

Literature

RESALE

APPROACHES
TO FICTION,
POETRY,
AND
DRAMA

ROBERT
DIYANNI



Literature

Approaches to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama



Robert DiYanni
New York University



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APPROACHES TO FICTION, POETRY, AND DRAMA

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—**David A. Salomon**, Black Hills State University

About the Author



Robert DiYanni, Director of K-12 International Services for the College Board, is Adjunct Professor of Humanities at New York University. Dr. DiYanni, who earned his A.B. from Rutgers and his Ph.D. from the City University of New York, taught for many years at Queens College (CUNY), Pace, and Harvard. He has published more than twenty-five books on writing, literature, and humanities, mostly for university students. In addition to *Literature*, his books include *Modern American Poets*, *Modern American Prose*, *The McGraw-Hill Book of Poetry*, *The McGraw-Hill Book of Fiction*, *Encounters*, *The Scribner Handbook for Writers*, *Writing about the Humanities*, and *Arts and Culture: An Introduction to the Humanities*.

For the Bedford, NY Library Reading Group

Preface



Literature: Approaches to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama examines literature as a significant reflection of life and an imaginative extension of its possibilities; it emphasizes the *reading* of literature as an active enterprise involving thought and invoking feeling. As a reader of this text, you will be asked to consider why you respond to works of literature in certain ways and how your responses may change upon reflection, rereading, and reconsideration.

Like the 5th edition of *Literature* from which it is derived, *Literature: Approaches to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama* includes the following key features:

- A distinctive three-part pedagogy that asks you to consider your **experience** of literature, form an **interpretation** of it, and, finally, engage in **evaluation**—a judgment concerning social, cultural, political, and other values that the work reflects or embodies
- Comprehensive introductions to fiction, poetry, and drama that focus on the **elements** of each genre
- **Diverse selections** that represent a wide range of styles and voices across the genres and that cover a broad spectrum of time periods and cultural perspectives
- **Authors in Context** sections featuring multiple selections and extensive introductions to the life and work of selected authors: two fiction writers (Edgar Allan Poe and Flannery O'Connor), three poets (Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, and Langston Hughes), and three playwrights (Sophocles, Shakespeare, and Ibsen)
- **Transformations**, which explores poetry through revision, parody, translation, response, and adaptation, including a **full-color section** of paintings inspired by or inspiring poems

- **Poetry of the World** (in translation), representing poets from around the globe.
- **Connections questions** that link works in each genre with others that are thematically, stylistically, historically, or contextually related
- **Photos**—author portraits, manuscripts, covers, and other illustrations—that add a visual dimension to the study of literature
- **Timelines** (in the *Authors in Context* sections, in an *Appendix* at the end of the book) that provide historical context for the authors and their works
- **An introduction to critical theory** that demonstrates the analysis of a poem (Dickinson’s “I’m ‘wife’”) and a short story (“The Use of Force”) using ten different critical approaches
- **An introduction to writing with sources**, following the 2003 MLA guidelines for documentation

In addition, *Literature* offers the following **new features**:

1. **Literature in the News:** These sections feature timely newspaper and magazine articles covering a wide variety of topics, including Multiculturalism in the Classroom: the place of *Catcher in the Rye* in the classroom (and the canon), Oprah’s Book Club, Shakespeare and Sexuality, Billy Collins as Modern Popular Bard, and more. Each boxed item includes a headnote discussing the significance of the issue; the article or an excerpt from it; and questions inviting readers to think critically about the topic.
2. **New Voices:** Each genre features two New Voices, authors whose work has never before been anthologized in an introductory literature anthology. As the canon of literary works continues to evolve, readers are invited to participate in the dialogue about new authors and their works.
3. **“Writers inspired by”** sections highlight the work of writers imitating, emulating, or responding to Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Langston Hughes, Edgar Allan Poe, and Flannery O’Connor.
4. **In-text icons** point to **ARIEL**, the new **Literature CD-ROM**, and an **expanded Online Learning Center (website)** for the book, offering featured author casebooks with biographies, quizzes, hyperlinked stories, discussion of film versions of stories and plays, writing assignments, and more.
5. Availability in soft and hard cover formats.

SUPPLEMENTS ACCOMPANYING LITERATURE

Please contact your local McGraw-Hill representative for details concerning policies, prices, and availability of these supplements, as some restrictions may apply.

Supplements for Students

ARIEL (A Resource for the Interactive Exploration of Literature) CD-ROM: ARIEL, McGraw-Hill English’s new fully interactive CD-ROM, is an exciting

new tool that introduces students to the pleasures of studying literature. The CD features nearly thirty casebooks on authors ranging from Sophocles to Rita Dove. Each casebook offers a rich array of resources, including hyperlinked texts, video and audio clips, critical essays, a biography, bibliography and webliography, essay questions, quizzes, and visuals. General resources include a robust glossary and numerous other resources.

Online Learning Center (www.mhhe.com/diyanni2): This rich website offers twenty author casebooks; complete texts of selected classic works with embedded links to relevant sites; a linked Table of Contents; a linked timeline offering historical and cultural context for all anthologized works; author biographies; a complete glossary; literature-specific Web links; and interactive quizzes, Web exercises, and writing prompts offering students additional practice in literary response, interpretation, and evaluation.

The Essay (0-07-249861-7): *The Essay* serves those introduction to literature courses that cover this genre in addition to poetry, fiction, and drama. It is available separately or for a nominal charge when packaged with *Literature*.

Other Trade Books: A number of modern and classic works of fiction, nonfiction, and drama are available at a substantial discount when packaged with *Literature*:

Abbey, *The Monkey Wrench Gang*
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Marquez, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
Mason, *Clear Springs*
McCarthy, *All the Pretty Horses*
Momaday, *House Made of Dawn*
Tan, *Joy Luck Club*
White, *Essays of E. B. White*

The iDeal Reader (www.mhhe.com/idealreader) and Selections from The American Tradition in Literature: Available through McGraw-Hill's Primis Content Center, these special collections offer an impressive array of works of fiction, poetry, drama, and essays that can be used to supplement *Literature*. Instructors receive desk copies in 8–10 days, at no obligation; since each instructor-built supplement has a unique ISBN, bookstore orders for student copies are as straightforward as orders for any other print text. For more information, please visit www.mhhe.com/idealreader or www.primiscontentcenter.com.

Poetry to My Ear (0-07-229543-0): This CD-ROM covers the formal components of poetry (rhyme, rhythm, line, and form), defines and illustrates concepts, and enables students to try their own hands at some of the techniques in an interactive studio. By offering students the opportunity to hear a recitation of each anthologized poem, in some cases by the author, this groundbreaking teaching tool engages students with poetry and poetic language. *Poetry to My Ear* is available at a discount when packaged with *Literature*.

Supplements for Instructors

Instructor's Manual (password-protected, and available for download at www.mhhe.com/diyanni2): This popular resource, authored by Thomas M. Kitts of St. John's University, has been thoroughly updated and revised for this new edition. The Manual offers brief introductions, additional questions, and essay topics for major selections, a comprehensive list of videos and DVDs suitable for classroom use, and much more.

Videos and DVDs: Please ask your McGraw-Hill sales representative about videos and DVDs available to adopters for free or at reduced rates.

In Their Own Voices :A Century of Recorded Poetry (0-07-242404-4) : This audio CD offers a collection of classic and contemporary poems in the voices of the poets who wrote them.

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Throughout its many editions, *Literature* has always reflected the cooperative efforts of many people, beginning with Steven Pensinger, legendary editor and publisher, whose vision inspired the book from the beginning. Steve's associates at Random House, where the book was initially published, and at McGraw-Hill, which afterward took over the revised editions of the book, always brought intelligence and enthusiasm to their collective work on the project. They continue to deserve my thanks for their help and their support.

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ROBERT DIYANNI

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