

The American Tradition In Literature 12th Edition

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Arthur Versluis Edward A. Stettner Julian Nava Herman Joseph Heuser Char Miller Paul Kens Jay B. Hubbell Merwyn S. Garbarino

first published in 1963 this classic text is accompanied by a new introduction and an epilogue that explore the increased diversity in american art since the book appeared

what really happened on the first thanksgiving how did a british drinking song become the us national anthem and what makes superman so darned american every tradition even the noblest and most cherished has a history none more so than in the united states a nation born with relative indifference if not hostility to the past most americans would be surprised to learn just how recent and controversial the origins of their traditions are as well as how those origins are often related to such divisive forces as the trauma of the civil war or fears for american identity stemming from immigration and socialism in pithy entertaining chapters inventing american tradition explores a set of beloved traditions spanning political symbols holidays lifestyles and fictional characters everything from the anthem to the american flag blue jeans and mickey mouse shedding light on the individuals who created these traditions and their motivations for promoting them jack david eller reveals the murky conflicted confused and contradictory history of emblems and institutions we very often take to be the bedrock of america what emerges from this sideways take on our most celebrated americanisms is the realization that all traditions are invented by particular people at particular times for particular reasons and that the process of traditioning is forever ongoing especially in the land of the free

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looks at the rites and ceremonies of the native american peoples includes information on spirits and ancestors shamanism and medicine totems sacred sites and symbols and mythology and the visionary world

a well researched and pertinent discussion of one of american liberalism s most important exponents choice a concise intelligent and highly readable study what is fresh and extremely valuable is the flesh that stettner puts on the bones of the old generalization about croly and liberalism this is a worthy addition to the literature on this important and influential american thinker american historical review

chiefly comprised of fictionalized vignettes illustrating various issues facing hispanic americans from racism and media portrayals to american cuban relations

american forests is an interdisciplinary collection of essays that explore the impact of forestry on natural and human landscapes since the mid nineteenth century it has two main goals to present some of the most compelling arguments that have guided our understanding of the complex and evolving relationship between trees and people in the united states and to point out those aspects of this tangled interaction that we have yet fully to understand or to articulate preface ix

outspoken and controversial stephen field served on the supreme court from his appointment by lincoln in 1863 through the closing years of the century no justice had ever served longer on the court and few were as determined to use the court to lead the nation into a new and exciting era paul kens shows how field ascended to such prominence what influenced his legal thought and court opinions and why both are still very relevant today one of the famous gold rush forty niners field was a founder of marysville california a state legislator and state supreme court justice his decisions from the state bench and later from the federal circuit court often placed him in the middle of tense conflicts over the distribution of the land and mineral wealth of the new state kens illuminates how field s experiences in early california influenced his jurisprudence and produced a theory of liberty that reflected both the ideals of his jacksonian youth and the teachings of laissez faire economics during the time that field served on the u s supreme court the nation went through the civil war and reconstruction and moved from an agrarian to an industrial economy in which big business dominated fear of concentrated wealth caused many reformers of the time to look to government as an ally in the preservation of their liberty in the volatile debates over government regulation of business field became a leading advocate of substantive due process and liberty of contract legal doctrines that enabled the court to veto state economic legislation and heavily influenced constitutional law well into the twentieth century in the effort to curb what he viewed as the excessive power of government field tended to side with business and frequently came into conflict with reformers of his era gracefully written and filled with sharp insights kens study sheds new light on field s role in helping the court define the nature of liberty and determine the extent of constitutional protection of property

by focusing on the political economic and social struggles of his time it explains field s jurisprudence in terms of conflicting views of liberty and individualism it firmly establishes field as a persuasive spokesman for one side of that conflict and as a prototype for the modern activist judge while providing an important new view of capitalist expansion and social change in gilded age america

explores the origins of north american native peoples in addition to studying their customs and cultures before and after contact with the white man

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