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II. REALISM TO THE PRESENT

Third Edition

General Editor: GEORGE McMICHAEL

Advisory Editors: FREDERICK CREWS, J. C. LEVENSON,
LEO MARX, DAVID E. SMITH



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Realism to the Present

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Preface

Much has been changed in this third edition of *Anthology of American Literature*, but the greater part of the anthology—especially the principles on which it is formed—remains as it has been through two previous editions.

The intent in *Anthology of American Literature*, Third Edition, is still to provide a generous collection of writings significant in American literary history. Literary merit, importance in the growth of American literary themes and ideas, and power to elicit response in the modern reader form the criteria for including a selection. The anthology continues to offer a large sampling of authors of major prominence and to represent authors of lesser magnitude by their most noteworthy achievements.

Another enduring principle guiding the formation of this third edition is the principle of including as many key long works in their entirety as is possible. Readers of the previous editions will re-encounter all of Franklin's *Autobiography*, Tyler's *The Contrast*, Cooper's *The Prairie*, Emerson's *Nature*, Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*, Melville's *Benito Cereno* and his *Billy Budd*, Thoreau's *Walden*, Chopin's *The Awakening*, Twain's *Huckleberry Finn*, James's *Daisy Miller*, Crane's *The Red Badge of Courage*, O'Neill's *The Hairy Ape*, William's *The Glass Menagerie*, Baraka's *Dutchman*, Bellow's *Seize the Day*, and Albee's *Zoo Story*. They will find in addition the new long works: Crane's *Maggie*, *A Girl of the Streets*, Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*, and Chandler's *Red Wind*. Among the shorter works included, the following are new to this edition: Poe: "The Cask of Amontillado" and "The Premature Burial," Hawthorne: "The Birthmark," Dreiser: "The Lost Phoebe," Fitzgerald: "Babylon Revisited," Hemingway: "The Short, Happy Life of Francis Macomber," Updike: "Flight," Roth: "Conversion of the Jews," Barthelme: "The School," Faulkner: "A Rose for Emily," Hughes: "On the Road," and Rivera: "and the earth did not part." In its selection of poetry, the anthology has also added or substituted many works as readers advised, but to list all such changes here would be excessive, and to mention just a few would be misleading. As in all previous editions, the selections of Walt Whitman's poetry conclude Volume I and appear in full at the beginning of Volume II, thus permitting readers to confront Whitman when reading the literature of either the romantic period or the age of realism. A Chronology at the end of each volume associates authors and their writings with social, political, and technological developments throughout history.

The author headnotes, period introductions, and footnotes throughout this edition have all received special attention and careful revision. The number of footnotes has substantially increased in the third edition, but that increase has been made, as in the preceding edition, in the spirit of providing necessary information without imposing prejudicial interpretation.

Authors and works in the anthology follow a generally chronological order. In deciding on a standard text from among the various editions available for many of the selections, the editors have selected whenever possible that edition most respected by modern scholars. The text reprinted is identified at the end of each author headnote. Spelling and punctuation are, in some instances, regularized and modernized to correct obvious errors and to suit the reader's convenience. An editorial excision of less than one paragraph is indicated by an ellipsis thus: . . .; excisions of a paragraph or more are indicated by a centered ellipsis thus:

.

For each author and for each of the five literary periods, brief introductory notes summarize historical and critical information. The date on the left immediately following each selection indicates the date of composition when known; dates on the right indicate the date or dates of publication.

George McMichael of California State University, Hayward, prepared the manuscript of this third edition; Frederick Crews of the University of California, Berkeley; J.C. Levenson of The University of Virginia; Leo Marx of The Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and David Smith of Hampshire College reviewed the entire work. The editors and publisher are grateful also to the following persons for advice on the preparation of the second edition, for their contribution has considerable influence on the third:

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