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978-1-107-44601-4 — The Cambridge Companion to the English Short Story
Edited by Ann-Marie Einhaus
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THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO THE
ENGLISH SHORT STORY

This *Companion* provides an accessible overview of short fiction by writers from England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales and other international sites. A collection of international experts examines the development of the short story in a variety of contexts from the early nineteenth century to the present. The experts consider how dramatic changes in the publishing landscape during this period – such as the rise of the fiction magazine and the emergence of new opportunities in online and electronic publishing – influenced the form, covering subgenres from detective fiction to flash fiction. Drawing on a wealth of critical scholarship to place the short story in the English literary tradition, this volume will be an invaluable guide for students of the short story in English.

Ann-Marie Einhaus is Senior Lecturer in Modern and Contemporary Literature at Northumbria University in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England. She is the author of *The Short Story and the First World War* (Cambridge University Press) and co-editor, with Barbara Korte, of *The Penguin Book of First World War Stories*.

A complete list of books in the series is at the back of this book.

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THE CAMBRIDGE
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SHORT STORY

ANN-MARIE EINHAUS

Northumbria University



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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

MARC BOTHA completed his PhD in literary theory and modernism in the Department of English Studies at Durham University in 2012. His forthcoming monograph, *A Theory of Minimalism* (2016), formulates a comprehensive, interdisciplinary and transhistorical theory of minimalist aesthetics grounded in contemporary philosophical discourse. He is a Lecturer in English Studies (20th and 21st Century Literature and Theory) at Durham University, UK, and an Honorary Research Fellow in English at the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa. His research is focused in three specific areas – minimalism, cosmopoetics and fragility – and is situated at the intersection of cultural theory and contemporary aesthetic practice, often spanning literature, music, visual and intermedia arts. He continues to investigate all types of minimalism, from canonical figures such as Beckett, Carver and Robison, to the experiments of Concrete Poetry and a new generation of minimalist writers of electronic literature and flash fiction.

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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

World War writing. Her research interests comprise First World War writing, the short story, early-twentieth-century fiction, memory studies and the interrelation between literature and history/historiography more generally.

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KATE MACDONALD taught English literature and British cultural history in several European universities after a career in academic publishing and is currently a visiting fellow in the Department of English Literature at the University of Reading. She has published widely on John Buchan, periodicals, book history and publishing culture, and her most recent monograph is *Novelists Against Social Change: Conservative Popular Fiction 1920–1960* (2015). Her current research is on depictions of bodily impairment in the popular print culture of the First World War.

DAVID MALCOLM is a professor of English Literature at the University of Gdańsk. He is the author and co-author of books on Jean Rhys, Ian McEwan, Graham Swift, John McGahern and the British and Irish short story. He translates from Polish and German and writes reviews for the *Times Literary Supplement*. He is one of the organizers of the between.pomiedzy festival/conference held annually in Sopot, Poland.

PAUL MARCH-RUSSELL teaches comparative literature and liberal arts at the University of Kent. His previous publications include *The Short Story: An Introduction* (2009) and, co-edited with Maggie Awadalla, *The Postcolonial Short Story: Contemporary Essays* (2012). He is an editorial advisor to the journal *Short Fiction in Theory and Practice*, and a member of the European Network for Research in Short Fiction. He is also part of an international research project, based at the University of Santiago de Compostela, exploring contemporary short fiction by British female writers. Forthcoming publications include chapters for *The Cambridge History of the English Short Story*, *The Edinburgh Companion to the Short Story in English* and, on the short story cycle, *American Literature in Transition: 1990–2000*. When not working on the short story, he is editor of

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Foundation: The International Review of Science Fiction, commissioning editor for *SF Storyworlds* and the author of *Modernism and Science Fiction* (2015).

ANTHONY PATTERSON is an assistant professor of English literature at Celal Bayar University in Manisa, Turkey. He has published on a number of writers of the late Victorian and Edwardian periods including George Gissing, H. G. Wells, George Egerton and Arnold Bennett. His monograph *Mrs Grundy's Enemies: Censorship, Realist Fiction and the Politics of Sexual Representation* was published in 2013. He is also the co-editor of two recent volumes: *Vile Women: Challenging Representations of Female Evil in Fact, Fiction and Mythology*, edited with Marilena Zacheos, was published in 2014; *We Speak a Different Tongue: Maverick Voices and Modernity, 1890–1939*, edited with Yoonjoung Choi, was published by Cambridge Scholars Press in 2015. He is currently working on a monograph exploring the British social realist short story.

JOHN PLOTZ, a professor of English at Brandeis University, is the author of two academic books about Victorian literature, *The Crowd* (2000) and *Portable Property* (2008), as well as a young-adult novel, *Time and the Tapestry: A William Morris Adventure* (2014). He is currently completing 'Semi-Detached: The Aesthetics of Partial Absorption' (2016), which includes chapters on John Galt, Millais and the Pre-Raphaelites, George Eliot, Henry James and Willa Cather. He has also begun work on a project about American and British literary Naturalism and its relationship to Darwin and nineteenth-century environmental thinking: authors studied include Richard Jefferies, George Marsh and Thomas Hardy. Honours include a Guggenheim and residential fellowships from the National Humanities Center and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study.

MARTIN PRIESTMAN is a professor of English Literature at the University of Roehampton. His research, teaching and publishing activities are divided between the Romantic period and crime fiction. He is the editor of *The Cambridge Companion to Crime Fiction* (2003); other publications on the genre include *Crime Fiction from Poe to the Present* (2nd ed., 2013) and *Detective Fiction and Literature* (1990). On the Romantic period his books include *The Poetry of Erasmus Darwin: Enlightened Spaces, Romantic Times* (2013) and *Romantic Atheism: Poetry and Freethought, 1780–1830* (1999).

DAVID STEWART is Senior Lecturer in Romanticism at Northumbria University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He has published widely on Romantic-period writing, especially periodicals, poetry and print culture. His book *Romantic Magazines and Metropolitan Literary Culture* was published in 2011, and his articles have appeared in *Studies in English Literature*, *Essays in Criticism*, *Romanticism*, *Review of English Studies* and elsewhere.

VICTORIA STEWART is a reader in modern and contemporary literature in the School of English, University of Leicester. She is the author of *Women's*

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Autobiography: War and Trauma (2003), *Narratives of Memory: British Writing of the 1940s* (2006) and *The Second World War in Contemporary Fiction: Secret Histories* (2011). She is currently writing a monograph provisionally titled *Crime Writing in Interwar Britain: Fact and Fiction in the Golden Age*.

LUKE THURSTON is a senior lecturer in modern literature and the director of the David Jones Centre at Aberystwyth University. His publications include *Literary Ghosts from the Victorians to Modernism: The Haunting Interval* (2012) and *James Joyce and the Problem of Psychoanalysis* (2004), as well as many articles, chapters and translations in the field of modernist literature and psychoanalysis. He is currently working on a study of war, testimony and artistic experiment in May Sinclair, Wyndham Lewis and David Jones.

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Throughout my own career as a student, doctoral researcher and academic, I have found Cambridge *Companions* to be invaluable aids to learning, to teaching and to familiarizing myself with new areas, ideas and authors. It has been a privilege to edit my own *Companion*, and I would first and foremost like to thank Ray Ryan at Cambridge University Press for giving me this opportunity and for suggesting and supporting this publication on the short story. My sincere thanks also go to Caitlin Gallagher, Alexandra Poreda, Nishanthini Vetrivel, S. Rajagopal and the rest of the teams at Cambridge University Press and Newgen for their dedicated and professional support throughout this project. The process of writing my own contributions and editing the *Companion* has taught me just how much work goes into these useful volumes, and I am immensely grateful for the advice and feedback I received from a number of colleagues at Northumbria University, particularly Katherine Baxter, Victoria Bazin, Laura Fish and Paul Frazer, who gave up their valuable time to read and comment on various parts of this book. My contributors have been a joy to work with, and special thanks are due to Maebh Long, who stepped in and shared her expertise on postmodern literature at the eleventh hour. Needless to say, any remaining errors or incongruities are on my head only, and I apologize wholeheartedly to my colleagues, friends and particularly my partner, Ben Lowing, for my complaints about indexing.

CHRONOLOGY

- 1603 Death of Queen Elizabeth I; James I succeeds to the throne
- 1614 Thomas Overbury, *Characters*
- 1625 Death of King James I; Charles I succeeds to the throne
- 1635 Francis Quarles, *Emblems*
- 1642 Start of the English Civil War
- 1649 Charles I executed
- 1653 Oliver Cromwell installed as Lord Protector
- 1658 Death of Oliver Cromwell
- 1660 Restoration: Charles II succeeds to the throne
- 1685 Death of King Charles II; James II succeeds to the throne
- 1688 Glorious Revolution: King James II ousted in favour of the Protestant William of Orange
- 1702 Death of King William III; Anne I succeeds to the throne
- 1711 The *Spectator* begins publication in its first incarnation
- 1714 Death of Queen Anne; George I succeeds to the throne
- 1727 Death of King George I; George II succeeds to the throne
- 1731 The *Gentleman's Magazine* begins publication
- 1732 The *London Magazine* begins publication
- 1760 Death of King George II; George III succeeds to the throne
- 1773 The *Newgate Calendar* first appears

CHRONOLOGY

- 1785 The *London Magazine* discontinued
- 1811 Regency period begins
- 1815 Napoleon defeated at the Battle of Waterloo
- 1817 *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine* begins publication
- 1820 Death of King George III; George IV succeeds to the throne;
 Regency period ends
 Washington Irving, *The Sketch-Book of Geoffrey Crayon*
 The *London Magazine* is revived
- 1821 The *New Monthly Magazine and Literary Journal* begins
 publication
- 1824 Mary Russell Mitford, *Our Village: Sketches of Rural
 Character and Scenery*
- 1829 The new *London Magazine* discontinued
- 1830 Death of King George III; William IV succeeds to the throne
- 1832 Harriet Martineau, *Illustrations of Political Economy*
- 1833 John Galt, *Stories of the Study*
- 1836 *Bentley's Miscellany* begins publication
 Charles Dickens, *Sketches by Boz*
- 1837 Death of King William IV; Victoria succeeds to the throne
 Samuel Morse patents his electric telegraph in the United States
 Charles Dickens, *Pickwick Papers*
- 1842 Edgar Allan Poe, Review of Nathaniel Hawthorne's
Twice-Told Tales
- 1850 *Household Words* begins publication
- 1859 *Household Words* discontinued; *All the Year Round* begins
 publication
- 1860 The *Cornhill Magazine* begins publication
- 1868 William Gladstone becomes prime minister for the first time
- 1870 Education Act
- 1876 Alexander Graham Bell patents his telephone
- 1868 *Bentley's Miscellany* discontinued
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CHRONOLOGY

- 1882 Robert Louis Stevenson, *New Arabian Nights*
- 1888 *Collier's Once a Week* begins publication
 Rudyard Kipling, *Plain Tales from the Hills* and *The Phantom 'Rickshaw and Other Eerie Tales*
- 1890 Vernon Lee, *Hauntings*
- 1891 *The Strand Magazine* begins publication
- 1893 Hubert Crackanthorpe, *Wreckage*
 George Egerton, *Keynotes*
- 1894 *The Yellow Book* begins publication
 Arthur Morrison, *Tales of Mean Streets*
- 1895 *All the Year Round* discontinued
Collier's Once a Week renamed *Collier's Weekly* (later *Collier's*)
The Windsor Magazine begins publication
- 1896 Guglielmo Marconi makes first public transmission of wireless signals
The Savoy begins and ceases publication
- 1897 *The Yellow Book* discontinued
 H. G. Wells, *Thirty Strange Stories*
- 1898 Joseph Conrad, *Tales of Unrest*
 Henry James, *The Turn of the Screw*
- 1901 Death of Queen Victoria; Edward VII succeeds to the throne
 Brander Matthews, *The Philosophy of the Short-Story*
- 1903 Emmeline Pankhurst founds Women's Social and Political Union
- 1904 Rudyard Kipling, *Traffics and Discoveries*
- 1905 *Blackwood's Magazine* relocates from Edinburgh to London
- 1907 Rudyard Kipling wins Nobel Prize for Literature
The Gentleman's Magazine in its final incarnation discontinued
- 1908 *The English Review* begins publication
- 1910 Death of King Edward VII; George V succeeds to the throne
- 1911 *Rhythm* begins publication
 Katherine Mansfield, *In a German Pension*

CHRONOLOGY

- 1913 *Rhythm* is discontinued
- 1914 Start of the First World War
 James Joyce, *Dubliners*
 Gertrude Stein, *Tender Buttons*
 Publication of *Blast* vol. 1
- 1915 ‘War number’ of *Blast* published
- 1917 Bolshevik revolution in Russia
 Stacy Aumonier, *The Friends, and Other Stories*
- 1918 End of the First World War
 Assassination of Tsar Nicholas II and his family
 Representation of the People Act: universal male suffrage and
 suffrage for women over thirty
- 1919 Paris Peace Conference
 Amritsar massacre
 P. G. Wodehouse, *My Man Jeeves*
- 1920 Government of Ireland Act and the creation of Northern
 Ireland
- 1921 Irish Free State created by Parliament
- 1922 Irish Civil War
 Mussolini marches on Rome
 The *Criterion* begins publication
 The *Happy Magazine* begins publication
 Katherine Mansfield, *The Garden Party and Other Stories*
 Elizabeth Bibesco, *Balloons*
- 1923 Failed Nazi coup in Munich
- 1924 First Labour government; Ramsay Macdonald becomes prime
 minister
 A. C. Ward, *Aspects of the Modern Short Story*
- 1925 Treaty of Locarno
 The *New Yorker* begins publication
- 1926 General Strike
 BBC chartered
 US-based *Amazing Stories* begins publication
- 1928 Representation of the People Act: suffrage extended to all
 women over twenty-one

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- 1929 New York stock market collapses
- 1930 Death of D. H. Lawrence
Astounding begins publication
- 1931 Statute of Westminster grants legislative independence to the self-governing Dominions
- 1933 Hitler becomes the German chancellor; Germany leaves the League of Nations
 Roosevelt announces 'New Deal'
'Blackwood' Tales from the Outposts anthology published
- 1934 Nazis purge internal opposition (labelled 'Röhm-Putsch' by the Nazis)
 Japanese invasion of Manchuria
- 1936 Start of the Spanish Civil War
 Berlin Olympics
 Death of King George V; Edward VIII succeeds to the throne
 Edward VIII abdicates; George VI succeeds to the throne
New Writing (later *Penguin New Writing*) begins publication
Novae Terrae begins publication as science fiction fanzine
- 1937 Neville Chamberlain becomes prime minister
 The *English Review* discontinued / merged with the *National Review*
- 1938 Germany annexes Austria
 November pogroms (labelled 'Reichskristallnacht' by the Nazis)
- 1939 Start of the Second World War
 The *Criterion* and the *Windsor Magazine* discontinued
 The *Cornhill Magazine* suspended
Novae Terrae renamed into *New Worlds*
- 1940 Start of the Battle of Britain; London Blitz
Horizon begins publication
 Ban on new journals in Britain from May
 The *Happy Magazine* discontinued
- 1941 US-based *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine* begins publication
- 1943 Cleanth Brooks and Robert Penn Warren, *Understanding Fiction*
 Alun Lewis, *The Last Inspection*

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- 1944 D-Day landings
 Julian Maclaren-Ross, *The Stuff to Give the Troops*
 William Sansom, *Fireman Flower and Other Stories*
- 1945 End of the Second World War
 Liberation of Auschwitz
 US atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki
 Nuremberg Trials
 The *Cornhill Magazine* revived as a quarterly publication
 Elizabeth Bowen, *The Demon Lover and Other Stories*
- 1946 National Health Service Act
 George Orwell, 'The Decline of the English Murder'
 Sid Chaplin, *The Leaping Lad and Other Stories*
- 1947 Indian independence; India partitioned into India and Pakistan
 A. L. Barker, *Innocents: Variations on a Theme*
- 1948 Arrival of the *Empire Windrush*
- 1949 NATO founded
 Germany partitioned
Horizon discontinued
 US-based *Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction* begins publication
- 1950 The *Strand Magazine* discontinued
Penguin New Writing discontinued
- 1952 Death of George VI; Elizabeth II succeeds to the throne
 Nadine Gordimer, *The Soft Voice of the Serpent and Other Stories*
- 1953 Death of Stalin
- 1955 Warsaw Pact
- 1956 Suez crisis
 Hungarian uprising crushed by Soviet troops
- 1957 *Collier's* discontinued
 Samuel Selvon, *Ways of Sunlight*
 Lawrence Durrell, *Esprit de Corps: Sketches from Diplomatic Life*
- 1958 Norman Friedman, 'What Makes a Short Story Short?'

CHRONOLOGY

- 1959 *Best Detective Stories* anthology published (ed. Edmund Crispin)
 Alan Sillitoe, *The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner*
- 1960 Cyprus and Nigeria gain independence
- 1961 South Africa removed from the Commonwealth
- 1962 Frank O'Connor, *The Lonely Voice: A Study of the Short Story*
- 1963 Nell Dunn, *Up the Junction*
- 1965 Race Relations Act addresses racial discrimination in the United Kingdom for the first time
- 1967 Legalization of abortion and homosexual acts between consenting adults
- 1968 *England Swings SF* anthology published (ed. Judith Merrill)
- 1969 Samuel Beckett wins Nobel Prize for Literature
Winter's Crimes anthologies begin publication
- 1970 J. G. Ballard, *The Atrocity Exhibition*
- 1973 Britain joins the European Economic Community
 Bridport Prize launched
- 1974 Gabriel Josipovici, *Mobius the Stripper: Stories and Short Plays*
Science Fiction Monthly begins publication
- 1975 The *Cornhill Magazine* discontinued
- 1976 Charles E. May, *Short Story Theories*
Science Fiction Monthly discontinued
 Jean Rhys, *Sleep It Off, Lady*
 Ian McEwan, *First Love, Last Rites*
 Raymond Carver, *Will You Please Be Quiet, Please?*
- 1978 Scottish and Welsh Devolution Acts
- 1979 Margaret Thatcher becomes prime minister
 John Berger, *Pig Earth*
 Angela Carter, *The Bloody Chamber and Other Stories*
- 1980 *Blackwood's Magazine* discontinued
- 1982 Falklands War
Interzone begins publication

CHRONOLOGY

- Short Shorts* anthology published (eds. Irving and Ilana Wiener Howe)
 Pat Barker, *Union Street*
- 1984 *The Penguin Classic Crime Omnibus* anthology published (ed. Julian Symons)
- 1986 First *Sudden Fiction* anthology published (eds. Robert Shapard and James Thomas)
 Final *Winter's Crimes* anthology published; series discontinued
The Oxford Book of English Ghost Stories anthology published (eds. Michael Cox and R. A. Gilbert)
- 1987 Patrick White, *Three Uneasy Pieces*
- 1988 *The Penguin Book of Modern British Short Stories* anthology published (ed. Malcolm Bradbury)
- 1989 Fall of the Berlin Wall
 Miriam Tlali, *Soweto Stories*
- 1991 The Gulf War
 Collapse of the Soviet Union
The Penguin Book of Modern Women's Short Stories anthology published (ed. Susan Hill)
- 1992 *Flash Fiction* anthology published (eds. Denise and James Thomas and Tom Hazuka)
- 1993 Anglo-Irish Peace Declaration in Northern Ireland
 Irvine Welsh, *Trainspotting*
 Michael Moorcock, *Earl Aubec, and Other Stories*
- 1994 End of apartheid in South Africa
 IRA declares truce in Northern Ireland
 Salman Rushdie, *East, West*
 Bernard MacLaverty, *Walking the Dog, and Other Stories*
- 1996 Publication of *Micro Fiction* anthology (ed. Jerome Stern)
- 1997 Tony Blair becomes prime minister
 Hanif Kureishi, *Love in a Blue Time*
 Manzu Islam, *The Mapmakers of Spitalfields*
- 1998 Scottish Parliament re-established; National Assembly for Wales created
 US-based *McSweeney's* begins publication

CHRONOLOGY

- 1999 Euro introduced; Britain declines participation
- 2001 Terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, New York
 War on Terror begins
- 2002 Save Our Short Story campaign launched
 Jackie Kay, *Why Don't You Stop Talking*
- 2003 War in Iraq
- 2004 *Walking a Tightrope* anthology published (ed. Rehana Ahmed)
 Launch of the Small Wonder short story festival
- 2005 Terrorist attacks on London public transport
 BBC National Short Story Award launched
 The US-based *Atlantic Monthly* stops publishing monthly fiction
 China Miéville, *Looking for Jake, and Other Stories*
- 2006 Short Story Radio founded
- 2007 Edge Hill Prize launched
- 2008 *Flash: The International Short-Short Story Magazine* begins publication
The Mammoth Book of Best British Mysteries anthology published (ed. Maxim Jakubowski)
- 2009 *Sunday Times* EFG Short Story Award launched
 Kazuo Ishiguro, *Nocturnes: Five Stories of Music and Nightfall*
- 2010 David Cameron becomes prime minister
 Bridport Prize category for flash fiction launched
 Michèle Roberts, *Mud: Stories of Sex and Love*
- 2011 LitNav short story app launched by Comma Press
- 2012 Costa Short Story Award launched
 First UK National Flash-Fiction Day
 William Nelles, 'What Makes a Very Short Story Very Short?'
 Keith Ridgway, *Hawthorn & Child*
- 2013 Death of Margaret Thatcher
 Teju Cole, *Seven Short Stories about Drones*
- 2014 *OxCrimes* anthology published (intro. Ian Rankin)
 Hilary Mantel, *The Assassination of Margaret Thatcher*