association for Italian Studies and the William Carlos Williams Society as allied organizations. Both organizations needed more time to supply the required materials for the Program Committee's review. The review of the Renaissance English Text Society was deferred until October 2004 to allow the society's officers to provide evidence that the society has involved a large and diverse portion of its membership in its activities.

In actions relating to discussion groups, the council did not approve a petition for division status from the Discussion Group on Disability Studies because the petition did not include the required number of supporting signatures. The council did not approve a petition for a discussion group on the teaching of language and culture for business.

Finally, the Program Committee reported that it had reviewed a staff report on the number of convention participants who had benefited from waivers of the membership requirement over the last four years. At the executive director's discretion, waivers may be granted to individuals in three groups: scholars from outside the United States and Canada who work in language and literature fields, scholars who work in disciplines other than language and literature, and nonscholars (e.g., creative writers, film directors, artists, lawyers). Such individuals do not normally have a reason to join the MLA and are also not normally expected to participate in the MLA convention. Because waived nonmember status exists to broaden participation in the convention, the Program Committee recommended that the council establish a policy limiting the number of times a particular individual can be granted waived nonmember status to once in five years, under normal circumstances. The council agreed to establish this policy.

13. *Council Meeting Schedule.* The council approved the following dates for its meetings in 2007: 23–24 February, 18–19 May, and 26–27 October.

14. *Committee Appointments.* The council made one additional committee appointment. The names of all new committee members appear in the listings of MLA committee members in the September 2004 (Directory) issue of *PMLA*.

In Memoriam

Robert W. Ayers, Georgetown University, 16 December 2003

William B. Bache, Purdue University, West Lafayette, 7 October 2004

Jane Schnabel Bakerman, Indiana State University, 25 June 2004

Erminnie H. Bartelmez, Case Western Reserve University, 29 April 2004

Robert A. Colby, Queens College, City University of New York, 3 October 2004

James Davidson, University of North Texas, 17 December 2003

Pierre E. Deguise, Connecticut College, 29 July 2004

Jacques Derrida, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, France, 8 October 2004

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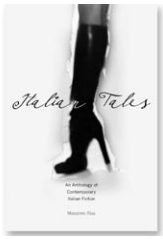
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Aurelio M. Espinosa, Jr., Stanford University, 4 June 2004
French Rowe Fogle, Claremont Graduate University, 24 March 2004
Phyllis Franklin, Modern Language Association, 20 August 2004
Claris Glick, Texas A&M University, Kingsville, 27 August 2004
Tatiana W. Greene, Barnard College, 13 March 2004
Edward F. Grier, University of Kansas, 11 June 2004
Bruce Harkness, Kent State University, Kent, 5 June 2004
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Frederick R. Karl, New York University, 30 April 2004
Edward Le Comte, State University of New York, Albany, 23 October 2004
Joan Philbin McCarthy, Southern Connecticut State University, 19 January 2004
Czeslaw Milosz, University of California, Berkeley, 14 August 2004
Earl Miner, Princeton University, 17 April 2004
Paul Baker Newman, Queens University, 18 August 2004
Marvin Alpheus Owings, Clemson University, 8 August 2004
Esther L. Panitz, Annapolis, Maryland, 11 April 2004
Glenn Palen Pierce, University of Missouri, Columbia, 5 October 2004
William T. Ramsay, Montgomery College, Takoma Park, MD, 22 June 2004
William Rosen, University of Connecticut, Storrs, 29 June 2004
Leon S. Roudiez, Columbia University, 18 June 2004
Marian F. Speyer, Prospect Heights High School, Brooklyn, 24 January 2004
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Ronald Sukenick, University of Colorado, Boulder, 22 July 2004
Marcel Tetel, Duke University, 27 May 2004
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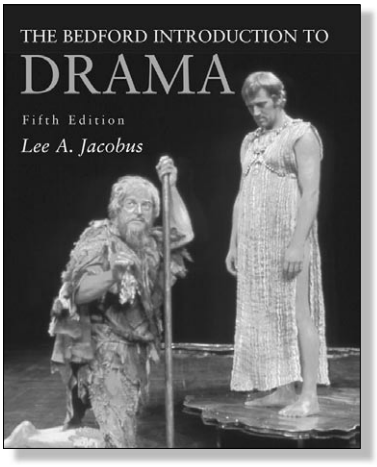
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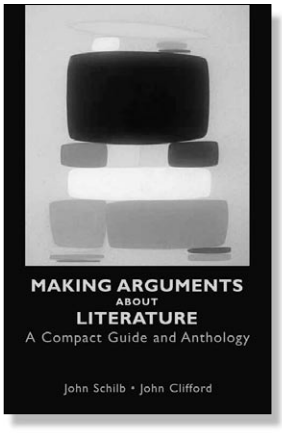
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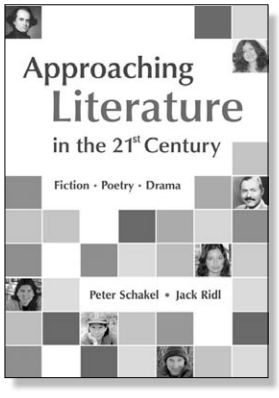
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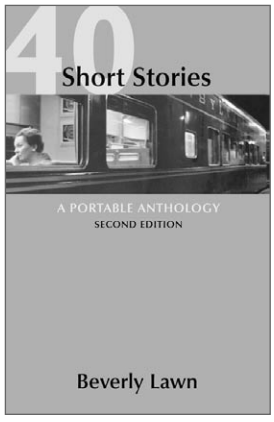
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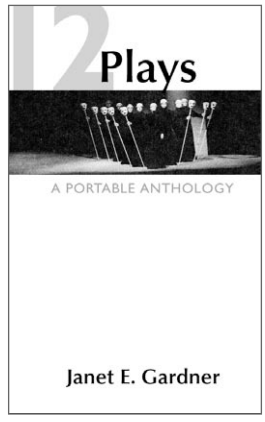
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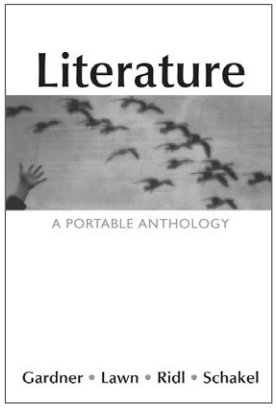
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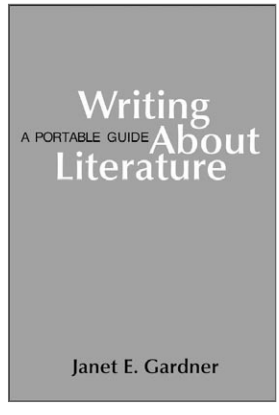
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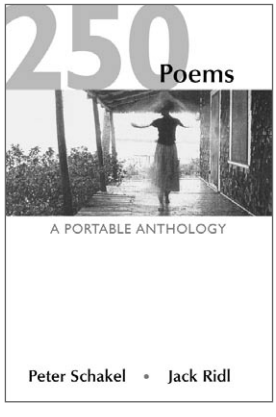
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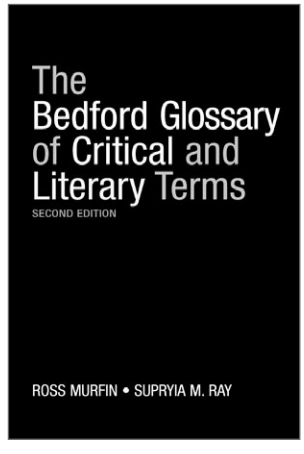








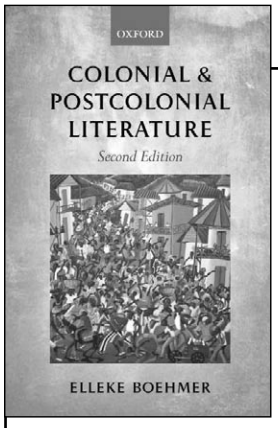


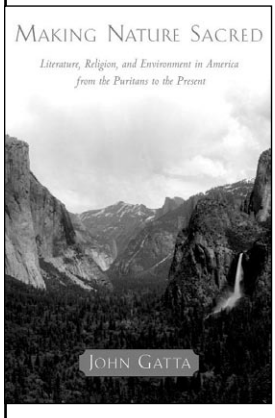


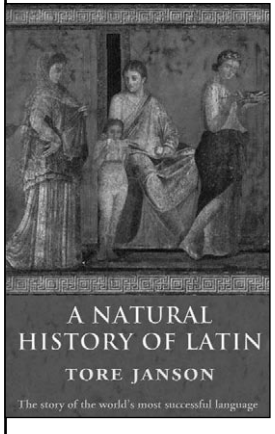
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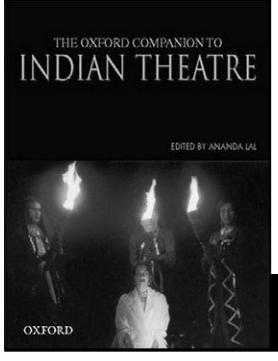
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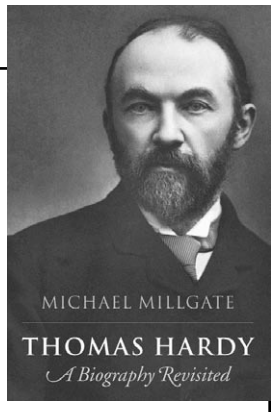
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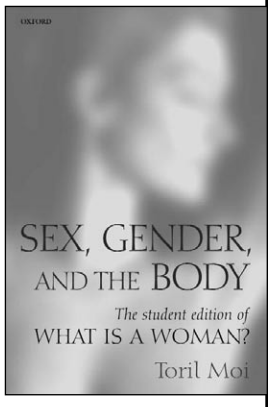
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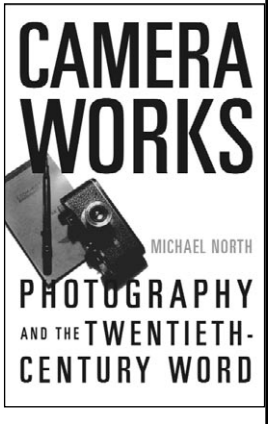
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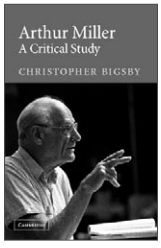
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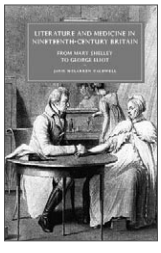
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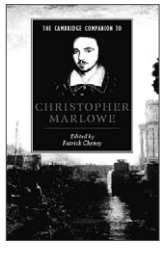
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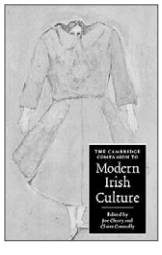
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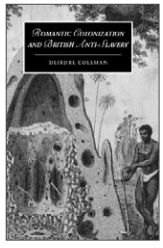
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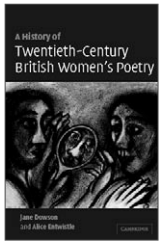
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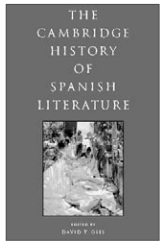
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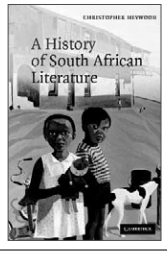
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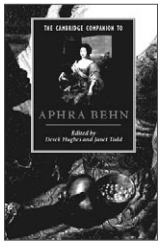
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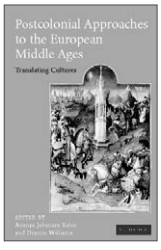
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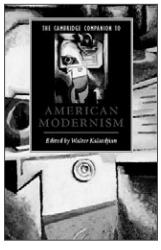
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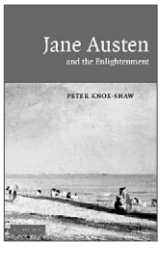
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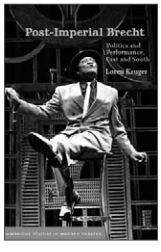
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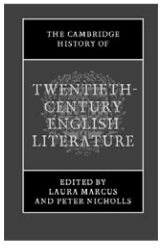
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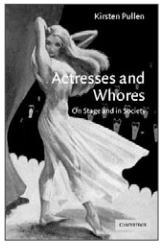
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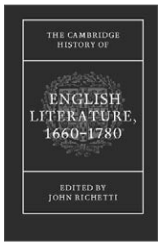
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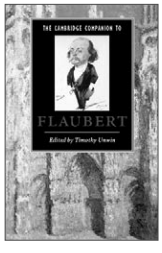
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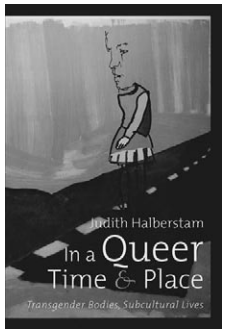
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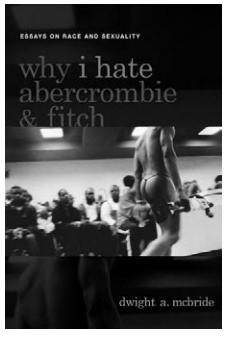
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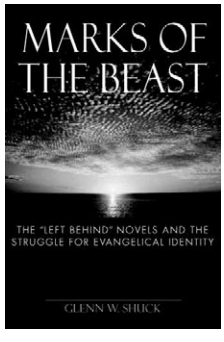
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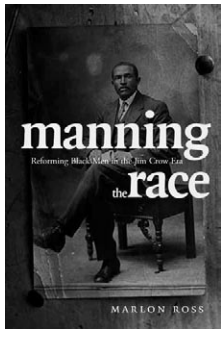
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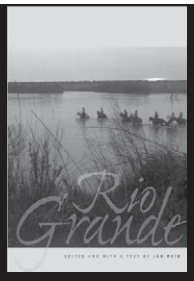
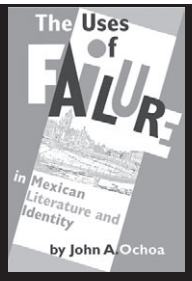
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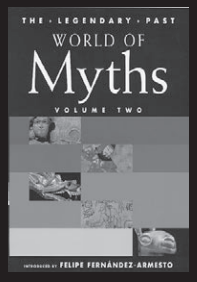


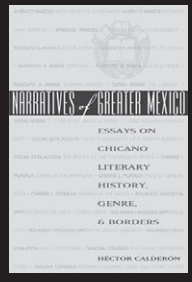
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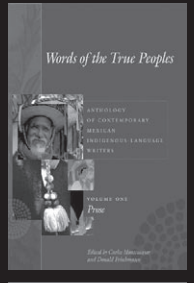
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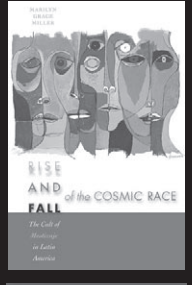


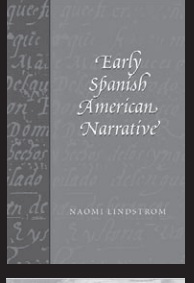


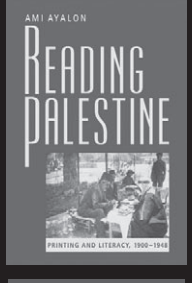


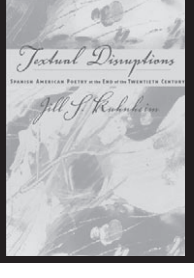


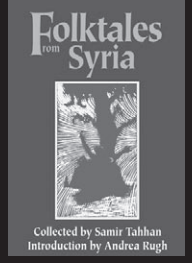












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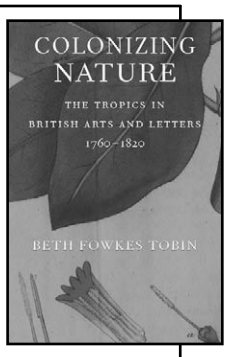
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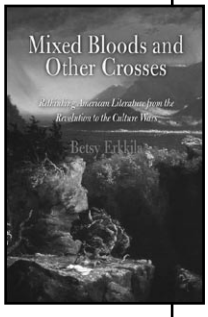
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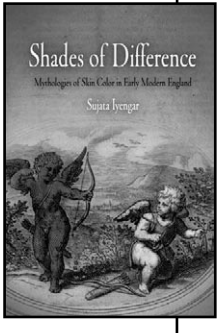
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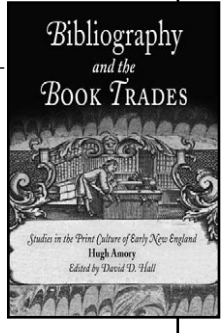
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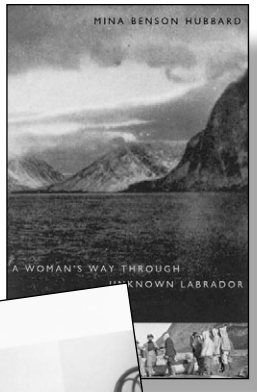
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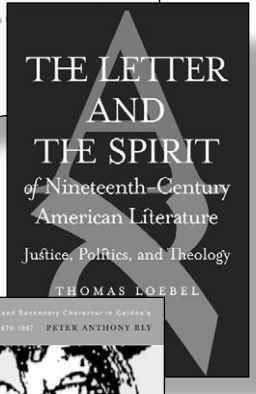
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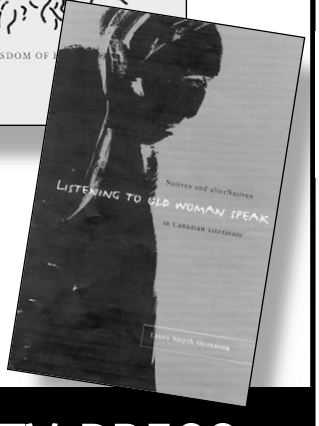
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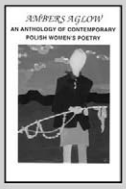
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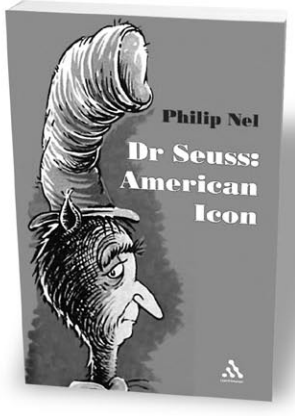
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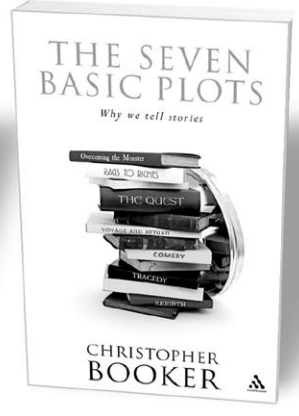
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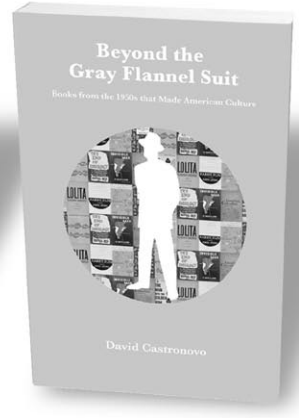
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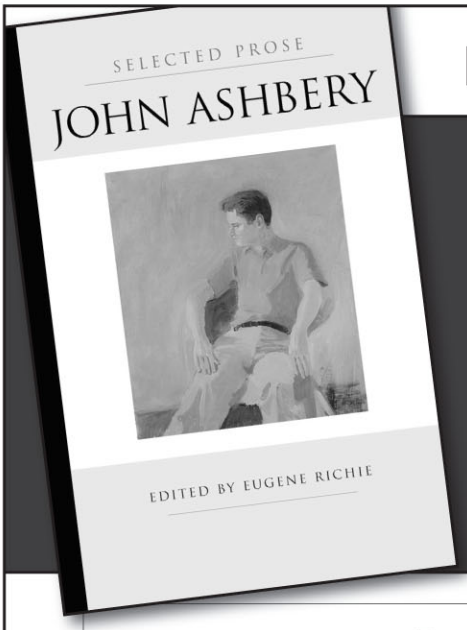


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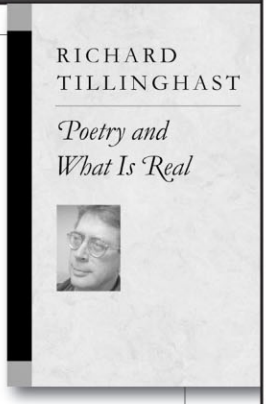
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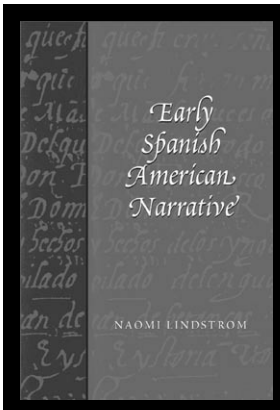
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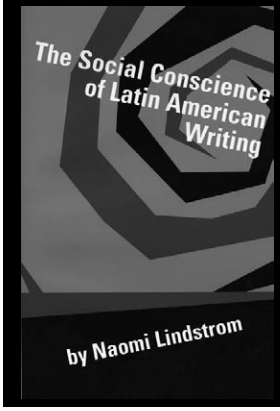


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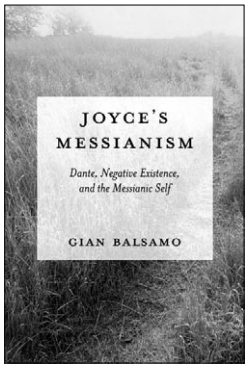
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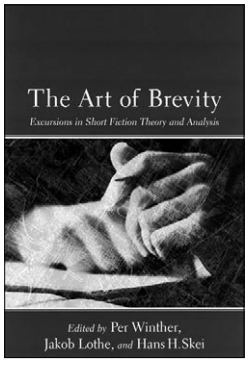
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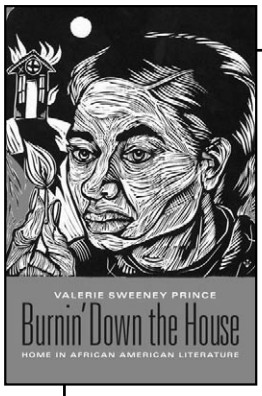
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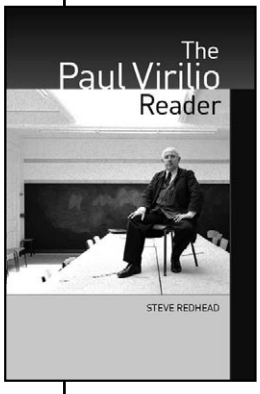
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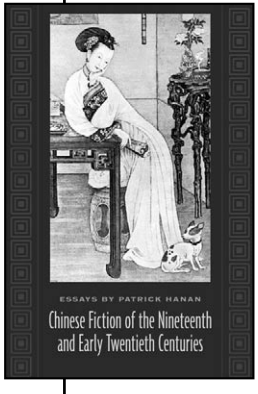
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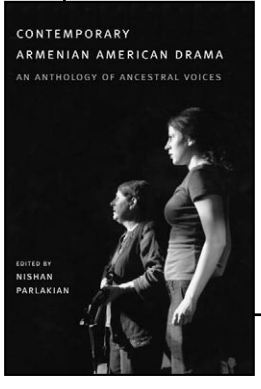
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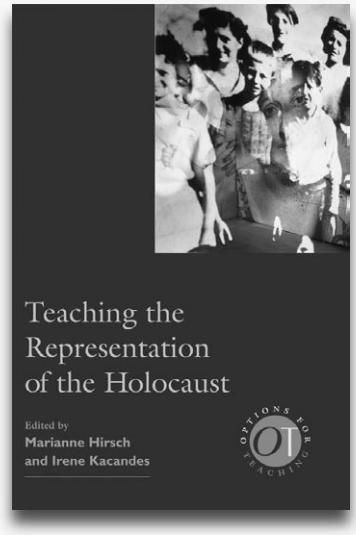
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