Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-82643-3 - The Cambridge Introduction to the American Short Story Martin Scofield Frontmatter More information

The Cambridge Introduction to The American Short Story

This wide-ranging introduction to the short story tradition in the United States of America traces the genre from its beginnings in the early nineteenth century with Irving, Hawthorne and Poe via Fitzgerald, Hemingway and Faulkner to Flannery O'Connor and Raymond Carver. The major writers in the genre are covered in depth with a general view of their work and detailed discussion of a number of examples of individual stories. *The Cambridge Introduction to the American Short Story* offers a comprehensive and accessible guide to this rich literary tradition. It will be invaluable to students and readers looking for critical approaches to the short story and wishing to deepen their understanding of how authors have approached and developed this fascinating and challenging genre. Further reading suggestions are included to explore the subject in more depth. This is an invaluable overview for all students and readers of American fiction.

MARTIN SCOFIELD is Senior Lecturer in English and American Literature at the University of Kent. Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-82643-3 - The Cambridge Introduction to the American Short Story Martin Scofield Frontmatter <u>More information</u>

Cambridge Introductions to Literature

This series is designed to introduce students to key topics and authors. Accessible and lively, these introductions will also appeal to readers who want to broaden their understanding of the books and authors they enjoy.

- Ideal for students, teachers, and lecturers
- Concise, yet packed with essential information
- Key suggestions for further reading

Titles in this series:

Bulson The Cambridge Introduction to James Joyce Cooper The Cambridge Introduction to T. S. Eliot Dillon The Cambridge Introduction to Early English Theatre Goldman The Cambridge Introduction to Virginia Woolf Holdeman The Cambridge Introduction to W. B. Yeats McDonald The Cambridge Introduction to Samuel Beckett Peters The Cambridge Introduction to Joseph Conrad Scofield The Cambridge Introduction to the American Short Story Thomson The Cambridge Introduction to English Theatre, 1660–1900 Todd The Cambridge Introduction to Jane Austen Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-82643-3 - The Cambridge Introduction to the American Short Story Martin Scofield Frontmatter More information

The Cambridge Introduction to The American Short Story

MARTIN SCOFIELD



CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-82643-3 - The Cambridge Introduction to the American Short Story
Martin Scofield
Frontmatter
More information

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521533812

© Martin Scofield 2006

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2006

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN-13 978-0-521-82643-3 hardback ISBN-10 0-521-82643-8 hardback ISBN-13 978-0-521-53381-2 paperback ISBN-10 0-521-53381-3 paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-82643-3 - The Cambridge Introduction to the American Short Story Martin Scofield Frontmatter More information

Contents

Acknowledgements

page ix

Chapter 1	Introduction	
Chapter 2	The short story as ironic	
	myth: Washington Irving	
	and William Austin	10
Chapter 3	Nathaniel Hawthorne	19
Chapter 4	Edgar Allan Poe	31
Chapter 5	5 Herman Melville	
Chapter 6	6 New territories: Bret Harte	
	and Mark Twain	53
Chapter 7	Realism, the grotesque and	
	impressionism: Hamlin	
	Garland, Ambrose Bierce	
	and Stephen Crane	65
Chapter 8	Henry James	78
Chapter 9	Rebecca Harding Davis,	
	Sarah Orne Jewett and	
	Mary Wilkins Freeman	88

CAMBRIDGE

vi

Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-82643-3 - The Cambridge Introduction to the American Short Story Martin Scofield Frontmatter More information

Contents		
Chapter 10	Charlotte Perkins Gilman,	
	Kate Chopin, Edith Wharton	
	and Willa Cather	
Chapter 11	Growth, fragmentation,	
	new aesthetics and new	
	voices in the early twentieth	
	century	107
Chapter 12	O. Henry and Jack London	115
Chapter 13	Sherwood Anderson	128
Chapter 14	Ernest Hemingway	139
Chapter 15	F. Scott Fitzgerald	150
Chapter 16	William Faulkner	160
Chapter 17	Katherine Anne Porter,	
	Eudora Welty and Flannery	
	O'Connor	170
Chapter 18	Charles Chesnutt, Richard	
	Wright, James Baldwin and	
	the African American short	
	story to 1965	183
Chapter 19	Aspects of the American	
	short story 1930–1980	195
Chapter 20	Two traditions and the	
	changing idea of the main-	
	stream	208
Chapter 21	The postmodern short story	
	in America	217
Chapter 22	Raymond Carver	226

Cambridge University Press	
978-0-521-82643-3 - The Cambridge Introduction to the American Short Story	
Martin Scofield	
Frontmatter	
More information	

		Contents	vii
Chapter 23	Epilogue: the contemporary		
	American short story	236	
Notes		239	
Guide to further reading		256	
Index	Index		

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank warmly my wife Lyn Innes, and other present and former colleagues at the University of Kent and elsewhere, particularly the American literature specialists Keith Carabine, Henry Claridge, David Herd, Stuart Hutchinson, Lionel Kelly, Guy Reynolds and David Stirrup, for advice, loan of books, useful discussion and other support; the School of English at Kent for its generous provisions of study leave; and also all those past and present students taking my courses in the nineteenth- and twentieth-century American short story over the past several years, whose enthusiasm, co-operation and lively critical contribution to our seminars have helped me to formulate the ideas in this book. I would also like to pay grateful tribute to my editorial team at Cambridge University Press, in particular my commissioning editor Ray Ryan for his unfailing support and encouragement, my production editor Jayne Aldhouse, and my copy-editor Lucy Carolan for her meticulous work on my typescript.