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this provocative study of the lives and works of emily dickinson marianne moore elizabeth bishop adrienne rich and gwendolyn brooks focuses on the historical struggles and differences among and within women writers and among feminists themselves erkkila explores the troubled relations women writers experienced with both masculine and feminine literary cultures arguing that popular feminist views often romanticize and maternalize women writers and their interrelations in ways that effectively reinforce the very gender stereotypes and polarities which initially grounded women s oppression studying the multiple race class ethnic cultural and other locations of women within a particular social field erkkila offers a revisionary model of women s literary history that challenges recent feminist theory and practice along with many of our fundamental assumptions about the woman writer women s writing and women s literary history in contrast to the tendency of earlier feminists to heroize literary foremothers and communities of women erkkila focuses on the historical struggles and conflicts that make up the history of women poets without discounting the historical power of sisterhood she seeks to reclaim women s literary history as a site of contention contingency and ongoing struggle rather than a separate space of untroubled and essentially cooperative accord among women encompassing the various historical significations of wickedness as destructive powerful playful witty mischievous and not righteous the wicked sisters explores the power struggles and discord that mark both the history of women poets and the history of feminist criticism

ranging from 1861 to the present day an anthology of works by many of chicago s leading black writers includes poetry fiction drama essays journalism and historical and social commentary

in a world of supercomputers genetic engineering and fiber optics technological creativity is ever more the key to economic success but why are some nations more creative than others and why do some highly innovative societies such as ancient china or britain in the industrial revolution pass into stagnation beginning with a fascinating concise history of technological progress mokyr sets the background for his analysis by tracing the major inventions and innovations that have transformed society since ancient greece and rome what emerges

from this survey is often surprising the classical world for instance was largely barren of new technology the relatively backward society of medieval europe bristled with inventions and the period between the reformation and the industrial revolution was one of slow and unspectacular progress in technology despite the tumultuous developments associated with the voyages of discovery and the scientific revolution what were the causes of technological creativity mokyr distinguishes between the relationship of inventors and their physical environment which determined their willingness to challenge nature and the social environment which determined the openness to new ideas he discusses a long list of such factors showing how they interact to help or hinder a nation s creativity and then illustrates them by a number of detailed comparative studies examining the differences between europe and china between classical antiquity and medieval europe and between britain and the rest of europe during the industrial revolution he examines such aspects as the role of the state the chinese gave up a millennium wide lead in shipping to the europeans for example when an emperor banned large ocean going vessels the impact of science as well as religion politics and even nutrition he questions the importance of such commonly cited factors as the spill over benefits of war the abundance of natural resources life expectancy and labor costs today an ever greater number of industrial economies are competing in the global market locked in a struggle that revolves around technological ingenuity the lever of riches with its keen analysis derived from a sweeping survey of creativity throughout history offers telling insights into the question of how western economies can maintain and developing nations can unlock their creative potential

biographical and bibliographical entries on some 400 black authors active in the 20th century some of the sketches are updated from gale s contemporary authors series others were written especially for this volume covers not only contemporary american authors but also earlier 20th century writers social figures e g malcolm x desmond tutu and important african and caribbean writers in addition to the descriptive personal and career information there are illuminating biographical critical essays including comments often by the authors themselves on personal interests aspirations motivations and thoughts on writing annotation copyrighted by book news inc portland or

provides insight into six of brooks most influential works along with a short biography of the poet

introduces students to the diversity of their literary culture through its discussions expanded canon critical perspectives and juxtapositions of similar works by authors from different periods or traditions the book encourages investigations of literature

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the routledge reader of african american rhetoric is a comprehensive compendium of primary texts that is designed for use by students teachers and scholars of rhetoric and for the general public interested in the history of african american communication the volume and its companion website include dialogues creative works essays folklore music interviews news stories raps videos and speeches that are performed or written by african americans both the book as a whole and the various selections in it speak directly to the artistic cultural economic gendered social and political condition of african americans from the enslavement period in america to the present as well as to the black diaspora

for courses in english composition argumentative writing and introduction to literature strategies for reading and arguing about literature brings together the often divergent studies of argumentation and literature this textbook teaches the art of academic argumentation through a focus on classic and contemporary literature using this book students will learn practice and master critical reading strategies critical writing and research strategies the essentials of academic argumentation and basic literary theory as it relates to the development of an argument concurrently students will explore and appreciate a variety of literature ranging from the classical to the contemporary in a variety of genres and critical analyses of literary works

a breathtaking achievement this concise companion is a suitable crown to the astonishing production in african american literature and criticism that has swept over american literary studies in the last two decades it offers an enormous range of writers from sojourner truth to frederick douglass from zora neale hurston to ralph ellison and from toni morrison to august wilson it contains entries on major works including synopses of novels such as harriet jacobs s incidents in the life of a slave girl richard wright s native son and lorraine hansberry s a raisin in the sun it also incorporates information on literary characters such as bigger thomas coffin ed johnson kunta kinte sula peace as well as on character types such as aunt jemima brer rabbit john henry stackolee and the trickster icons of black culture are addressed including vivid details about the lives of muhammad ali john coltrane marcus garvey jackie robinson john brown and harriet tubman here too are general articles on poetry fiction and drama on autobiography slave narratives sunday school literature and oratory as well as on a wide spectrum of related topics compact yet thorough this handy volume gathers works from a vast array of sources from the black periodical press to women s clubs making it one of the most substantial guides available on the growing exciting world of african american literature

the communist international s popular front campaign of the 1930s brought to the fore ideas that resonated in chicago s african american community indeed the popular front not only connected to the black experience of the era but outlasted its communist party affiliation to serve as both model and inspiration for a postwar cultural insurrection led by african americans with a new preface bill v mullen updates his dynamic reappraisal of a critical moment in american cultural history mullen s study includes reassessments of the politics of richard wright s critical reputation and a provocative reading of class struggle in gwendolyn brooks a street in bronzeville he also takes an in depth look at the institutions that comprised chicago s black popular front the chicago defender the period s leading black newspaper negro story the first magazine devoted to publishing short stories by and about african americans and the wpa sponsored south side community art center

entries are arranged alphabetically by title with the type of work author type and time of plot locale first publication date and principal characters listed a plot synopsis is followed by a critical essay and a brief bibliography each entry is three to four pages in length the four indexes included are by chronological date by geographic locale by title and by author the title masterplots does not convey the depth of information contained in the 12 volumes the titles treated range chronologically from antiquity to the early 1990s with the major emphasis on literature of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries while the majority of the entries are british european and united states fiction the work also encompasses drama works or collections of poetry and nonfiction am ref books annu 1997

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