

Classic American Autobiographies

Classic American Autobiographies Classic American Autobiographies The Development of the Self-Image in Black Autobiographical Writing (Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. Du Bois and Malcolm X) African American Autobiography and the Quest for Freedom American Autobiography, 1945-1980 Biography Modern Short Biographies and Autobiographies Immigrant Autobiography in the United States The American Autobiography America, History and Life Other Americans, Other Americas African American Autobiography The Heath Anthology of American Literature The Indian Autobiographies in English Auto/biography Studies American Literature Personality and Biography The Schomburg Center Guide to Black Literature Representation and Exceptionalism in the Asian American Autobiography Amerikastudien William L. Andrews William L. Andrews Moritz Oehl Roland Leander Williams Mary Louise Briscoe Marston Balch William Q. Boelhower Albert E. Stone Magdalena J. Zaborowska William L. Andrews Paul Lauter R. C. P. Sinha Oxford Martha Friedenthal-Haase Roger M. Valade David Shih

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the true diversity of the american experience comes to life in this superlative collection of autobiographies including those of benjamin franklin frederick douglas mark twain and more a true history of the captivity and restoration of mrs mary rowlandson 1682 perhaps the first american bestseller recounts this thirty nine year old woman s harrowing months as the captive of narragansett indians the autobiography of benjamin franklin 1771 1789 the most famous of all american autobiographies gives a lively portrait of a chandler s son who became a scientist inventor educator diplomat humorist and a founding father of this

land narrative of the life of frederick douglass 1845 the gripping slave narrative that helped change the course of american history reveals the true nature of the black experience in slavery old times on the mississippi 1875 mark twain s unforgettable account of a riverboat pilot s life established his signature style and shows us the metamorphosis of a man into a writer four autobiographical narratives 1900 1902 published in the atlantic monthly by zitkala sa red bird also known as gertrude bonnin provide us with a voice too seldom heard a native american woman fighting for her culture in the white man s world edited and with an introduction by william l andrews and an afterword by paul john eakin

thesis m a from the year 2006 in the subject american studies literature grade 2 7 university of bamberg professur f r amerikanistik 58 entries in the bibliography language english abstract in this thesis paper each of the three black autobiographical writings will be discussed in chronological order the paper begins with frederick douglass s narrative from 1845 continues with w e b du bois s darkwater from 1920 and finishes with the autobiography of malcolm x from 1965 the purpose of this chronological organization is to better trace the development of black autobiographical writing over the period of 120 years each autobiography s discussion is divided up into three distinguishable components a summary of each memoir provides a background against which the further stylistic and thematic discussions can be attempted secondly the historical circumstances basic structure and narrative techniques of the respective eras of black autobiographical writing and of the specific works will be discussed the purpose is to closely look at typical features or in the case of the autobiography of malcolm x genres of black autobiographical writings in each period and then in a second step analyze each work s specific stylistic and narrative peculiarities the third and last component of each autobiography s discussion is a close textual interpretation it shall analyze the development of the self image of each author as presented in his autobiographical work these observations will be synthesized in the conclusion of this thesis paper the eventual aim of this study is to prove the three thesis elements first of all it shall be demonstrated that african americans have written autobiographies to comment on the unjust societies they have been living in since slavery secondly it shall be proven that the three distinguishable stages of black autobiographical writing are best represented by this selection of books and finally one will see that th

slave narratives were one of the earliest forms of african american writing these works autobiographical in nature later fostered other pieces of african american autobiography since the rise of black studies in the late 1960s leading critics have constructed black lives and letters as antitheses of the ways and writings of mainstream american culture according to such thinking black writing stems from a set of experiences very different from the world of whites and black autobiography must therefore differ radically from heroic white american tales but in pointing to differences between black and white autobiographical works these critics have overlooked the similarities this volume argues that the african american autobiography is a continuation of the epic tradition much as the prose narratives of voyage by white americans in the nineteenth century likewise represent the evolution of the epic genre the book makes clear that the writers of black autobiography have shared and shaped american culture and that their works are very much a part of american literature an introductory

essay provides a theoretical framework for the chapters that follow it discusses the origins of african american autobiography and the larger themes of the epic tradition that are common to the works of both black and white authors the book then pairs representative african american autobiographies with similar works by white writers thus the volume matches olaudah equiano s slave narrative with the autobiography of benjamin franklin the narrative of the life of frederick douglass an american slave with richard henry dana s two years before the mast and harriet jacobs incidents in the life of a slave girl with fanny fern s ruth hall the study indicates that these various works all recognize the importance of learning as a means for attaining freedom the final chapter provides a broad survey of the african american autobiography

this bibliography provides access to over 5 000 american autobiographies published in book form by private and commercial presses from 1945 through 1980
intro

donated by sydney harris

nine essays all produced within the last six years include robert f sayre on autobiographies in american studies programs anais nin on the diary alfred kazin and patricia meyer spacks on the self darrell mansell on fact janet varner gunn on the temporal mode in walden thomas b doherty on ideology alvin h rosenfeld on ethnic self consciousness and rosenfeld s essay inventing the jew notes on jewish autobiography

provides historical coverage of the united states and canada from prehistory to the present includes information abstracted from over 2 000 journals published worldwide

this volume brings together international scholars of american studies whose work explores the issues of ethnicity race gender national and cross cultural identity in american literature and culture the ramifications of this discussion go far beyond the borders of north america in our era of european consolidation and global communications even the seemingly most homogeneous of national literatures find themselves at last responding to and acknowledging external cultural influences with articles ranging from an examination of early colonial texts through postcolonial theory to a theoretical discussion of michael wigglesworth s diaries and the latest work of maya angelou other americans other americas will appeal to a wide academic audience as a significant contribution to the latest scholarship in the field of multicultural studies

a collection of the best critical essays reflecting both older and newer perspectives will also contain an introduction by the editor a respected scholar in the field a chronology of the author s life and an annotated bibliography

contains entries that examine authors texts literary developments ideas programs and themes in the history of american literature and includes photographs a chronology and a topical outline of articles arranged alphabetically from acad to essa

cont on a general topic such as discrimination a brief treatment is followed by a discussion of black authors who have written scholarly and popular works on discrimination and how the topic is reflected in creative works literary terms and genres are defined and explained in the context of black literature additional features include a chronology of events in black history and black literary history and an essay on the schomburg center an index lists titles names and subjects covered in the text booklist

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