

# The Craft Of The Novel

The Rise of the Novel, Updated Edition  
The Novels and Tales of Robert Louis Stevenson  
The Story of the Mind  
The Chautauquan  
New Book List  
Victims of the Book  
Critical Theory and the Novel  
English Theories of the Novel: Eighteenth century  
That dowdy of a girl; or, The story of Gertrude Wynn's fortunes, by mrs. Georgie Sheldon  
The Book of Genesis  
Chambers's Journal of Popular Literature, Science and Arts  
The Dial  
The Nation  
The Rocket: Or, the Story of the Stephensons, Father and Son. A Book for Boys  
Andrews' American Queen  
Publishers' circular and booksellers' record  
The Bookman  
Current Opinion  
American Punch  
An appreciative life of ... the earl of Beaconsfield, ed. by C. Brown  
Ian Watt  
Robert Louis Stevenson  
James Mark Baldwin  
General Theological Seminary  
(New York, N.Y.)  
François Proulx  
David Bruce Suchoff  
Walter F. Greiner  
Mrs. Georgie Sheldon  
François Lenormant  
Helen Cross  
KNIGHT  
Cornelius Brown

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*Ian Watt Robert Louis Stevenson James Mark Baldwin General Theological Seminary (New York, N.Y.) François Proulx David Bruce Suchoff Walter F. Greiner Mrs. Georgie Sheldon François Lenormant Helen Cross KNIGHT Cornelius Brown*

a classic description of the interworkings of social conditions changing attitudes and literary practices during the period when the novel emerged as the dominant literary form of the individualist era

victims of the book uncovers a long neglected but once widespread subgenre the fin de siècle novel of formation in France novels about and geared toward

adolescent male readers were imbued with a deep worry over young frenchmen's masculinity as evidenced by titles like *crise de jeunesse* youth in crisis 1897 *la crise virile* crisis of virility 1898 *la vie stérile* a sterile life 1892 and *la mortelle impuissance* deadly impotence 1903 in this book françois proulx examines a wide panorama of these novels many of which have rarely been studied as well as polemical essays pedagogical articles and medical treatises on the perceived threats posed by young frenchmen's reading habits against this cultural backdrop he illuminates all that was at stake in representations of the male reader by prominent novelists of the period including jules valles paul bourget maurice barrès andr  gide and marcel proust in the final decades of the nineteenth century social commentators insistently characterized excessive reading as an emasculating illness that afflicted french youth fin de si cle writers responded to this pathologization of reading with a profusion of novels addressed to young male readers paradoxically proposing their own novels as potential cures in the early twentieth century this corpus was critically revisited by a new generation of writers victims of the book shows how gide and proust in particular reworked the fin de si cle paradox to subvert cultural norms about literature and masculinity proposing instead a queer pact between writer and reader

using the methods of frankfurt school theorists walter benjamin and theodor adorno david suchoff offers new readings of dickens melville and kafka that underscore the political and social critiques inherent in their novels suchoff's aim is to redeem the critical power of mass culture in the modern novel and he argues that ideological battles fought in american literary criticism during the cold war decades have limited our current interpretations of mass culture's critical force in political fiction suchoff demonstrates how the works of these nineteenth and early twentieth century novelists were taken up into the cold war literary canon and made to fit the arguments of american liberal critics for subversive fiction and of new historicist critics for a contained modern novel applying benjamin's redemptive criticism and adorno's dialectical method suchoff's readings of dickens melville and kafka show how the political problems posed by mass culture and audience for each writer became part of the dialectically critical grain of their most important social novels he examines dickens's struggle with victorian taste and the relation of his work to advertising and other nonliterary forms melville's confrontations with popular ideologies of american expansion and race and kafka's concern with the popular yiddish theater and jewish political movements throughout suchoff reveals the continuing importance of commodity culture in the novel tradition and the concurrent development of cultural criticism critical theory and the novel provides a useful introduction to benjamin and adorno and their uses in practical criticism it is also an illuminating study of the historical origins of literary theory and cultural criticism and a

contribution to the expanding field of cultural studies

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