



THE NORTON ANTHOLOGY *of* AMERICAN LITERATURE



SHORTER SIXTH EDITION



The Norton Anthology of American Literature

SHORTER
SIXTH EDITION

Nina Baym, *General Editor*

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The Norton Anthology
of American Literature

SHORTER
SIXTH EDITION

Native American Literatures • KRUPAT
Literature to 1700 • FRANKLIN
American Literature 1700–1820 • GURA • MURPHY
American Literature 1820–1865 • PARKER
American Literature 1865–1914 • GOTTESMAN
American Literature between the Wars, 1914–1945
BAYM • HOLLAND
American Prose since 1945 • KLINKOWITZ • PRITCHARD
American Poetry since 1945 • WALLACE • KALSTONE

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Preface to the Shorter Sixth Edition

Like earlier editions of the one-volume, shorter *Norton Anthology of American Literature*, this Sixth Edition is designed for the one-semester course and draws on the full resources of the five-volume parent edition. It aims to present a selection of works sufficiently rich, diverse, and complete to enable the book to stand alone for teachers who prefer to use a single anthology, while serving as a core text for those who wish to assign additional individual works as well.

As with earlier editions, the editors have worked closely with teachers who assign the book and, through these teachers, with the students who use it. From the anthology's inception, three goals have been paramount: first, to present a variety of works rich and substantial enough to enable teachers to build their own courses according to their own ideals (thus, teachers are offered more authors and more selections than they will probably choose to teach); second, to make the anthology self-sufficient by featuring many works in their entirety and longer selections so that individual authors can be covered in depth; and third, to balance traditional interests with developing critical concerns. This commitment to balance has been evident from the first edition of 1979, where, in response to teachers who found that the traditional canon was insufficiently representative of American literary history, we included Anne Bradstreet, Mary Rowlandson, Sarah Kemble Knight, Phillis Wheatley, Margaret Fuller, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Frederick Douglass, Sarah Orne Jewett, Kate Chopin, Mary E. Wilkins Freeman, Booker T. Washington, Charles Chesnutt, Edith Wharton, W. E. B. Du Bois, and many others. Yet we did not shortchange writers like Franklin, Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Poe, Melville, Hemingway, Fitzgerald, or Faulkner, whom teachers then and now would not think of doing without.

That the "untraditional" authors listed above have now become part of the American literary canon shows that canons are not fixed, but emerge and change. At the same time, teachers over the last thirty years have seen a striking expansion in the extent and diversity of the authors they are expected and want to teach. In endeavoring to ensure that our inclusions—extensive as they are—do not outrun what might conceivably be of use in the classroom, we have always revised our selections in response to detailed sugges-

tions from many teachers. For this Shorter Sixth Edition, we have drawn on the careful commentary of 111 reviewers. We are delighted with the new materials we bring to this Shorter Sixth Edition, which take several forms:

Under the new rubric **Literature to 1700**, for the opening section, we incorporate Native American and explorer materials with settler literature up through the Salem witchcraft episode. This configuration corresponds to the new emphasis in early American literary studies on the Atlantic Rim, on the multiethnicity of the early colonies, and on the position of Puritan New England as a key but not the only determinant in early American writing. The multilingual, multiethnic colonies are stressed in the expanded period introduction and in the newly included biographical narrative of Garcilaso de la Vega.

American Literature 1700–1820 In this section, newly edited by Philip F. Gura, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, we distinguish the eighteenth century as a period of consolidation and development in an emergent American literature. Newly included to better convey the range of genres and writers that found readers in early America are voices, free and slave, from the Atlantic Rim: the slave Briton Hammon, the poet Annis Boudinot Stockton, and the playwright Royall Tyler, represented by his comedy *The Contrast*.

American Literature 1820–1865 broadens our geographical scope by introducing the California writer, Louise Amelia Smith Clappe. Clappe's "Dame Shirley" letters, among the earliest classics for students of western American literature, constitute a vivid report from the gold mines. The esteemed poet Emma Lazarus is newly included with poems, most famously "The New Colossus," that gave a highly cultured voice to Jewish American identity. Selections by Poe, Stowe, and Douglass deepen the representation of these central figures.

American Literature 1865–1914 Sarah Morgan Bryan Piatt, increasingly recognized as a major woman poet in the era, is newly represented in this section, as are fiction writers Constance Fenimore Woolson, Abraham Cahan, and Sui Sin Far. These three writers extend this period's regional and ethnic representation, while demonstrating anew the capacious possibilities of American realism.

American Literature between the Wars, 1914–1945, now includes chapters from John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*; two stories by Willa Cather, "The Sculptor's Funeral" and "Neighbour Rosicky"; a second story by F. Scott Fitzgerald, the 1922 *Metropolitan Magazine* version of "Winter Dreams"; and two new fiction writers, the Native American writer D'Arcy McNickle and the Filipino American Carlos Bulosan. *Trifles*, Susan Glasspell's teachable short play, is newly included.

American Prose since 1945 strengthens the anthology's offerings by Latino and Latina writers with the addition of Rudolfo A. Anaya's short story "The Christmas Play," and selections from Gloria Anzaldúa's influential work of theory, *Borderlands/La Frontera*.

American Poetry since 1945 newly anthologizes work by three important poets: United States Poet Laureate Billy Collins, Stanley Kunitz, and Jorie Graham. Recent work by Galway Kinnell and Rita Dove is newly anthologized.

The student Web site to accompany the anthology (www.wwnorton.com/naal), by Bruce Michelson, offers timelines, outlines of the period introductions, over 400 annotated links, author resource pages for 160 writers in the anthology, searchable “Explorations” that provide questions and research projects, and, a new feature, self-grading quizzes. *Teaching with The Norton Anthology of American Literature: A Guide for Instructors*, by Bruce Michelson and Marjorie Pryse, is a lively, practical resource for questions to motivate close reading and discussion, as well as concise teaching notes for individual periods, authors, and works; model exam questions and essay topics; and reading lists for a wide variety of courses using the anthology.

As in past editions, editorial features—period introductions, headnotes, and annotation—are designed to be concise yet full and to give students the information needed without imposing an interpretation. In the Shorter Sixth Edition, much of this editorial material has been revised in response to new scholarship. Several period introductions have been entirely or substantially rewritten, and a number of headnotes have been tightened or rewritten to be more useful to students. The Selected Bibliographies have been thoroughly updated. The Shorter Sixth Edition retains two editorial features that help students place their reading in historical and cultural context—endpaper maps and a Texts/Contexts timeline following each period introduction.

Our policy has been to reprint each text in the form that accords, as far as it is possible to determine, to the intention of its author. There is one exception: we have modernized most spellings and (very sparingly) the punctuation in the sections *Literature to 1700* and *American Literature 1700–1820* on the principle that archaic spellings and typography pose unnecessary problems for beginning students. We have used square brackets to indicate titles supplied by the editors for the convenience of students. Whenever a portion of a text has been omitted, we have indicated that omission with three asterisks.

The editors of this anthology were selected on the basis of their expertness in their individual area. We note with pleasure the addition to the editorial team of Philip F. Gura, William S. Newman Distinguished Professor of American Literature and Culture and Adjunct Professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He succeeds Francis Murphy as period editor of *American Literature 1700–1820*. Each editor was given ultimate responsibility for his or her period, but all collaborated in the final enterprise. Arnold Krupat edited Native American Literatures and the oratory, songs, and chants, Eastman, Oskison, and Black Elk selections. Ronald Gottesman prepared the texts and introductions for Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass; and Nina Baym prepared the texts and introductions for Harriet Beecher Stowe and Harriet Jacobs.

We take this opportunity to thank the hundreds of teachers throughout the country who have answered our questions. Those teachers who prepared detailed critiques, or who offered special help in preparing texts, are listed under Acknowledgments, on a separate page. The editors would like to

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NINA BAYM



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