

THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO THE  
TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICAN NOVEL  
AND POLITICS

Surveying the relationship between American politics and the twentieth-century novel, this volume analyzes how political movements, ideas, and events shaped the American novel. It also shows how those political phenomena were shaped in turn by long-form prose fiction. The book is made up of three major parts. Part I considers philosophical ideologies and broad political movements that were both politically and literarily significant in the United States in the twentieth century, including progressive liberalism, conservatism, socialism and communism, feminism, and Black liberation movements. Part II analyzes the evolving political valences of key popular genres and literary forms in the twentieth-century American novel, focusing on crime fiction, science fiction, postmodern metafiction, and immigrant fiction. Part III examines ten diverse politically minded novels that serve as exemplary case studies across the century. Combining detailed literary analysis with innovative political theory, this Companion provides a groundbreaking study of the politics of twentieth-century American fiction.

BRYAN M. SANTIN is Associate Professor of English at Concordia University Irvine. He is the author of *Postwar American Fiction and the Rise of Modern Conservatism: A Literary History, 1945–2008* (Cambridge University Press, 2021).

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EDITED BY

BRYAN M. SANTIN

*Concordia University Irvine*



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*For my son, Fitz*

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- 1900 Theodore Dreiser, *Sister Carrie*  
Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins, *Contending Forces: A Romance  
Illustrative of Negro Life North and South*
- 1901 Charles W. Chesnutt, *The Marrow of Tradition*  
Frank Norris, *The Octopus*
- 1902 Paul Laurence Dunbar, *The Sport of the Gods*  
Own Wister, *The Virginian*
- 1903 Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins, *Of One Blood: Or,  
The Hidden Self*
- 1904 Edward A. Johnson, *Light Ahead for the Negro*
- 1905 Thomas Dixon, Jr., *The Clansman: A Historical Romance of the  
Ku Klux Klan*  
Sutton E. Griggs, *The Hindered Hand; or, The Reign of the  
Repressionist*
- 1906 Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle*
- 1908 Jack London, *The Iron Heel*
- 1909 Jack London, *Martin Eden*
- 1912 Zane Grey, *Riders of the Purple Sage*  
James Weldon Johnson, *The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored  
Man*
- 1913 Willa Cather, *O Pioneers!*
- 1915 Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *Herland* (sequel *With Her in  
Ourland* [1916])
- 1917 Abraham Cahan, *The Rise of David Levinsky*  
Marjorie Shuler, *For Rent – One Pedestal*
- 1920 Sinclair Lewis, *Main Street*
- 1922 Sinclair Lewis, *Babbitt*
- 1923 Harvey Fergusson, *Capitol Hill: A Novel of Washington Life*



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- 1925 Theodore Dreiser, *An American Tragedy*  
F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*  
Anzia Yezierska, *Bread Givers*
- 1927 Upton Sinclair, *Oil!*
- 1928 Nella Larsen, *Quicksand*  
Claude McKay, *Home to Harlem*
- 1929 W. R. Burnett, *Little Caesar*  
Dashiell Hammett, *Red Harvest*  
Nella Larsen, *Passing*
- 1930 John Dos Passos, *The 42nd Parallel* (sequels *Nineteen Nineteen* [1932] and *The Big Money* [1936])  
Mike Gold, *Jews Without Money*  
Dashiell Hammett, *The Maltese Falcon*
- 1931 George Schuyler, *Black No More*
- 1932 James T. Farrell, *Young Lonigan* (sequels *The Young Manhood of Studs Lonigan* [1934] and *Judgment Day* [1935])  
Grace Lumpkin, *To Make My Bread*
- 1934 Henry Miller, *Tropic of Cancer*  
Nathanael West, *A Cool Million: The Dismantling of Lemuel Pitkin*
- 1935 Sinclair Lewis, *It Can't Happen Here*
- 1936 William Faulkner, *Absalom, Absalom!*  
Margaret Mitchell, *Gone with the Wind*  
John Steinbeck, *In Dubious Battle*
- 1937 Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
- 1938 Dalton Trumbo, *Johnny Got His Gun*
- 1939 John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath*
- 1940 Ernest Hemingway, *For Whom the Bell Tolls*  
Richard Wright, *Native Son*
- 1943 Ayn Rand, *The Fountainhead*
- 1945 Chester Himes, *If He Hollers Let Him Go*
- 1946 Robert Penn Warren, *All the King's Men*
- 1947 Dorothy B. Hughes, *In a Lonely Place*  
Lionel Trilling, *The Middle of the Journey*
- 1948 Nelson Algren, *The Man with the Golden Arm*  
Norman Mailer, *The Naked and the Dead*
- 1949 Mary McCarthy, *The Oasis*
- 1951 Norman Mailer, *Barbary Shore*
- 1952 Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*

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- 1953 Gwendolyn Brooks, *Maud Martha*  
Ray Bradbury, *Fahrenheit 451*  
Richard Wright, *The Outsider*
- 1954 Richard Matheson, *I Am Legend*
- 1955 Jack Finney, *The Body Snatchers*
- 1956 Grace Metalious, *Peyton Place*
- 1957 Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*  
Alfred Maund, *The Big Boxcar*  
John Okada, *No-No Boy*  
Ayn Rand, *Atlas Shrugged*
- 1959 William S. Burroughs, *Naked Lunch*  
Richard Condon, *The Manchurian Candidate*  
Allen Drury, *Advise and Consent*  
Paule Marshall, *Brown Girl, Brownstones*  
Walter M. Miller, Jr., *A Canticle for Leibowitz*
- 1960 Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*  
John Updike, *Rabbit, Run* (sequels *Rabbit Redux* [1971], *Rabbit is Rich* [1981], and *Rabbit at Rest* [1990])
- 1961 Robert Heinlein, *Stranger in a Strange Land*  
Joseph Heller, *Catch-22*  
John Dos Passos, *Midcentury*
- 1962 James Baldwin, *Another Country*  
Philip K. Dick, *The Man in the High Castle*  
Ken Kesey, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*
- 1963 Mary McCarthy, *The Group*  
Kurt Vonnegut, *Cat's Cradle*
- 1965 Frank Herbert, *Dune*  
Norman Mailer, *An American Dream*
- 1966 Samuel R. Delany, *Babel-17*
- 1967 Norman Mailer, *Why Are We in Vietnam?*  
William Styron, *The Confessions of Nat Turner*
- 1968 Norman Mailer, *The Armies of the Night: History as a Novel/The Novel as History*  
N. Scott Momaday, *House Made of Dawn*  
John Updike, *Couples*  
Gore Vidal, *Myra Breckinridge*
- 1969 Ursula K. Le Guin, *The Left Hand of Darkness*  
Joyce Carol Oates, *Them*  
Mario Puzo, *The Godfather*  
Philip Roth, *Portnoy's Complaint*

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- Kurt Vonnegut, *Slaughterhouse-Five, or, The Children's Crusade: A Duty-Dance with Death*
- 1970 Saul Bellow, *Mr. Sammler's Planet*
- 1971 E. L. Doctorow, *The Book of Daniel*  
Philip Roth, *Our Gang*
- 1972 Ishmael Reed, *Mumbo Jumbo*
- 1973 Rita Mae Brown, *Rubyfruit Jungle*  
Alice Childress, *A Hero Ain't Nothin' but a Sandwich*  
Leon Forrest, *There Is a Tree More Ancient than Eden*  
Erica Jong, *Fear of Flying*  
Thomas Pynchon, *Gravity's Rainbow*  
Gore Vidal, *Burr*
- 1974 James Baldwin, *If Beale Street Could Talk*  
Ursula K. Le Guin, *The Dispossessed*
- 1975 Edward Abbey, *The Monkey Wrench Gang*  
Samuel R. Delaney, *Dhalgren*  
William Gaddis, *J R*  
Joanna Russ, *The Female Man*
- 1976 William F. Buckley, Jr., *Saving the Queen*  
Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior: Memories of a Girlhood Among Ghosts*  
Ishmael Reed, *Flight to Canada*  
Alice Walker, *Meridian*
- 1977 Robert Coover, *The Public Burning*  
Joan Didion, *A Book of Common Prayer*  
Toni Morrison, *Song of Solomon*  
Leslie Marmon Silko, *Ceremony*
- 1978 John Irving, *The World According to Garp*  
Stephen King, *The Stand*
- 1979 Octavia E. Butler, *Kindred*  
Stephen King, *The Dead Zone*
- 1980 Toni Cade Bambara, *The Salt Eaters*
- 1982 Ishmael Reed, *The Terrible Twos* (sequel *The Terrible Threes* [1989])  
Alice Walker, *The Color Purple*
- 1984 Joan Didion, *Democracy*  
Louise Erdrich, *Love Medicine*  
Kim Stanley Robinson, *The Wild Shore* (sequels *The Gold Coast* [1988] and *Pacific Edge* [1990])  
Gore Vidal, *Lincoln*

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- 1985 Margaret Atwood (Canadian), *The Handmaid's Tale*  
Orson Scott Card, *Ender's Game*  
Cormac McCarthy, *Blood Meridian*  
Larry McMurtry, *Lonesome Dove*
- 1987 Toni Morrison, *Beloved*  
William T. Vollmann, *You Bright and Risen Angels*  
Tom Wolfe, *The Bonfire of the Vanities*
- 1988 Kathy Acker, *Empire of the Senseless*  
Don DeLillo, *Libra*
- 1990 James Ellroy, *L.A. Confidential*  
Walter Mosely, *Devil in a Blue Dress*  
Thomas Pynchon, *Vineland*
- 1991 Don DeLillo, *Mao II*  
Bret Easton Ellis, *American Psycho*  
Gish Jen, *Typical American*  
Norman Mailer, *Harlot's Ghost*  
Leslie Marmon Silko, *Almanac of the Dead*
- 1992 Dorothy Allison, *Bastard Out of Carolina*  
Cristina García, *Dreaming in Cuban*  
Neal Stephenson, *Snow Crash*  
John Updike, *Memories of the Ford Administration*
- 1993 Octavia E. Butler, *Parable of the Sower* (sequel *Parable of the Talents* [1998])  
Leslie Feinberg, *Stone Butch Blues*  
Lois Lowry, *The Giver*
- 1994 Julia Alvarez, *In the Time of the Butterflies*  
Tim O'Brien, *In the Lake of the Woods*
- 1995 T. C. Boyle, *The Tortilla Curtain*  
James Ellroy, *American Tabloid*  
Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins, *Left Behind*  
Chang-rae Lee, *Native Speaker*
- 1996 Joan Didion, *The Last Thing He Wanted*  
Gish Jen, *Mona in the Promised Land*  
Joe Klein, *Primary Colors*  
David Foster Wallace, *Infinite Jest*
- 1997 Don DeLillo, *Underworld*  
Toni Morrison, *Paradise*  
Thomas Pynchon, *Mason & Dixon*  
Philip Roth, *American Pastoral*

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- 1998 Ruth Ozeki, *My Year of Meats*  
Philip Roth, *I Married a Communist*
- 1999 Toni Cade Bambara, *Those Bones Are Not My Child*  
Ralph Ellison, *Juneteenth* (posthumous)  
Ha Jin, *Waiting*  
Susan Sontag, *In America*  
Colson Whitehead, *The Intuitionist*
- 2000 Saul Bellow, *Ravelstein*  
Philip Roth, *The Human Stain*