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).

WALTER J. ONG, SJ (30 NOV. 1912–12 AUG. 2003). Walter J. Ong, SJ, whose immense curiosity was matched only by his learning, delighted in taking intellectual risks. At the age of eighty-nine he was still writing prize-winning work in media ecology, and he celebrated his ninetieth birthday surrounded by the Mylar balloons of Andy Warhol's *Silver Clouds* amid a crowd of colleagues, students, and friends at Saint Louis University. He lectured throughout the world at major universities but chose to spend his career at Saint Louis, where he was honored as its University Professor. After establishing himself as a Renaissance scholar, he became a Renaissance man, contributing to studies of language and memory, media, consciousness, communication theory, print culture, and literary theory. His work on Petrus Ramus opened up for many people the important difference between Aristotelian logic, oral rhetoric, and the arts of memory, and he showed how Ramistic thought and print culture absorbed memory into a new organization of knowledge. Ong argued that "writing restructures consciousness," but this statement merely marked the beginning of inquiry for him. Of his many books, perhaps the best known is *Orality and Literacy*, in which he charted the role of language in oral, manuscript, and print culture and formulated as the key trait of print and electronic culture a "secondary orality" or illusion of speech. His work on John Milton in "Logic and the Epic Muse" offered a major analysis of our cultural life since the sixteenth century: the frequent closing down of imagination and of nonstandardization (not just in literature and philosophy but in government and science as well) and the increasing reliance on printed dicta, constitutions, and encyclopedia knowledge—a change he described as a shift from Revelation to Manifestation. From Milton to cyberculture, from African tribal communication to e-mail, his provocative ideas challenged and disturbed conventional modes of thought. He studied relations between language and consciousness, serving as professor of psychiatry and humanities as well as professor of English at Saint Louis University. He had a lasting impact on his students, and he once described education as the "yeast" that helps students rise. He was a man of ideas who welcomed visitors and correspondents from around the world, but he was also a priest who delighted in performing baptisms and weddings and who thought deeply about the changes and challenges facing his church. At his memorial service, the Jesuit community was joined by his former students, his colleagues, his family, and many of those he had counseled and served. One of the scriptural readings was especially appropriate to this extraordinary man: "Oh, that

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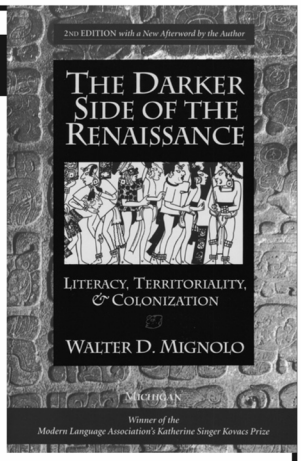
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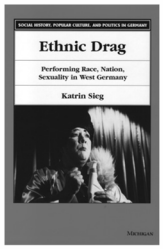
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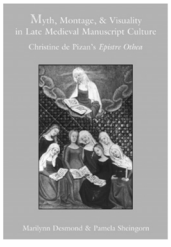
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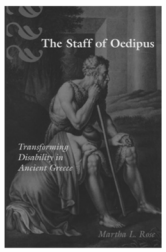
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my words were now written! Oh, that they were printed in a book!" (Job 19.23). We are fortunate that so many of his words were printed and that his voice will live on in debate and inquiry.

SARA VAN DEN BERG
JOHN T. SHAWCROSS

EDWARD W. SAID (1 NOV. 1935–25 SEPT. 2003). He lived far beyond the years that his leukemia should reasonably have allowed. But Edward's death was profoundly shocking nonetheless, one of those viscerally unacceptable deaths that mark our lives, however distantly or familiarly we knew him. It was, perhaps, all the more shocking because Edward lived so fully, so productively, until the end, never going "gentle into that good night," which is not one, at least for many of those left behind.

Edward was the premier intellectual of his generation, not simply because he was a great scholar-critic but because he was an exemplary witness to suffering and oppression, a model of engagement, of commitment to justice and peace. Born in Jerusalem, raised in Cairo, educated in the United States, where he attended Princeton and Harvard, and residing in New York, where he taught at Columbia from 1963 on, Edward was a cosmopolite in the world as in the texts he criticized with an elegance and originality that inspired his and subsequent generations in the academy and in progressive movements at home and abroad. Of the twenty-three books that he wrote or edited, beginning with his published dissertation, *Joseph Conrad and the Fiction of Autobiography* (1966), at least four are seminal works that created new areas of reflection and research: *Beginnings: Intention and Method* (1975), *Orientalism* (1978), *The World, the Text, and the Critic* (1983), and *Culture and Imperialism* (1993). Beginning in 1973, with *The Arabs Today: Alternatives for Tomorrow* (coedited by Fuad Suleiman), Edward simultaneously spoke with insight, independence of thought, and passion about the plight of the Palestinians and about Western policies, politics, and attitudes concerning the Middle East in particular and Arabs in general, in such works as *The Question of Palestine* (1979), *Blaming the Victims: Spurious Scholarship and the Palestinian Question* (1988; coedited by Christopher Hitchens), and *The End of the Peace Process: Oslo and After* (2000). Some branded him a dangerous radical. Others put him under surveillance and even threatened his life. But others—and I include myself among them—heard a moderate and fair-minded voice, a voice that criticized the United States and Israeli governments, the Palestinian Authority and autocratic Arab states.

A person of many and inevitably contradictory parts, Edward was also a nineteenth-century, even a Renaissance, man of letters, who wrote with a fountain pen on unlined sheets of paper and played the piano at virtually a concert level. His works on music, beginning with *Musical Elaborations* (1991) and continuing with his articles for the *Nation*, culminate with *Parallels and Paradoxes: Explorations in Music and Society* (2002), cowritten with his close friend Daniel Barenboim, as well as the workshop for young musicians from across political divides, West-Eastern Divan, that the two established and nurtured. A powerful interlocutor in any debate of ideas, Edward could also divulge the best piece of gossip or tell a ridiculous joke, which he would relish with his inimitable laugh. He was charming, urbane, even a dandy.

His writings translated into thirty-five languages, the recipient of awards from Aberdeen to Toronto, New Delhi to The Hague, Beirut to Cambridge, Edward exemplified the modern intellectual's paradoxical location of being both "out of place" and at home everywhere in the world. He leaves an extraordinary legacy of work, of unstoppable productivity in the face of danger and deathly illness. In 2003 alone, he published *Freud and the Non-European* and *Culture and Resistance: Conversations with Edward W. Said*; forthcoming are *Humanism and Democratic Criticism* and *From Oslo to Iraq and the Road Map*. Edward's praxis will continue to resonate and to inspire many of us, not the least because he refused to accept "the dying of the light." As the opening line of his favorite poem, Cavafy's "Expecting the Barbarians," asks, "What are we waiting for, assembled in the public square?"

DOMNA C. STANTON

RICHARD WRIGHT. Scholars are invited to contribute entries for a forthcoming reference book entitled *Richard Wright Encyclopedia*, to be published by Greenwood Press in 2006. This volume will be similar in design and format to such Greenwood encyclopedias as the *Walt Whitman Encyclopedia* (1999). To participate in this Richard Wright centennial project, write to the editors, Robert Butler (mrbut7@aol.com) and Jerry W. Ward, Jr. (jerryward31@hotmail.com). Complete manuscripts will be due 1 June 2005. Contributors will receive a complimentary copy of the encyclopedia at the time of publication.

JOSÉ EMILIO PACHECO. Original essays are invited for a collection titled *José Emilio Pacheco: Perspectivas críticas*. The essays should be unpublished and in Spanish and may focus on any aspect of Pacheco's literary work. Send submissions (6,000–9,000 words in length) and 100-word vitae by e-mail, in separate *Word* documents, by 15 September 2004 to Pol Popovic Karic, Depto. de Estudios Humanísticos, Aulas II-213, Tecnológico de Monterrey, Eugenio Garza Sada 2501 Sur., C.P. 64849, Monterrey, N.L., México (52–81 8358–2000, ext. 4609, 359-7573; pol.popovic@itesm.mx; http://clfl.mty.itesm.mx).

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of father-daughter relationships are usually written by daughters and are predominantly negative whether written by men or women. Male environmental activists and other ecologically sensitive men seem to have had little to say about their relationships with their daughters. The editor seeks proposals by men and women addressing the cultural ecology of fathers raising daughters in and out of marriage. Submissions may consist of critical essays on literature, culture, and observed experience and of creative fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. Proposals should identify the type of contribution, include an abstract outlining the thesis or a theme and major examples, and state a target length. Completed and published work will also be considered. Send proposals or queries to Patrick D. Murphy, Chair, Dept. of English, Univ. of Central Florida, PO Box 161346, Orlando 32816-1346 (pmurphy@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu).

MODERN HEROISM. Contributions are sought for a volume tentatively titled *Raising Lazarus and Raising Cain: The Modern Hero in Post-modern Times*. While contributions should exploit the historical and theoretical continuities implicit in this title, they should also strive to tell us something pedagogically relevant to heroism as an ongoing process of confrontation that has yet to achieve its ultimate cultural or sociopolitical aim in literature and film. Essays that take issue with canonical viewpoints on modern heroism are especially welcome, whatever their approach. Send two copies of submissions, up to 45 pages in length and in MLA style, by 30 June 2004 to Sherman Symes, PO Box 25, East Amherst, NY 14051, or to Nancy L. Zoeller, Dept. of Psychology, 206 Park Hall, State Univ. of New York, Buffalo 14260.

UNRULY CATHOLIC WOMEN. Submissions are sought for a proposed book-length collection of essays on women and Catholicism that responds to the following questions: Under what circumstances have Catholic women across temporal, geographic, and racial boundaries been able to resist traditional gender restrictions, as represented through their literary production? How has Catholicism (stereo)typically restricted women's roles, while simultaneously empowering women through their poetry, fiction, and autobiographical narratives? How have the tensions in the lives of women, as writers, activists, and Catholics, proved to be a source of fascinating maneuvers through fiction and personal history? This volume will examine the role of Catholicism as "unruly" women write against various degrees of oppression before a Catholic and non-Catholic readership. The editors seek to present a wide geographic and temporal spectrum of Catholic women. Send finished essays (5,000–8,000 words in length and in English) or detailed proposals by 15 February 2004 to each of the following addresses: Ana Kothe, Dept. of Humanities, Univ. of Puerto Rico, PO Box 9265, Mayagüez, PR 00680 (anakothe@coqui.net [submissions may be sent in *Microsoft Word*]); Jeana DelRosso, Dept. of English, Coll. of Notre Dame of Maryland, 4701 North Charles St., Baltimore 21210 (jdelrosso@ndm.edu); Leigh Eicke, Dept. of English, 237 Lake Huron Hall, Grand Valley State Univ., Allendale, MI 49401 (eickel@gvsu.edu).

POSTCOLONIAL REVISIONS OF EARLY MODERN HISTORIES. Unpublished essays that address the engagement with early modern texts and contexts in postcolonial fiction are invited for a collection that will grow out of the special session "Postcolonial Revisions of Early Modern Histories" at the 2003 MLA convention. Contributions that examine undertheorized "postcolonial" locations in Africa, Latin America, Asia, Aboriginal Australia, and the Pacific Islands, as well as those that rethink the touchstone locations of postcolonial studies, such as the Caribbean and South Asia, are of particular interest. Submit brief vitae and 2-page proposals to Bernadette Andrea (bandrea@utsa.edu) or Mona Narain (mnarain@utsa.edu) by 1 March 2004.

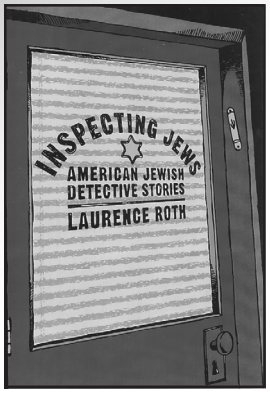
THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES. Critical essays on Eve Ensler's play and the V-Day movement are solicited for a collection. The volume will examine specifically the indissoluble relation among the text of *The Vagina Monologues*, the event of various performances of the play, and the larger context of the V-Day movement (the V-Day College Campaign and the World Wide V-Day Campaign). Sought are essays that address in particular, among other focuses, the way this threefold relation impacts the standard connections among sites of cultural production (national, political, sexual, racial, etc.); the introduction of "male monologues" to the play in the performances of 2003 and the way in which the presence of "male" identities affects the play's critical engagement with traditional conceptions of gender and the political status of women; the effectiveness of the play-movement (the degree of its tangible activism, as well as its limitations); the play's persuasiveness in different cultural contexts across the globe (Third World performances as opposed to First World, East as opposed to West, North as opposed to South); the usefulness of the play in terms of the proceeds it generates and the distribution of proceeds (ten percent to RAWA in 2002, ten percent to the Indian Country Project in 2003); and the position of *The Vagina Monologues* in the discipline of feminism (i.e., is the play-movement an essentialist or a constructionist feminist text or both?). Final papers (20–25 pp. in length and following *The Chicago Manual of Style*) are due 1 March 2004. Send inquiries to Adrienne McCormick (mccormic@fredonia.edu) and Robert Marzec (marzec@fredonia.edu), English Dept., State Univ. of New York, Fredonia 14063.

NEOLIBERAL UNIVERSITIES. Contributions are invited for an edited volume on the rise of the neoliberal university and the end of liberal studies. The proposed

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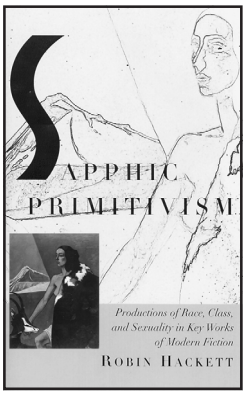
American Jewish Detective Stories
Laurence Roth

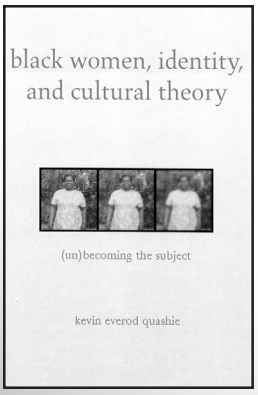
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volume is intended to advance discussion of the "corporate" university toward the questions and problems presented by globalization and the supposed expansion of "free" trade. The editors hope that the volume will present advanced analyses of the crises that beset higher education and, in particular, the humanities; help to define and describe the meaning and circulation of neoliberalism among a variety of disciplines, including history, philosophy, political science, and economics; trace the influence of neoliberal economic ideas and theorists (Hayek, Friedman, Stigler, Becker, et al.) on university policies and initiatives, especially those related to curriculum, governance, resource allocation, and academic labor; and discuss the "cultural reconstruction," or "privatization," of the educational public sector as a deliberate policy goal. Contributions from a wide variety of geopolitical regions, disciplinary fields, and methodological approaches are encouraged. Send abstracts, accompanied by brief vitae, by 1 February 2004 to Stephen Germic (germicedit1@hotmail.com).

ENCHANTMENT IN A RATIONAL WORLD. Original essays are invited for a collection entitled *The Re-enchantment of the World*. This interdisciplinary volume will explore a range of secular strategies for finding enchantment in a desacralized and rational world. The editors are interested in essays from a variety of fields, including history, literary criticism, sociology, philosophy, art history, and anthropology. (Essays on manifestations of the "New Age" are unlikely to be considered, however.) Send 250-word abstracts by 1 March 2004 to Joshua Landy (landy@stanford.edu) and Michael Saler (mtsaler@ucdavis.edu).

PHILO-SEMITISM AND ANTI-SEMITISM. Essays and proposals are invited for an edited collection on interconnections between philo-Semitism and anti-Semitism in twentieth-century American and British literature and culture. The volume will focus on the use of the figure of the Jew and Jewishness in such cultural expressions as literary and nonliterary writing, art and museum exhibitions, film, music, and theater. Essays are expected to question, challenge, and redefine the terms *philo-Semitism* and *anti-Semitism* and to complicate what are commonly assumed to be inherent tensions between them. Essays might consider historical, political, or cultural intersections between the terms, discuss the impact of anti-Semitic thinking on the development of philo-Semitism, reevaluate earlier theories of anti-Semitism and philo-Semitism, or examine the theoretical and political effects of reassessing each term. Possible topics include the development of Holocaust monuments and their reception, Jews' affiliations with socialism and right-wing political platforms, Jewish jokes, messianic myths about Jewish migration, the impact of new technologies on the dissemination of anti-Semitism, and the role of anti-Semitism and philo-Semitism in postmodern narratives and culture. The editors encourage essays that engage with gender studies, diaspora studies, postcolonial studies, intellectual history, and new cultural theories such as cosmopolitanism. Other approaches are also welcome. Send hard copies (no e-mail submissions accepted) of 3-page proposals and/or essays (in a 12-point font and no more than 20 double-spaced pp. in length, including endnotes and bibliography) by 15 May 2004 to both editors, Lara Trubowitz, Dept. of English, 308 EPB, Univ. of Iowa, Iowa City 52242, and Phyllis Lassner, Jewish Studies Program, Crowe Hall, Northwestern Univ., Evanston, IL 60208.

COMPOSITION STUDIES AND THE BOOK. Original essays examining the emergence, evolution, and consequences of book publishing in composition studies are sought for a collection titled *Book Culture in Composition Studies*. The editors are interested in contributions that address the rise of the book in composition scholarship from theoretical perspectives (e.g., materialist, feminist, multicultural), various locations in the academic hierarchy (e.g., graduate students, adjunct faculty members, tenure-track and tenured faculty members), and the publishing industry (commercial and academic presses) and in relation to composition's institutional, departmental, and disciplinary history. Possible topics include book culture and the teaching-research binary; books as material social practice; the effect of book culture on academic journals; books and tenure requirements; local and/or disciplinary definitions of the book; book culture and alternative discourses; the role of edited collections in composition studies; the politics of university and commercial presses; the incredible shrinking academic book; book culture and the dissertation; the nature of book reviewing in composition studies; book culture and digital scholarship; book culture and academic power relations; and composition's book culture as an expression of wider developments in the humanities. Send one copy of a 1-page, single-spaced proposal or of a full-length essay by 1 February 2004 to Peter Vandenberg, Dept. of English, McGaw Hall, DePaul Univ., Chicago, IL 60614, and to Laura Micciche, Dept. of English, East Carolina Univ., Greenville, NC 27858. Send queries to pvandenb@depaul.edu or micciche@mail.ecu.edu.

Journal Notes

Brújula: Revista interdisciplinaria sobre estudios latinoamericanos, a peer-reviewed journal with a focus on Latin American literary studies, invites submissions for its issue entitled *Utopian Passports: Travel, Immigration and Diaspora in Latin America*. *Brújula* seeks to foster a dialogue between established academics and a new generation of scholars, while including original essays

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"Cultural Modernity and Comparative Postcolonial Studies: English, Anthropology, Philosophy"

Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak
Avalon Foundation Professor in the Humanities, Columbia University
"Is Levinas 'use-less'?"

Richard Weisberg
Floersheimer Professor of Constitutional Law, Cardozo Law School, Yeshiva University
"Law and Literature: Towards a Hermeneutics of Earthly Justice"

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from a variety of fields, such as anthropology, history, art, music, linguistics, comparative literature, sociology, and Native American studies. Welcome are submissions by scholars of all levels that explore the diverse cultural manifestations that travel assumes in Latin America. Of special interest are papers that analyze textual, photographic, filmic, and musical media and the role that they play in the construction of identities in the region. Editors will consider papers on all time periods, from precolonial to contemporary. Topics may include travel, immigration, or diaspora in relation to cartography, exile, visual arts, gastronomy, gender theory, identity, journalism, linguistics, literature, nation building, queer theory, politics, tourism and travel guides, travel theory. *Brújula* accepts essays in Spanish, English, and Portuguese. Papers are limited to 15–20 pages and should be double-spaced, including endnotes and bibliography (following MLA style). Send materials by 31 January 2004 electronically to brujula@ucdavis.edu. For specific submissions requirements, see the journal's Web site (http://hia.ucdavis.edu/brujula/index.htm/SubSections/Submissions.htm).

➸ *College Literature* seeks submissions for a special issue, *Cognitive Shakespeare: Criticism and Theory in the Age of Neuroscience*, to be edited by Patrick Colm Hogan and Lalita Pandit. The issue will address the current status of and future prospects for the cognitive study of literature generally and of Shakespeare in particular. Submissions may consider specific plays or poems by Shakespeare, broader themes in Shakespeare's works, or larger theoretical issues illustrated by reference to Shakespeare's texts or Shakespearean criticism. Submissions might take up such issues as cognitive modeling in interpretation, emotive appraisal in characters and audiences, creative cognition theory applied to Shakespeare, the dramatic amygdala, Shakespeare's cognitive metaphors, perception in the theater (or cinema), verse in working memory, the historical particularization of narrative universals, the cognitive schemas of Shakespearean criticism, reception aesthetics and the brain, synthesizing neuroscience and historicism, and the possibility of cognitive psychoanalysis. Submit three copies and a copy on disk (preferably in *Microsoft Word*), along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope, by 1 March 2004 to *College Literature*, 210 East Rosedale Ave., West Chester Univ., West Chester, PA 19383.

➸ The online *English Studies Forum* invites submissions of innovative critical and creative writing for the following forums. Image, Story, Conversation examines the ways we imagine our world in these archetypal patterns. The Postmodern Imagination and Beyond considers the nature of the imagination in postmodern literature and culture and ponders the meanings of the postpostmodern. Future forums will be devoted to postcolonial cultures, hypercriticism, and play. Inquiries or submissions should be sent to Trey Strecker, Editor in Chief, *English Studies Forum*, Dept. of English, Ball State Univ., Muncie, IN 47306-0460 (tstrecker@bsu.edu).

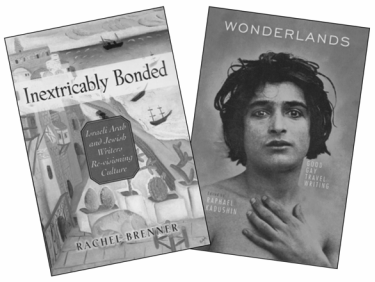
➸ *Interfaces*, a bilingual French-English journal, invites essays for a series of issues focusing on the representational role of narrative in religious traditions, whether in word or image. The issues will be concerned especially with narrative's irreducible functions and with the need in traditions for certain basic narratives to be retold. Essays may focus on narratives from any major religious tradition; submissions that foster dialogue between traditions—for example, by taking up tales common to more than one—are especially welcome. The journal's plural title announces its commitment to scholarship that explores interdisciplinary interfaces. Manuscripts should normally not exceed 15 pages of the review in length (about 30,000 signs and spaces) and should be sent by 1 October 2004 to Frédéric Ogée, U. F. R. d'Études Anglophones, Université Paris 7, Denis Diderot, 10 rue Charles V, 75004 Paris, France, or to James M. Kee or Maurice Géracht, Dept. of English, Coll. of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA 01610. For more information see http://college.holycross.edu/interfaces/papers.html.

➸ The *Journal of Professional Studies* is a new scholarly, peer-reviewed journal published by Saint John's University in New York and devoted to the pedagogical needs and research interests of those working in career-oriented disciplines. The journal welcomes articles from a wide range of professional disciplines, including such fields as criminal justice, health services, hospitality management, computer science, sports administration, television and film, legal studies, administration and economics, and journalism. Articles may be theoretical, experimental, or empirical in their approach; all methodologies are acceptable. The journal is especially interested in articles exploring issues that cut across specialized boundaries and exhibiting an awareness of recent research in a field. Articles will be considered for the first issue through early spring 2004. The major theme or focus of this issue is Professional Ethics, although articles on other subjects of interest to scholars and researchers in professional studies will also be welcomed. For further information and submission guidelines, write Joseph Marotta, Managing Editor, Saint John's Univ., 8000 Utopia Pkwy., Jamaica, NY 11439 (marottaj@stjohns.edu).

➸ *Medievalia et Humanistica: Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Culture*, volume 31 (2004), is in preparation and open to contributions from all sources. The editorial board welcomes scholarly, critical, or interdisciplinary articles of significant interest on relevant material

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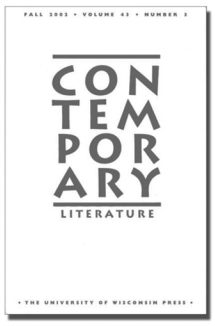
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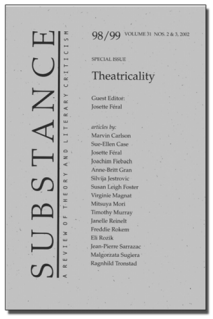
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and urges contributors to communicate in a clear and concise style the larger implications, in addition to the material of their research, while holding documentation to a minimum. Articles in English may be submitted to the Managing Editor, *Medievalia et Humanistica*, PO Box 28428, Austin, TX 78755-8428. Inquiries concerning subscriptions to the new series should be addressed to the publisher, Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 4501 Forbes Blvd., Suite 200, Lanham, MD 20706.

➸ *Nua: Studies in Contemporary Irish Writing* seeks submissions for a special issue on recent Irish films, planned for appearance in spring of 2005. Rebecca Steinberger will be the guest editor. Questions of interest include, How is the nation represented in recent cinematic interpretations? What constitutes "Irish" cinema? How does the Irish question surface in film? What is the role of history in film narrative? How does film's function in Irish culture differ from that of written fiction or plays? In what ways do film soundtracks reflect traditional Irish music? What role does the Irish landscape assume in film? Articles should be no longer than 5,000–6,000 words and should be written in MLA format. Submit three printed copies of the completed paper and a copy on disk (preferably in *Microsoft Word*), along with a cover letter and vita, by 1 September 2004 to Steinberger, Dept. of English, Coll. Misericordia, 301 Lake St., Dallas, PA 18612-1098.

➸ *Theatre Arts Journal: Studies in Scenography and Performance*, published by the Gordon Craig Society for Theatre Research and Tel-Aviv University, is a peer-reviewed journal devoted to exploring current issues in scenography in performing arts. The journal encourages original scholarly research that examines the visual and audial aspects of performance—stage, costume, lighting and sound design, theater architecture, masks, puppets, and movement as a sensorial element—and their contribution to the construction of meaning. *Theatre Arts Journal* seeks papers in the following subject areas: Gordon Craig's legacy: a reassessment; scenography at the dawn of modernism; representation in scenography, in the larger political, social, and aesthetic context. The journal also invites submissions that relate to its wider goals. Manuscripts should be double-spaced and no longer than 8,000 words (including endnotes), follow *The Chicago Manual of Style* (14th ed.), be in the format of *Microsoft Word 2000*, and be accompanied by a 150–200-word abstract and a brief vita. Submissions may be sent electronically (as attachments) to the editor, Irene Eynat-Confino (eynconf@post.tau.ac.il). The deadline for the Fall 2004 issue is 29 February 2004.

Meeting of the MLA Executive Council

[Note: The Executive Council voted to approve these minutes at its October 2003 meeting.]

The council met on 16–17 May 2003 at the MLA office in New York. President Mary Louise Pratt presided. The officers present were First Vice President Robert Scholes (17 May only), Second Vice President Domna C. Stanton, and Executive Director Rosemary G. Feal. The Executive Council members present were K. Anthony Appiah, Michael Bérubé, Rey Chow, Nancy K. Miller, Elisabeth Mudimbe-Boyi, A. LaVonne Brown Ruoff, Amada Sandoval, and Katie Trumpener. 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, Director of Foreign Language Programs Elizabeth B. Welles, and Assistant to the Executive Director and Coordinator of Governance Carol Zuses.

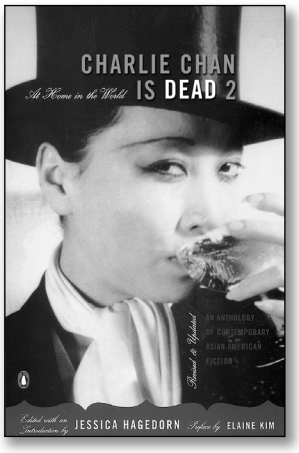
The council convened in regular session through the morning and most of the afternoon on 16 May and began to work through its agenda. Toward the end of the afternoon, the council met in executive session. On the morning of 17 May, the council first convened in executive session to review staff salaries and then reconvened in regular session to continue its consideration of agenda items. During the afternoon of 17 May, the council met again in regular session to review and take action on the remaining items on its agenda. The council adjourned at 3:45 p.m., having concluded all the business before it.

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 2002–03 after seven months. The committee also presented to the council a tentative budget for the fiscal year 2003–04 that projected a small surplus of $11,590 in the association's unrestricted fund. While general association expenses were expected to remain relatively stable, the tentative budget anticipated an increase in employee costs associated with the absorption of the salary expense for several bibliography employees whose salaries had been paid by grant funds from the Mellon Foundation. The tentative budget also reflected higher convention expenses due to the cost of staff travel to San Diego and included a new expense for reserving the use of a

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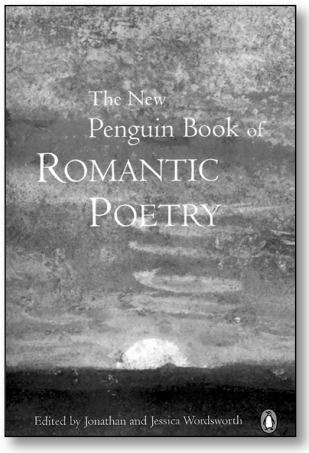
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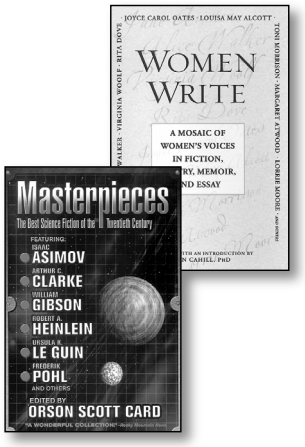
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fully-equipped office outside New York City in case the MLA office at 26 Broadway is temporarily inaccessible. The Finance Committee drew the council's attention to other features of the tentative budget, including higher convention revenue from a five-dollar increase in the registration fee for regular members and a twenty-dollar increase in all nonmember registration fees; an increase in the fee for placing an advertisement in the *Job Information List*, the first such increase since 1998; increases in some book prices; and planned increases in the fees for the ADE and ADFL summer seminars, which would be implemented after discussion with the executive committees of both organizations. The Finance Committee also reported that it was investigating the feasibility of the MLA's conducting a survey of the two-year-college job market and that funding for an eventual survey had been included in the tentative budget. At the conclusion of its discussion, the council voted to approve the tentative budget for the fiscal year 2003–04.

Finally, the council designated Deloitte and Touche to conduct the audit of the association's fiscal year 2002–03 accounts.

2. *Trustee Appointment.* The council appointed Phyllis Franklin, executive director emerita of the MLA, as trustee of the association's invested funds for the term 2003–05.

3. *Approval of the February 2003 Council Minutes.* The council reviewed a draft of the minutes of its February 2003 meeting. Council members requested one revision and then voted to approve the revised minutes for publication in the October 2003 issue of *PMLA*.

4. *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 2002 and early 2003 (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.

5. Job Information List *Statistics.* The staff presented to the council a statistical report on positions advertised in the 2002–03 issues of the *Job Information List* (*JIL*). The staff noted that, over the last two years, a number of factors (e.g., changes in university budget cycles; availability of the online *JIL*, which is updated weekly) had made statistics based on the October English and foreign language lists alone less of a reliable indicator of trends in the job market than the full year's statistics. The staff therefore planned to begin using the full year's numbers as the basis for comparison from year to year but would continue to analyze the October lists separately.

6. *Report on Federal Funding for Foreign Language Education.* The council received the staff report it had requested in February on federal funding available to support foreign language instructional programs in colleges and universities, foreign language research and scholarship, and study and research abroad (see Oct. 2003 *PMLA* 1376). Information was presented on numerous programs in the Department of Education, the Department of State, the Department of Defense, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The council accepted the report with thanks, asked the staff to elaborate on some of the information presented, and suggested that the report be published in an appropriate publication.

7. *Phyllis Franklin Award for Public Advocacy of the Humanities.* The council selected Senator Edward M. Kennedy as the first recipient of the association's Phyllis Franklin Award for Public Advocacy of the Humanities. The council instructed the staff to plan an award ceremony to be held at the senator's convenience, probably in Washington. The council asked the staff to try to arrange the award presentation at a time when Phyllis Franklin could attend.

In a general discussion of this award, the council determined that the award should be presented at the MLA convention if possible. If not, the award ceremony should be videotaped. The award itself will consist in an object that can be engraved with the name of the award, the name of the recipient, and the year of the award's conferral. Income from the prize fund will be used to cover the cost of purchasing engraved objects and of arranging and videotaping award ceremonies held apart from the convention.

8. *Nomination of an Honorary Member.* The council received a recommendation from the Committee on Honors and Awards (CHA) pertaining to the nomination of an honorary member. Acting on the CHA's recommendation, the council nominated Lina Bolzoni for honorary membership in the association. Following the provisions of article 3.D of the MLA constitution, the election to honorary membership will be conducted during the 2003 Delegate Assembly meeting in San Diego. This election is subject to ratification by the entire membership, in a vote to be held in 2004.

9. *Topics for Discussion.* Mary Louise Pratt asked the council to discuss a number of issues of current interest. First, she and Rosemary G. Feal reported to the council about a meeting they had convened at the MLA office with representatives of the Linguistic Society of America and the Center for Applied Linguistics to explore initiatives related to foreign languages. Meeting

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participants discussed the possibility of holding a language summit that would bring together representatives of government and of scholarly associations to discuss the goals and functions of language study in the United States. The council authorized Pratt and Feal to pursue these discussions. Second, Pratt asked the council to consider ways in which former MLA presidents might continue to serve the association. Council members identified a number of possible arrangements and asked Pratt to pursue the matter. Third, the council discussed the possibility of making a statement on the situation in Iraq and explored what the focus of such a statement might be and what it would be expected to accomplish.

10. *Opposition to Government Restrictions on Travel to Cuba.* The president of the Latin American Studies Association had told Mary Louise Pratt that the United States Treasury Department was considering new regulations that would have the effect of prohibiting non-degree-related educational travel to Cuba. Pratt asked the council if it wished to oppose the proposed new regulations. The council agreed that Pratt should send a letter to the relevant government offices to register the association's opposition to the proposed restrictions on non-degree-related educational travel to Cuba.

11. *Initiatives Related to Scholarly Publishing.* The council received the reports and documents that it had requested at the February council meeting (see Oct. 2003 *PMLA* 1374). The subcommittee that the council established in October 2002 and charged with outlining the issues involved in developing guidelines for evaluating new forms of scholarship submitted its second report, and the council received related reports from the Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities and the Committee on Information Technology. The council subcommittee elaborated on its recommendation that the council establish a broadly representative task force and charge it with developing guidelines for the evaluation of a wide range of scholarly activity beyond the monograph (e.g., scholarly editions; translations; edited and jointly edited collections of essays; anthologies of literature, rhetoric, and criticism; electronic publications; collaborative written work, exhibits, museum installations, and new-media productions). The subcommittee is to formulate a possible charge and to compile a list of potential appointees.

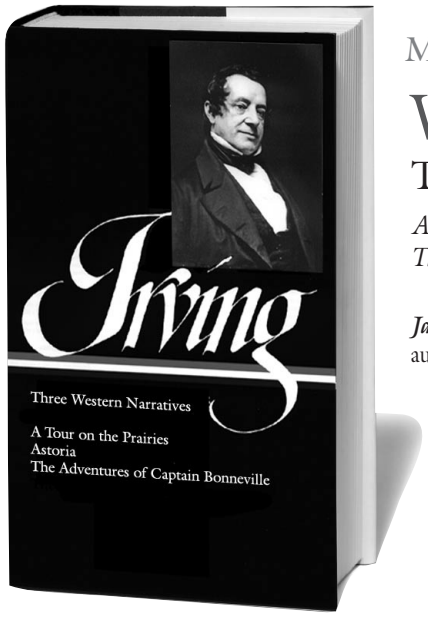
Judith Butler submitted a draft of the ethics statement that she had volunteered to write, a statement dealing with how publishers handle the submission and evaluation of manuscripts and with the handling of publication subventions. She also submitted several comments on the draft statement that she had solicited from representatives of various university presses. The council discussed the statement and the solicited comments and concluded that it would be more useful to disseminate relevant information about the publication process to authors, especially junior faculty members trying to place their first book. Several council members thought that one aspect of the submission process—submitting a manuscript to more than one publisher at the same time—deserved special attention, and they drafted a short statement for publication in the *MLA Newsletter* along with a request for membership comment. Council members also continued to discuss the feasibility of publication subventions for junior faculty members.

12. *Council Statement on the Conversion of Faculty Lines.* The council received a report from the subcommittee that it had established in February 2003 and charged with clarifying the MLA's position on issues surrounding the conversion of non-tenure-track faculty positions to tenure-track positions (see Oct. 2003 *PMLA* 1378). The subcommittee presented a report in which it outlined several basic principles that subcommittee members had agreed on. However, the subcommittee noted that it had been unable to draft a statement containing guidelines on such conversions. During their deliberations, subcommittee members had formulated a number of questions that required further council discussion. Council members discussed the subcommittee's questions at length—questions about external and internal postdoctoral fellows and about senior lecturers—and then asked the subcommittee to continue its work on a possible set of conversion guidelines.

13. *Further Consideration of Constitutional Amendments Pertaining to the Resolution Process.* At its February meeting, the council had postponed action on a recommendation from the Delegate Assembly Organizing Committee (DAOC) that the council propose a constitutional amendment aimed at eliminating resolutions that name individuals or institutions from the category of emergency resolutions (i.e., those submitted after the October deadline stipulated in the constitution and the Delegate Assembly bylaws) by requiring that such resolutions be submitted by the October deadline (see Oct. 2003 *PMLA* 1376). The council had instructed the staff to consult with the association's lawyer about the wording of such an amendment. The staff presented the following revised wording of a sentence to be added to article 11.C.3.d, the article that sets out requirements for resolutions submitted to the DAOC after the October deadline: "Such resolutions shall not name individuals or institutions in such a way that, in the determination of the committee, a response from the named party must be sought." The council agreed to propose this amendment.

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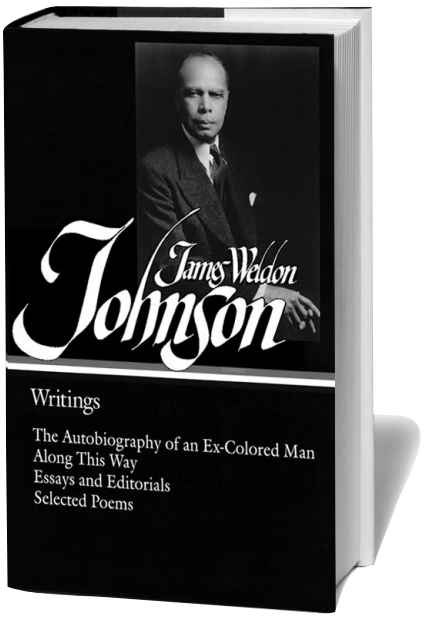
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In addition, the lawyer had noted that neither the description of the vetting of resolutions by the DAOC in article 11.C nor the description of the council's review of resolutions in article 7.B.3 referred to the description of the scope of resolutions in article 9.C.10. The council decided to remedy this problem by proposing two amendments, one that would add to article 11.C.2.c a cross-reference to article 9.C.10 and another that would add the following provision to article 7.B.3, the article that stipulates the conditions under which the council must withhold a resolution from ratification by the membership: "The resolution is not consistent with the provisions of article 9.C.10."

14. *Request from the Committee on Information Technology (CIT).* The CIT requested that the council approve the committee's "Statement on Publication in Electronic Journals" as a statement of association policy. The council reviewed the statement and returned it to the committee with a request for several revisions.

15. *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 the allied organization status of three societies (International Spenser Society, International Virginia Woolf Society, Langston Hughes Society) and the affiliate organization status of one society (International Boethius Society). One organization, the American Philological Association, applied for and received affiliate organization status.

Two allied organizations that had been suspended in 2002, the Pirandello Society of America and the Ezra Pound Society, still had not supplied the required materials for the Program Committee to review at its May 2003 meeting. The council approved the committee's plan to ask both organizations to supply the necessary materials by 1 October 2003 or lose their allied organization status.

In actions relating to discussion groups, the council approved a petition for a discussion group on Mexican cultural and literary studies. The new discussion group will organize its first session for the 2004 convention. The council did not approve a petition for a discussion group on collaboration between English departments and education schools. The council granted permanent status to the Discussion Group on Lusophone Literatures and Cultures outside Portugal and Brazil. Finally, in the case of a request for a name change from the Discussion Group on Present-Day English Language, the council endorsed the Program Committee's proposal to ask the discussion group to resubmit its request next year along with a more extensive rationale for the proposed name change.

16. *Council Meeting Schedule.* The council approved the following dates for its meetings in 2006: 24–25 February, 19–20 May, and 27–28 October.

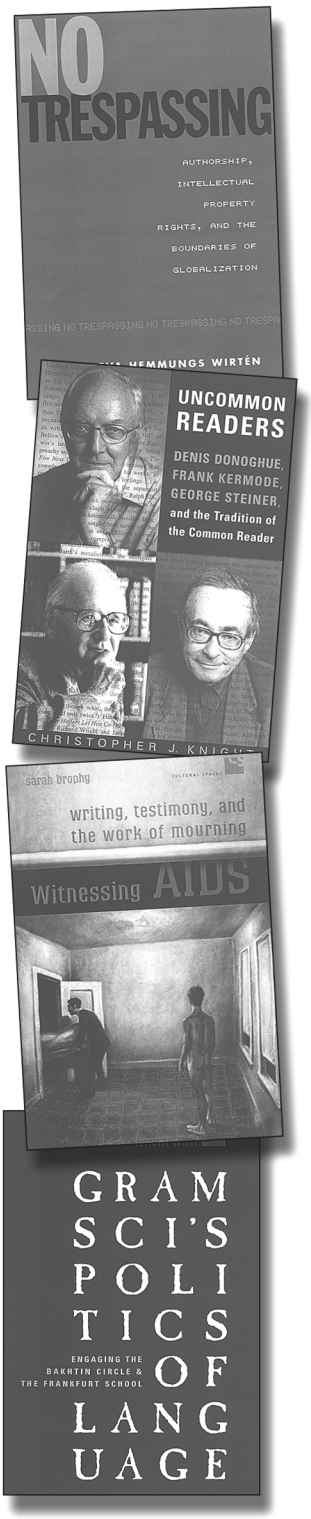
17. *Committee Appointments.* The council made eight additional appointments to MLA committees. The names of all new committee members appear in the listings of MLA committee members in the September 2003 (Directory) issue of *PMLA*.

18. *Review of Mildenberger and Shaughnessy Prizes.* The council established an ad hoc committee and charged it with recommending possible changes to the scope and administration of the Mildenberger and Shaughnessy prizes. Appointed to the committee were Emily Apter, New York Univ.; Heidi Byrnes, Georgetown Univ.; Cheryl Glenn, Penn State Univ., University Park; and Guadalupe Valdés, Stanford Univ. The council asked Mary Louise Pratt to chair the committee. The ad hoc committee is to submit its recommendations to the council in October.

In Memoriam

Jacob Henry Adler, Purdue University, West Lafayette, 7 February 2003
Margaret Pearse Boddy, Winona State University, 2 July 2003
Charles Scott Bouslog, University of Hawai'i, Mānoa, 13 June 2003
J. Douglas Canfield, University of Arizona, 3 July 2003
Ian M. Crump, Eastern Kentucky University, 22 September 2003
A. Stuart Daley, Drake University, 18 June 2003
Wendell Glick, University of Minnesota, Duluth, 19 July 2003
Clarence J. Gray, University of Richmond, 11 August 2003
Theodore Grieder, New York University, 14 August 2003
Carolyn G. Heilbrun, Columbia University, 9 October 2003
Martha Ivaldi, Columbia University, 22 August 2003
Sidney Malcolm Johnson, Indiana University, Bloomington, 23 March 2003
David Kadlec, Georgetown University, 20 August 2003
Cecil Y. Lang, University of Virginia, 15 February 2003
Littleton Long, University of Vermont, 23 July 2003
Richard M. Ludwig, Princeton University, 28 April 2003
David Henry Malone, University of Southern California, 8 June 2003
Homer C. Nearing, Jr., Widener University, 28 May 2003
Daniel C. O'Neil, State University of New York, Stony Brook, 22 December 2002
The Reverend Walter J. Ong, SJ, Saint Louis University, 12 August 2003
Leslie H. Palmer, University of North Texas, 16 July 2003
Lucio P. Ruotolo, Stanford University, 4 July 2003
Edward W. Said, Columbia University, 25 September 2003

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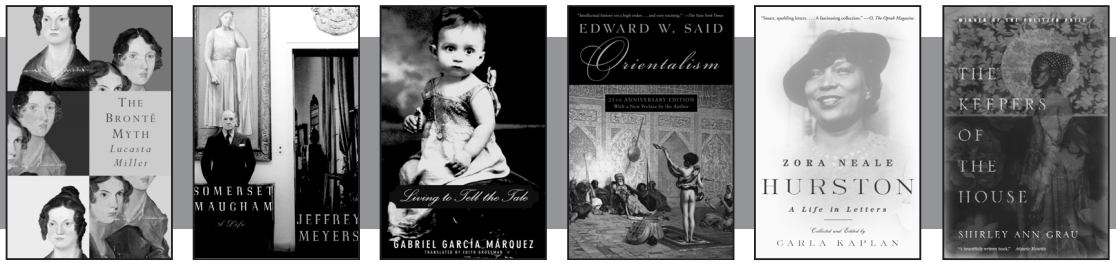
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Marion S. Sargent, Towson University, 14 June 2003
Dwight Dean Shackelford, Southeast Missouri State University, 5 September 2003
Margaret G. Smart, Penn State University, Lehigh Valley Campus, 15 July 2003
Albert Stone, Jr., Hellenic College, 1 January 2003

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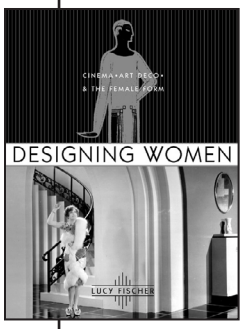
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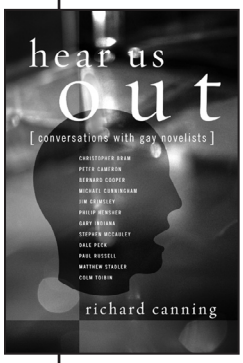


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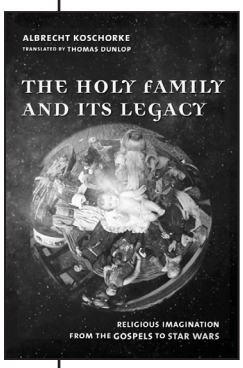


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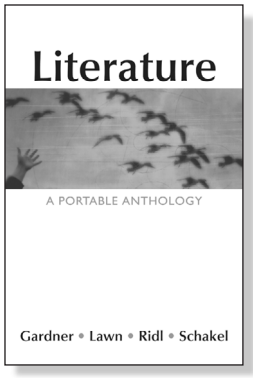
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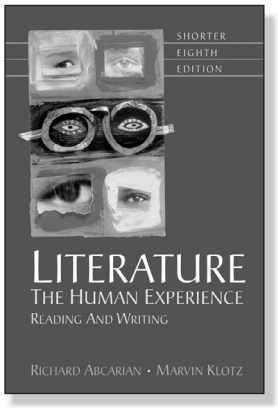
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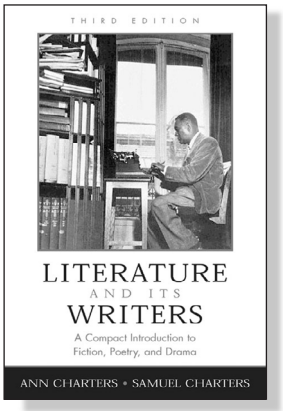
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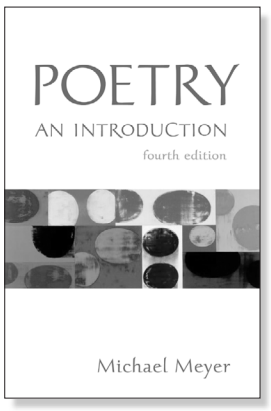
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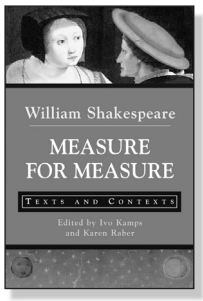
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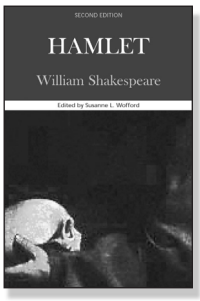
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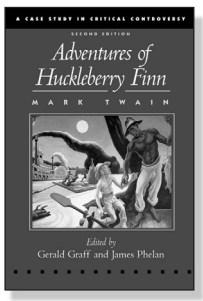
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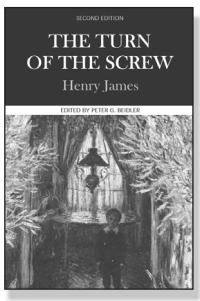
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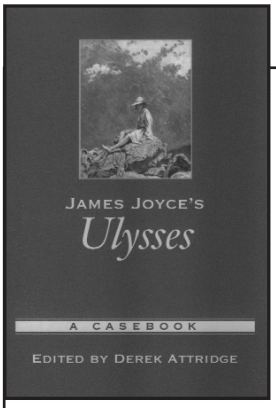
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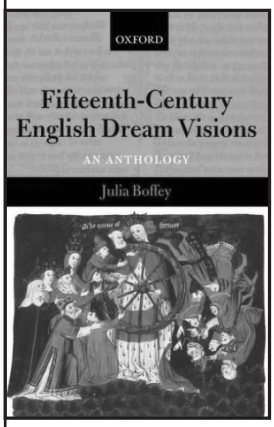
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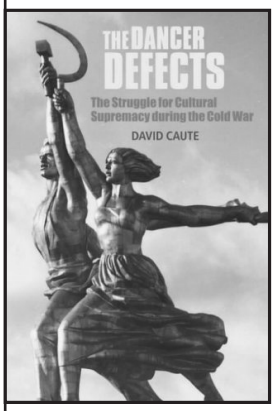
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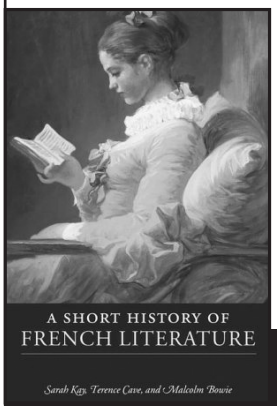
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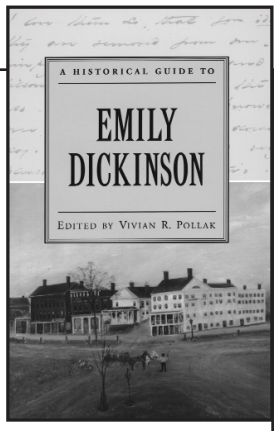
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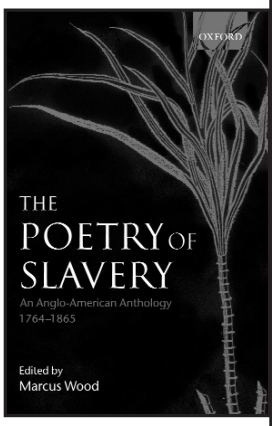
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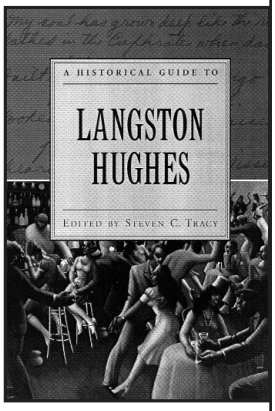
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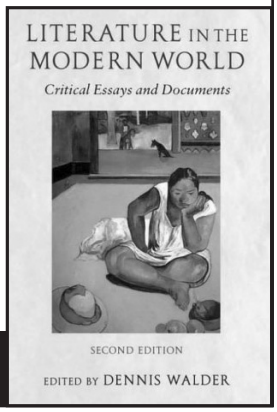
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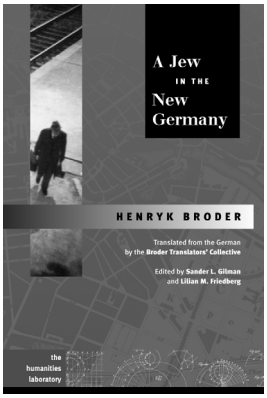


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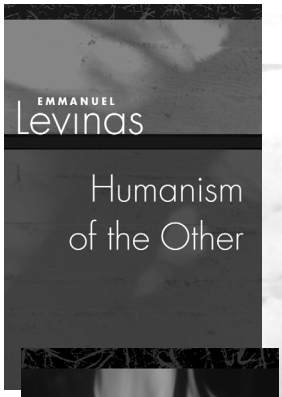
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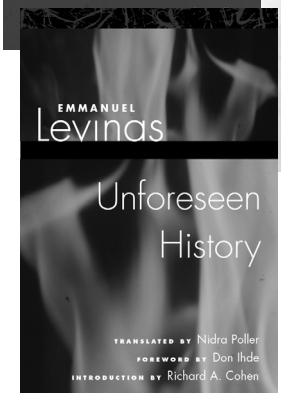
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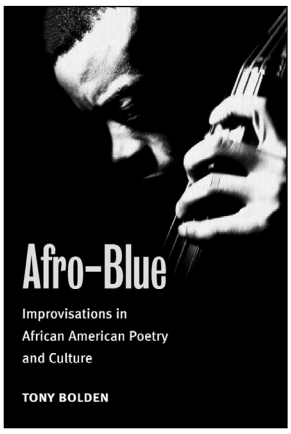


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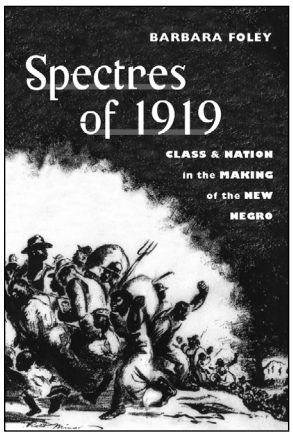
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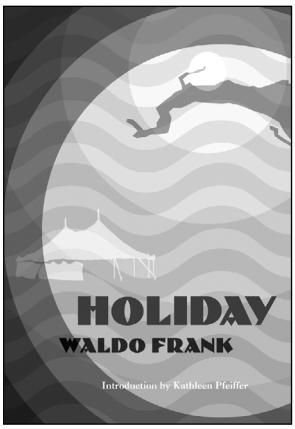
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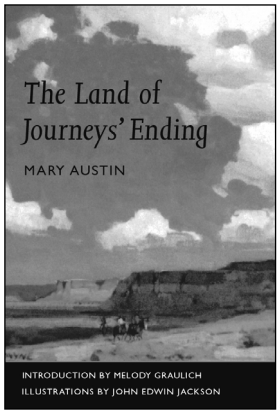
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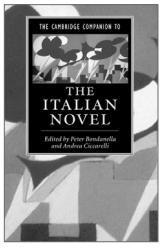
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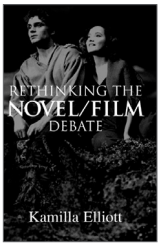
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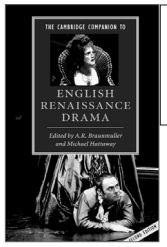


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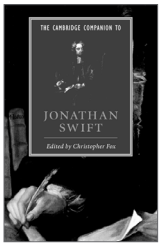
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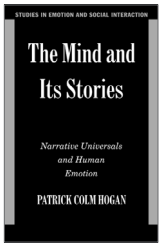
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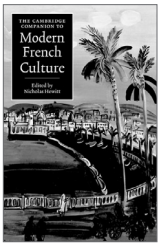
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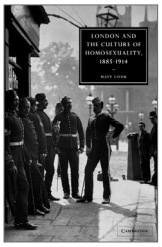


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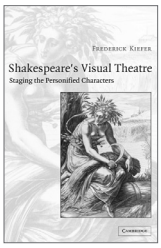


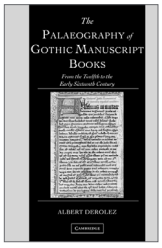
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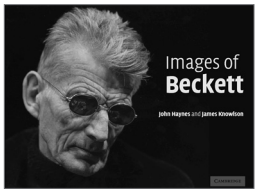
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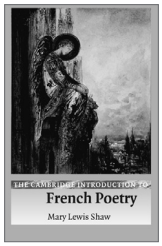
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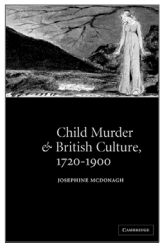


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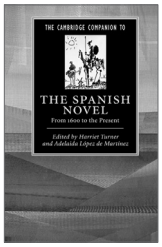


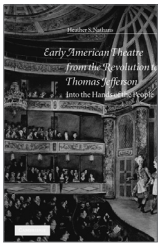
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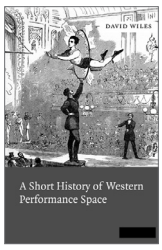


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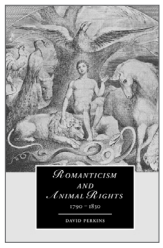


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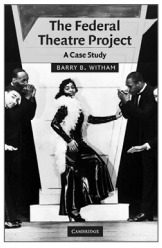


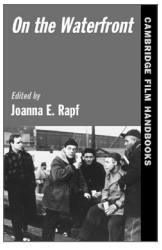
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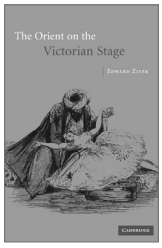


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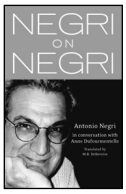
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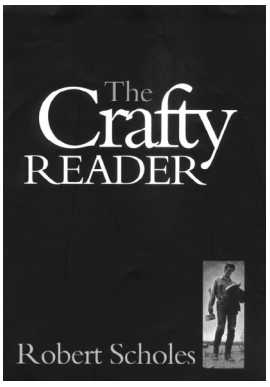
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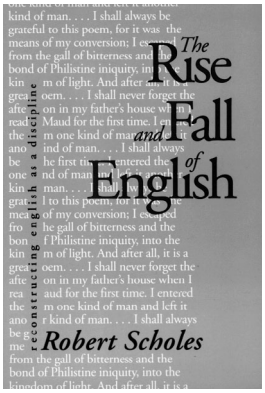


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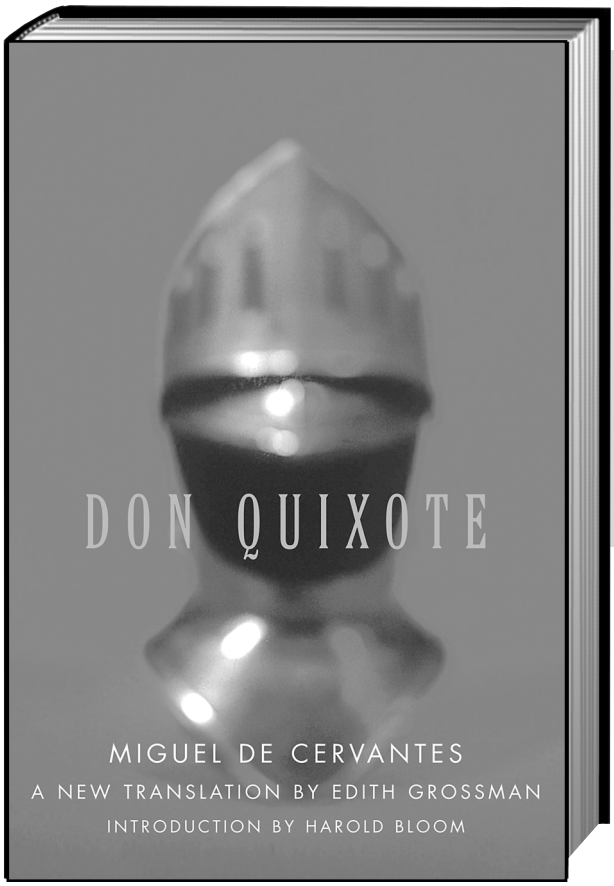
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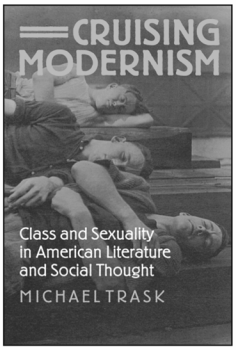
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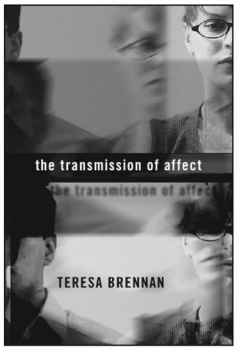
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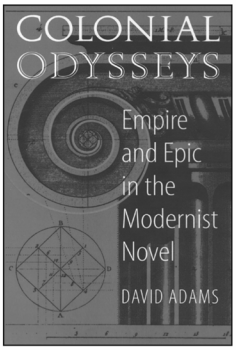
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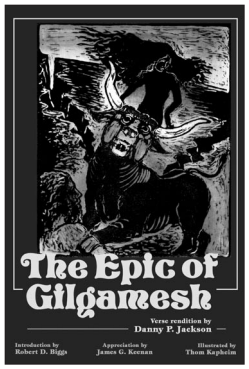
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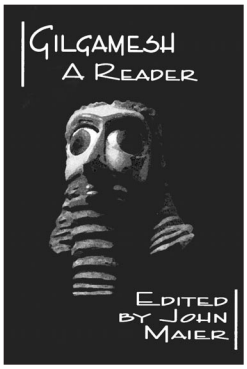
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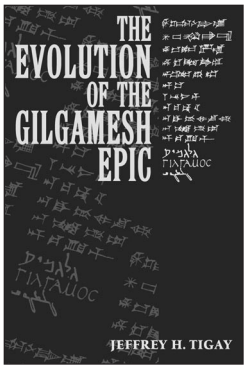
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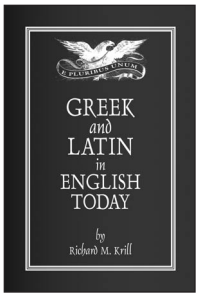
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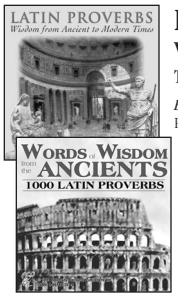


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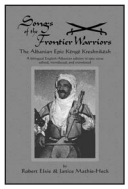


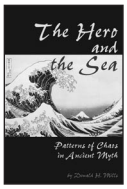
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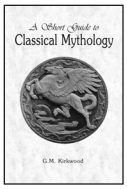
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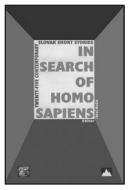
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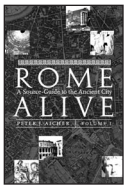
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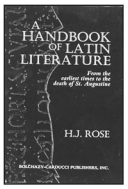
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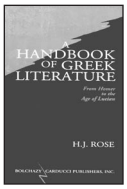
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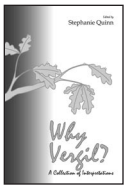
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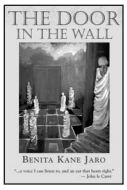










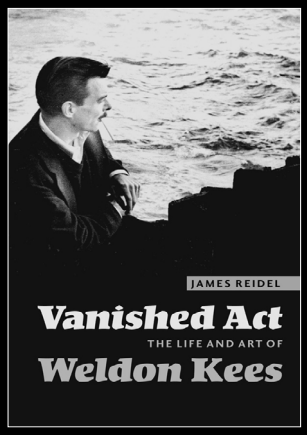


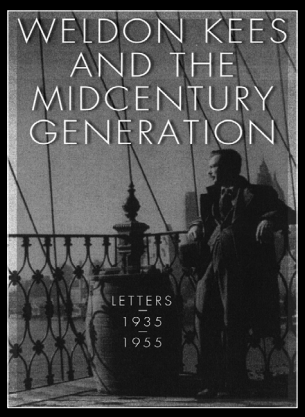
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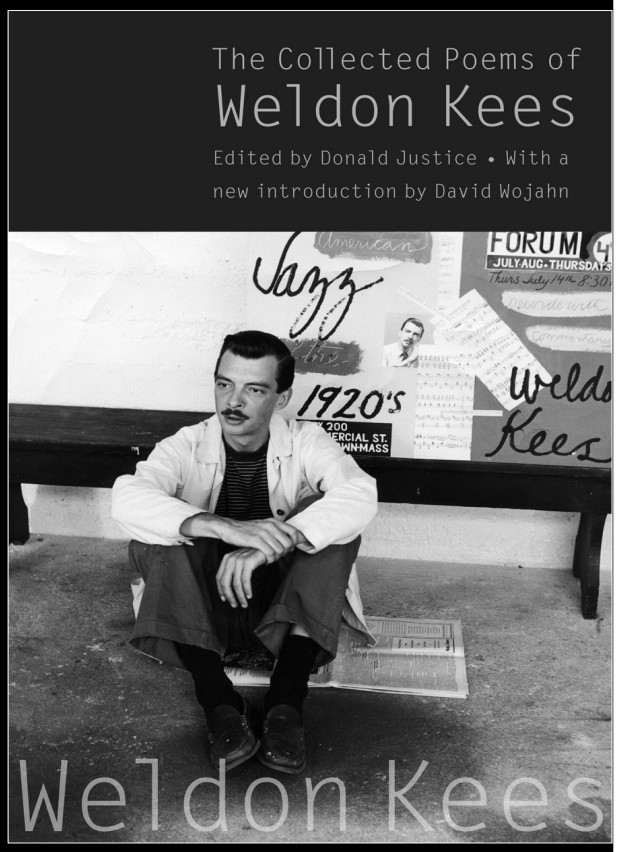
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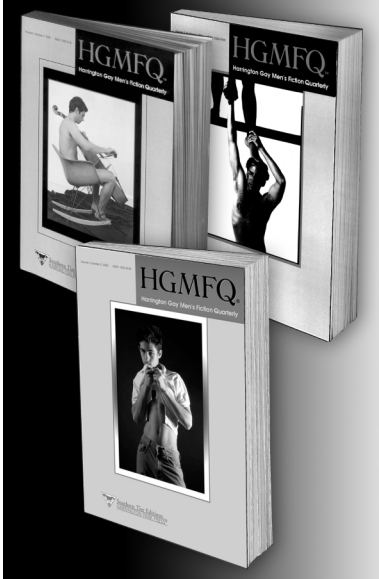
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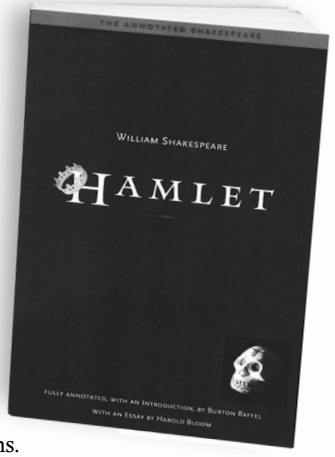
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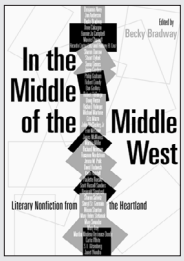
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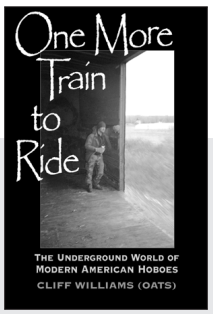
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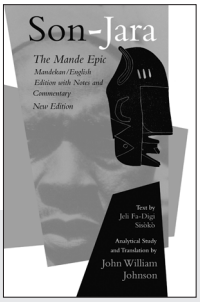
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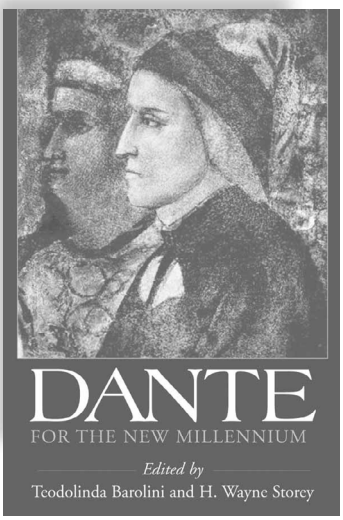


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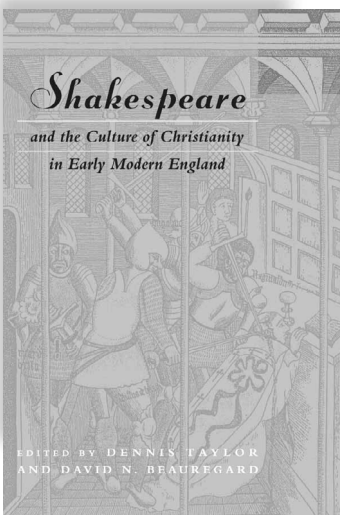


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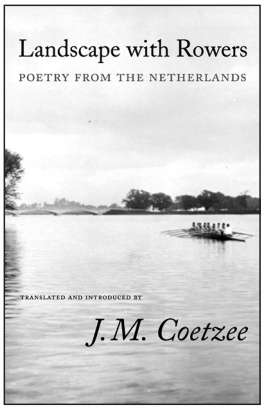
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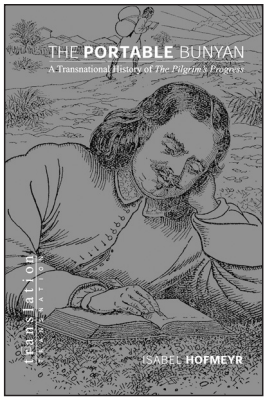
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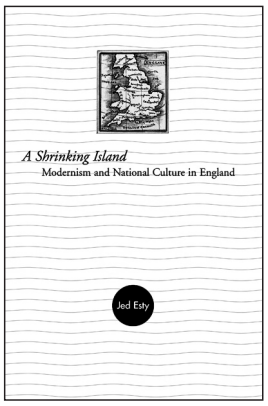
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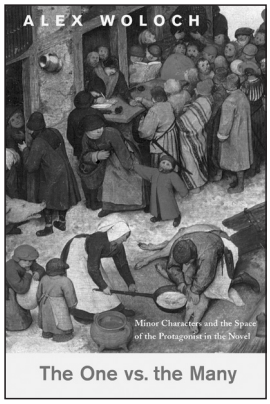
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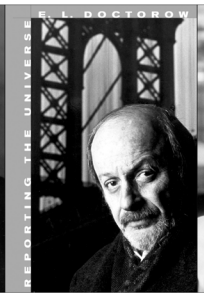
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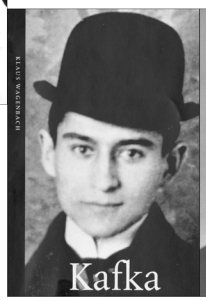
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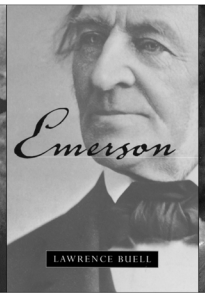
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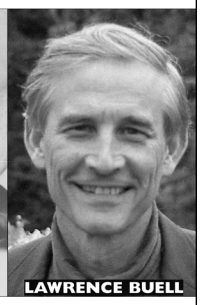












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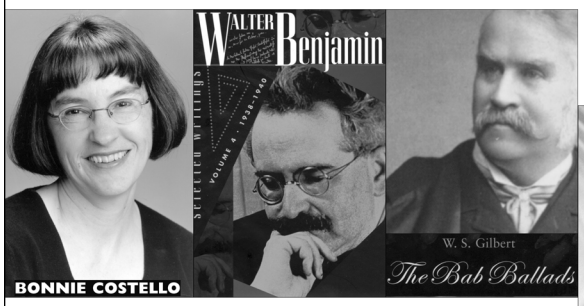
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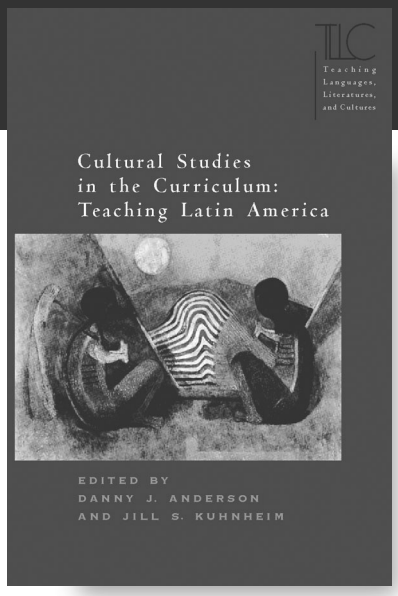
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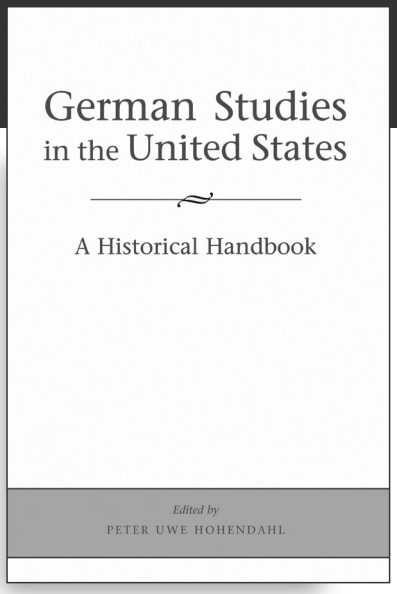
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