
Contents

Preface xvii

Fiction

Understanding Fiction 3

1. Theme 8

Anton Chekhov
Kate Chopin
Shirley Jackson

THE LADY WITH THE PET DOG 10
A RESPECTABLE WOMAN 22
THE LOTTERY 25

2. Plot 32

Yasunari Kawabata
William Faulkner
Alice Munro

UP IN THE TREE 35
A ROSE FOR EMILY 37
THE FOUND BOAT 44

**3. Character 52**

Arna Bontemps	A SUMMER TRAGEDY 54
Isaac Bashevis Singer	GIMPEL THE FOOL 61
Flannery O'Connor	A GOOD MAN IS HARD TO FIND 71

4. Point of View 82

Hernando Téllez	JUST LATHER, THAT'S ALL 85
David Leavitt	GRAVITY 88
Jamaica Kincaid	GIRL 91

5. Setting 93

Nathaniel Hawthorne	YOUNG GOODMAN BROWN 96
James Joyce	ARABY 105
Eudora Welty	A WORN PATH 109

6. Tone 116

Luigi Pirandello	WAR 118
Alice Walker	ROSELILY 121
Amy Tan	TWO KINDS 125

7. Symbolism 133

Ernest Hemingway	A CLEAN, WELL-LIGHTED PLACE 135
Langston Hughes	ON THE ROAD 138
Kay Boyle	ASTRONOMER'S WIFE 142

8. An Anthology of Short Fiction 147

Chínua Achebe	CIVIL PEACE 147
Isaac Babel	MY FIRST GOOSE 151
Jorge Luis Borges	THE SOUTH 154
Raymond Carver	CATHEDRAL 158
Isak Dinesen	THE BLUE JAR 169
Louise Erdrich	SNARES 171
Gabriel García Márquez	A VERY OLD MAN WITH ENORMOUS WINGS 178
Yussef Idriss	A HOUSE OF FLESH 183
Franz Kafka	A HUNGER ARTIST 187

Doris Lessing	FLIGHT 193
Bobbie Ann Mason	BIG BERTHA STORIES 197
Bharati Mukherjee	HINDUS 208
R. K. Narayan	MOTHER AND SON 215
Gloria Naylor	KISWANA BROWNE 218
Grace Paley	A CONVERSATION WITH MY FATHER 226
Edgar Allan Poe	THE MASQUE OF THE RED DEATH 230
Leslie Marmon Silko	THE MAN TO SEND RAIN CLOUDS 234
James Thurber	THE CATBIRD SEAT 238
Luisa Valenzuela	THE CENSORS 244
John A. Williams	SON IN THE AFTERNOON 246
Richard Wright	THE MAN WHO WAS ALMOST A MAN 251

P o e t r y

Understanding Poetry 263

9. Theme 266

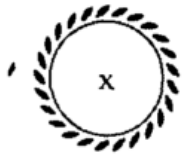
William Shakespeare	LET ME NOT TO THE MARRIAGE OF TRUE MINDS 267
Andrew Marvell	TO HIS COY MISTRESS 268
Emily Dickinson	WILD NIGHTS—WILD NIGHTS! 270
Adrienne Rich	I COME HOME FROM YOU 270
Rita Dove	ADOLESCENCE—II 272
Cathy Song	PICTURE BRIDE 272

10. Diction 274

Ben Jonson	ON MY FIRST DAUGHTER 276
Aphra Behn	THE DEFIANCE 277
Emily Dickinson	SHE ROSE TO HIS REQUIREMENT 278
Octavio Paz	ENGAGED 279
Nikki Giovanni	MOTHERS 279

11. Tone 282

Percy Bysshe Shelley	OZYMANDIAS 285
Edward Arlington Robinson	RICHARD CORY 286
Claude McKay	AMERICA 287



Ezra Pound	THE RIVER-MERCHANT'S WIFE: A LETTER	288
June Jordan	THE WEDDING	289
Shirley Geok-lin Lim	AH MAH	290

12. Imagery 292

Thomas Campion	THERE IS A GARDEN IN HER FACE	295
Samuel Taylor Coleridge	KUBLA KHAN	296
Wallace Stevens	THE SNOW MAN	298
Elizabeth Bishop	FILLING STATION	299
Margaret Atwood	GAME AFTER SUPPER	300
Robert Hayden	THOSE WINTER SUNDAYS	301
Louise Erdrich	THE STRANGE PEOPLE	302

13. Symbolism 304

William Blake	THE TYGER	307
Emily Dickinson	THERE'S A CERTAIN SLANT OF LIGHT	308
Robert Frost	STOPPING BY WOODS ON A SNOWY EVENING	309
Denise Levertov	THE VICTORS	310
Nancy Morejón	CENTRAL PARK SOME PEOPLE (3 P.M.)	311

14. Simile and Metaphor 313

Wilfred Owen	DULCE ET DECORUM EST	315
Langston Hughes	HARLEM	317
Nicanor Parra	PIANO SOLO	317
Josephine Miles	HOUSEWIFE	318
Maxine Kumin	TOGETHER	319
Sylvia Plath	DADDY	320
David Mura	GRANDFATHER AND GRANDMOTHER IN LOVE	323

15. Personification and Apostrophe 325

John Keats	TO AUTUMN	328
Walt Whitman	I SAW IN LOUISIANA A LIVE-OAK GROWING	330
Emily Dickinson	BECAUSE I COULD NOT STOP FOR DEATH	331
May Swenson	HEARING THE WIND AT NIGHT	332
Fadwa Tuqan	AFTER TWENTY YEARS	333

16. Meter, Rhythm, and Sound 335

John Donne	THE BAIT 338
Matthew Arnold	TO MARGUERITE—CONTINUED 340
Gwendolyn Brooks	HUNCHBACK GIRL: SHE THINKS OF HEAVEN 341
Elinor Wylie	PURITAN SONNET 341
Allen Ginsberg	A SUPERMARKET IN CALIFORNIA 342
Margaret Walker	POPPA CHICKEN 344

17. Structure and Form 346

William Shakespeare	SHALL I COMPARE THEE TO A SUMMER'S DAY? 349
Robert Herrick	TO THE VIRGINS, TO MAKE MUCH OF TIME 350
Robert Browning	MY LAST DUCHESS 351
e.e. cummings	NEXT TO OF COURSE GOD AMERICA I 353
Muriel Rukeyser	MYTH 354
Sonia Sanchez	POEM AT THIRTY 356
Joy Harjo	FISHING 356

18. An Anthology of Poetry 357

Anna Akhmatova	LOT'S WIFE 357
Al-Tutili	SEVILLE 358
Paula Gunn Allen	WOMANWORK 358
Yehuda Amichai	THE SWEET BREAKDOWN OF ABIGAIL 360
Maya Angelou	SOUTHEAST ARKANASIA 360 TO A HUSBAND 361
Matthew Arnold	DOVER BEACH * 361
W. H. Auden	THE UNKNOWN CITIZEN 363
Kofi Awoonor	SONG OF WAR 364
Ingeborg Bachmann	THE GREAT FREIGHT 365
Amiri Baraka	PREFACE TO A TWENTY VOLUME SUICIDE NOTE 366
Ulli Beier	PRAISE-NAMES OF TWINS 366
John Berryman	THE BALL POEM 367
William Blake	THE LAMB 368 LONDON 368
Louise Bogan	CASSANDRA 369
Anne Bradstreet	BEFORE THE BIRTH OF ONE OF HER CHILDREN 369 IN MEMORY OF MY DEAR GRAND-CHILD 370



William Stanley Braithwaite	THE WATCHERS 371
Gwendolyn Brooks	THE BEAN EATERS 372
	WE REAL COOL 372
Sterling A. Brown	SOUTHERN ROAD 373
Elizabeth Barrett Browning	CONSOLATION 374
	IF THOU MUST LOVE ME, LET IT BE FOR NAUGHT 375
George Gordon, Lord Byron	ON THIS DAY I COMPLETE MY THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR 375
	SHE WALKS IN BEAUTY 377
Raymond Carver	PHOTOGRAPH OF MY FATHER IN HIS TWENTY-SECOND YEAR 378
Lorna Dee Cervantes	REFUGEE SHIP 378
Aimé Césaire	SPIRALS 379
Cho Chihun	ANCIENT TEMPLE 380
So Chongju	POETICS 380
Judith Ortiz Cofer	WHAT THE GYPSY SAID TO HER CHILDREN 381
Jayne Cortez	MAKING IT 382
Stephen Crane	WAR IS KIND 382
Victor Hernandez Cruz	THE SECRETS II 383
Countee Cullen	INCIDENT 384
	YET DO I MARVEL 384
Roque Dalton	LOVE POEM 385
Kamala Das	AN INTRODUCTION 386
René Depestre	NOTHINGNESS 387
Babette Deutsch	DISASTERS OF WAR 388
Emily Dickinson	FROM ALL THE JAILS 389
	A LIGHT EXISTS IN SPRING 389
John Donne	HOLY SONNET 7 390
	HOLY SONNET 14 391
Rita Dove	FIFTH GRADE AUTOBIOGRAPHY 391
	PARSLEY 392
T. S. Eliot	THE LOVE SONG OF J. ALFRED PRUFROCK 394
Lawrence Ferlinghetti	IN GOYA'S GREATEST SCENES 398
Anne Finch	TRAIL ALL YOUR PIKES 400
Gisele Fong	CORROSION 400
Carolyn Forché	DULCIMER MAKER 401
Robert Frost	MENDING WALL 402
	ONCE BY THE PACIFIC 403
Anthony Grooms	HOMESPACE 404
Joy Harjo	I GIVE YOU BACK 404
George Herbert	CHURCH-MONUMENTS 406
Gerard Manley Hopkins	PIED BEAUTY 406

Henry Howard	TO HIS LADY 407
Langston Hughes	EVENIN' AIR BLUES 407
	MOTHER TO SON 408
	THE NEGRO SPEAKS OF RIVERS 409
	SHARE-CROPPERS 409
	VAGABONDS 410
Lawson Fusao Inada	NIGHTSONG IN ASIAN AMERICA 410
Randall Jarrell	THE DEATH OF THE BALL TURRET GUNNER 411
Ben Jonson	ON MY FIRST SON 411
	TO CELIA 412
June Jordan	SAFE 412
John Keats	WRITTEN IN DISGUST OF VULGAR SUPERSTITION 413
Maurice Kenny	CORN-PLANTER 413
D. H. Lawrence	PIANO 414
Denise Levertov	THE ACHE OF MARRIAGE 415
	LIVING WHILE IT MAY 415
Philip Levine	SPRING IN THE OLD WORLD 416
Shirley Geok-lin Lim	MODERN SECRETS 416
Audre Lorde	OYA 417
Amy Lowell	THE TAXI 418
Robert Lowell	CHILDREN OF LIGHT 418
Mairi MacInnes	VJ DAY 419
Annette M'Baye	SILHOUETTE 420
Claude McKay	OUTCAST 420
Ifeanyi Menkiti	VETERANS DAY 421
Czeslaw Milosz	ON PRAYER 421
John Milton	WHEN I CONSIDER HOW MY LIGHT IS SPENT 422
Janice Mirikitani	PRISONS OF SILENCE 422
	SING WITH YOUR BODY 426
Pat Mora	ELENA 427
Carlos Nejar	OIL LAMPS 428
Pablo Neruda	THE UNITED FRUIT CO. 429
Simon J. Ortiz	SPEAKING 430
Wilfred Owen	ANTHEM FOR DOOMED YOUTH 431
Papyrus Harris 500	BEGINNING OF THE SONGS OF DELIGHT 432
Pepi I Pyramid Texts	UTTERANCE 433
Katherine Philips	AGAINST LOVE 433
Ezra Pound	A VIRGINAL 434
Alexander Pushkin	A SOWER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED 434
	TO MY OLD NURSE 435



Ibn Quzman	THE RADISH 436
Rahel	TO MY COUNTRY 436
Ismael Reed	SERMONETTE 437
Roberto Fernandez Retamar	A MOTTO FROM POETS: LEAVE STONE 438
Adrienne Rich	AUGUST 438
Theodore Roethke	MY PAPA'S WALTZ 439
Christina Rossetti	UPHILL 439
Muriel Rukeyser	THE LOST ROMANS 439
Luis Omar Salinas	QUETZALCOATLE 441
Bert Schierbeek	THE BICYCLE REPAIRMAN 442
Léopold Sédar Senghor	PRAYER TO THE MASKS 443
Anne Sexton	THE BLACK ART 444
	THE FURY OF FLOWERS AND WORMS 445
Percy Bysshe Shelley	SONG TO THE MEN OF ENGLAND 446
Sir Philip Sidney	WITH HOW SAD STEPS, O MOON 447
Mohan Singh	EVENING 448
Stevie Smith	THE WEAK MONK 449
Gary Snyder	NOT LEAVING THE HOUSE 449
Edith Sodergran	HOPE 450
Gary Soto	DAYBREAK 451
	LEARNING TO BARGAIN 451
Wole Soyinka	TELEPHONE CONVERSATION 452
Stephen Spender	AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM IN A SLUM 453
Wallace Stevens	THE IRISH CLIFFS OF MOHER 454
Jonathan Swift	A DESCRIPTION OF A CITY SHOWER 455
Sara Teasdale	BARTER 457
Dylan Thomas	FERN HILL 457
Joyce Carol Thomas	BLACK CHILD 459
Mohamud S. Togane	ARFAYE 459
Melvin B. Tolson	A LEGEND OF VERSAILLES 460
Gerald Vizenor	FAMILY PHOTOGRAPH 461
David Wagoner	A VALEDICTORY TO STANDARD OIL OF INDIANA 462
Diane Wakoski	TO AN AUTOCRAT 463
Margaret Walker	LINEAGE 465
Chad Walsh	PORT AUTHORITY TERMINAL: 9 A.M. MONDAY 466
Phillis Wheatley	TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE WILLIAM, EARL OF DARTMOUTH 467
Walt Whitman	CAVALRY CROSSING A FORD 468
	I HEAR AMERICA SINGING 469
	THERE WAS A CHILD WENT FORTH 469
William Carlos Williams	DANSE RUSSE 471
	TO WAKEN AN OLD LADY 471

James Wright	AUTUMN BEGINS IN MARTINS FERRY, OHIO 472
Sir Thomas Wyatt	THEY FLEE FROM ME 473
Mitsuye Yamada	DESERT RUN 474
William Butler Yeats	LEDA AND THE SWAN 477
Al Young	A POEM FOR WILLARD MOTLEY 478
Bernice Zamora	NOTES FROM A CHICANA "COED" 479
Cyn. Zarco	ASPARAGUS 481

D r a m a

Understanding Drama 485

19. Theme 490

John Millington Synge	RIDERS TO THE SEA 492
Langston Hughes	SOUL GONE HOME 501

20. Character 505

Henrik Ibsen	A DOLL'S HOUSE 508
Lorraine Hansberry	A RAISIN IN THE SUN 561

21. Plot 624

Sophocles	OEDIPUS REX 626
Arthur Miller	DEATH OF A SALESMAN 668

22. Form 742

Aristophanes	LYSISTRATA 744
William Shakespeare	OTHELLO 786

23. An Anthology of Drama 894

Woody Allen	DEATH KNOCKS 894
Brigid Brophy	THE WASTE DISPOSAL UNIT 901
Susan Glaspell	SUPPRESSED DESIRES 920
Lady Gregory	THE RISING OF THE MOON 933



David Henry Hwang
Estela Portillo
John A. Williams
August Wilson

FAMILY DEVOTIONS 941
DAY OF THE SWALLOWS 980
AUGUST FORTY-FIVE 1011
MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM 1024

Biographical Profiles 1079

Glossary of Literary Terms 1109

Permissions Acknowledgments 1117

Index of Literary Terms 1129

Index of Authors, Titles, and First Lines of Poems 1133