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## MODERNISM, NATIONALISM, AND THE NOVEL

In *Modernism, Nationalism, and the Novel* Pericles Lewis shows how political debates over the sources and nature of “national character” prompted radical experiments in narrative form amongst modernist writers. Though critics have accused the modern novel of shunning the external world, Lewis suggests that, far from abandoning nineteenth-century realists’ concern with politics, the modernists used this emphasis on individual consciousness to address the distinctively political ways in which the modern nation-state shapes the psyche of its subjects. Tracing this theme through Joyce, Proust, and Conrad, amongst others, Lewis claims that modern novelists gave life to a whole generation of narrators who forged new social realities in their own images. Their literary techniques – multiple narrators, transcriptions of consciousness, involuntary memory, and arcane symbolism – focused attention on the shaping of the individual by the nation and on the potential of the individual, in time of crisis, to redeem the nation.

PERICLES LEWIS is Assistant Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Yale University. He has published articles on Joseph Conrad, James Joyce, Bram Stoker, Walter Benjamin, and Giambattista Vico. This is his first book.

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## *Note on texts*

Most quotations are in English only. I have included the original language or a reference to a text in the original language only where the English is insufficient to illustrate my point. I have sometimes silently modified translations. Unless otherwise noted, translations from French or Italian are my own. References to *Nocturne* are to the Rosenthal translation listed below; references to *Notturmo* are to the Ferrata edition, and these translations are my own. The following abbreviations have been used:

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Alatri           | Paolo Alatri, <i>Gabriele D'Annunzio</i> , Turin: Unione Tipografico-Editrice Torinese, 1983.  |
| <i>HD</i>        | Joseph Conrad, <i>Heart of Darkness</i> (1899), ed. Robert Kimbrough, 3rd edition, New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 1988.                                     |
| <i>IP</i>        | Honoré de Balzac, <i>Illusions perdues</i> (1837–1843), vol. v of <i>La Comédie humaine</i> , Paris: Gallimard, 1976–1977.                                 |
| <i>LI</i>        | Honoré de Balzac, <i>Lost Illusions</i> , trans. Herbert Hunt, Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1971.   |
| <i>Notturmo</i>  | Gabriele d'Annunzio, <i>Notturmo</i> (1921), ed. Giansiro Ferrata, Milan: Mondadori, 1983.   |
| <i>Nocturne</i>  | Gabriele d'Annunzio, <i>Nocturne and Five Tales of Love and Death</i> , trans. Raymond Rosenthal, Marlboro, Vermont: Marlboro Press, 1988.                 |
| <i>Origins</i>   | Hannah Arendt, <i>The Origins of Totalitarianism</i> (1951), new edition, San Diego: Harcourt Brace, 1979.   |
| <i>Portrait</i>  | James Joyce, <i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i> (1916), corrected by Chester G. Anderson and ed. Richard Ellmann, New York: Viking, 1964.      |
| <i>Recherche</i> | Marcel Proust, <i>A la recherche du temps perdu</i> (1913–1927). 4 volumes. New Pléiade edition. Ed. Jean-Yves Tadié <i>et al.</i> Paris: Gallimard, 1987. |



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*Remembrance* Marcel Proust, *Remembrance of Things Past*, trans. C. K. Scott Moncrieff, Terence Kilmartin, and Andreas Mayor, Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1983.