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NOVEL THEORY AND TECHNOLOGY IN MODERNIST BRITAIN

Modernism reshaped novel theory, shifting criticism away from readers' experiences and toward the work as an object autonomous from any reader. *Novel Theory and Technology in Modernist Britain* excavates technology's crucial role in this evolution and offers a new history of modernism's vision of the novel. To many modernists, both novel and machine increasingly seemed to merge into the experiences of readers or users. But modernists also saw potential for a different understanding of technology – in premodern machines, or the technical functioning of technologies stripped of their current social roles. With chapters on Henry James, Ford Madox Ford, Wyndham Lewis, and Rebecca West, *Novel Theory* argues that, in these alternative visions of technology, modernists found models for how the novel might become an autonomous, intellectual object rather than a familiar experience, and articulated a future for the novel by imagining it as a new kind of machine.

HEATHER FIELDING is Associate Professor of English and Associate Dean of the Honors College at Purdue University Northwest in Westville and Hammond, Indiana.

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