

James Baldwin And Toni Morrison Comparative Critical And Theoretical Essays

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Toni Morrison Linda Wagner-Martin

Toni Morrison Adrienne Lanier Seward 2014-08-12 Toni Morrison: Memory and Meaning boasts essays by well-known international scholars focusing on the author’s literary production and including her very latest works–the theatrical production *Desdemona* and her tenth and latest novel, *Home*. These original contributions are among the first scholarly analyses of these latest additions to her oeuvre and make the volume a valuable addition to potential readers and teachers eager to understand the position of *Desdemona* and *Homewithin* the wider scope of Morrison’s career. Indeed, in *Home*, we find a reworking of many of the tropes and themes that run throughout Morrison’s fiction, prompting the editors to organize the essays as they relate to themes prevalent in *Home*. In many ways, Morrison has actually initiated paradigm shifts that permeate the essays. They consistently reflect, in approach and interpretation, the revolutionary change in the study of American literature represented by Morrison’s focus on the interior lives of enslaved Africans. This collection assumes black subjectivity, rather than argues for it, in order to reread and revise the horror of slavery and its consequences into our time. The analyses presented in this volume also attest to the broad range of interdisciplinary specializations and interests in novels that have now become classics in world literature. The essays are divided into five sections, each entitled with a direct quotation from *Home*, and framed by two poems: Rita Dove’s “The Buckeye” and Sonia Sanchez’s “Aaayeee Babo, Aaayeee Babo, Aaayeee Babo.”

The Cambridge Companion to James Baldwin Michele Elam 2015-04-20 This Companion offers fresh insight into the art and politics of James Baldwin, one of the most important writers and provocative cultural critics of the twentieth century. Black, gay, and gifted, he was hailed as a “spokesman for the race,” although he personally, and controversially, eschewed titles and classifications of all kinds. Individual essays examine his classic novels and nonfiction as well as his work across lesser-examined domains: poetry, music, theatre, sermon, photo-text, children’s literature, public media, comedy, and artistic collaboration. In doing so, the *Cambridge Companion to James Baldwin* captures the power and influence of his work during the civil rights era as well as his relevance in the “post-race” transnational twenty-first century, when his persistent questioning of the boundaries of race, sex, love, leadership, and country assume new urgency.

A Historical Guide to James Baldwin Douglas Field 2009-09-24 With contributions from major scholars of African American literature, history, and cultural studies, *A Historical Guide to James Baldwin* focuses on the four tumultuous decades that defined the great author’s life and art. Providing a comprehensive examination of Baldwin’s varied body of work that includes short stories, novels, and polemical essays, this collection reflects the major events that left an indelible imprint on the iconic writer: civil rights, black nationalism and the struggle for gay rights in the pre- and post-Stonewall eras. The essays also highlight Baldwin’s under-studied role as a trans-Atlantic writer, his lifelong struggle with faith, and his use of music, especially the blues, as a key to unlock the mysteries of his identity as an exile, an artist, and a black American in a racially hostile era.

Hypermasculinities in the Contemporary Novel Josef Benson 2014-07-16 This book examines exaggerated masculinities in select novels by James Baldwin, Cormac McCarthy, and Toni Morrison. Through this analysis Josef Benson connects the masculinities of frontier figures with black male protagonists in postwar American novels, and how these novels present alternative ideal masculinities.

James Baldwin and Toni Morrison: Comparative Critical and Theoretical Essays Lovalerie King 2006-12-15 This collection of comparative critical and theoretical essays examines James Baldwin and Toni Morrison’s reciprocal literary relationship. By reading these authors side-by-side, this collection forges new avenues of discovery and interpretation related to their representations of African American and American literature and cultural experience.

Toni Morrison’s Fiction Jan Furman 2014-05-19 In this revised introduction to Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison’s novels, Jan Furman extends and updates her critical commentary. New chapters on four novels following the publication of *Jazz* in 1992 continue Furman’s explorations of Morrison’s themes and narrative strategies. In all Furman surveys ten works that include the trilogy novels, a short story, and a book of criticism to identify Morrison’s recurrent concern with the destructive tensions that define human experience: the clash of gender and authority, the individual and community, race and national identity, culture and authenticity, and the self and other. As Furman demonstrates, Morrison more often than not renders meaning for characters and readers through an unflinching inquiry, if not resolution, of these enduring conflicts. She is not interested in tidy solutions. Enlightened self-love, knowledge, and struggle, even without the promise of salvation, are the moral measure of Morrison’s characters, fiction, and literary imagination. Tracing Morrison’s developing art and her career as a public intellectual, Furman examines the novels in order of publication. She also decodes their collective narrative chronology, which begins in the late seventeenth century and ends in the late twentieth century, as Morrison delineates three hundred years of African American experience. In Furman’s view Morrison tells new and difficult stories of old, familiar histories such as the making of Colonial America and the racing of American society. In the final chapters Furman pays particular attention to form, noting Morrison’s continuing practice of the kind of “deep” novelistic structure that transcends plot and imparts much of a novel’s meaning. Furman demonstrates, through her helpful analyses, how engaging such innovations can be.

James Baldwin’s Turkish Decade Magdalena J. Zaborowska 2008-12-26 Between 1961 and 1971 James Baldwin spent extended periods of time in Turkey, where he worked on some of his most important books. In this first in-depth exploration of Baldwin’s “Turkish decade,” Magdalena J. Zaborowska reveals the significant role that Turkish locales, cultures, and friends played in Baldwin’s life and thought. Turkey was a nurturing space for the author, who by 1961 had spent nearly ten years in France and Western Europe and failed to reestablish permanent residency in the United States. Zaborowska demonstrates how Baldwin’s Turkish sojourns enabled him to re-imagine himself as a black queer writer and to revise his views of American identity and U.S. race relations as the 1960s drew to a close. Following Baldwin’s footsteps through Istanbul, Ankara, and Bodrum, Zaborowska presents many never published photographs, new information from Turkish archives, and original interviews with Turkish artists and intellectuals who knew Baldwin and collaborated with him on a play that he directed in 1969. She analyzes the effect of his experiences on his novel *Another Country* (1962) and on two volumes of his essays, *The Fire Next Time* (1963) and *No Name in the Street* (1972), and she explains how Baldwin’s time in Turkey informed his ambivalent relationship to New York, his responses to the American South, and his decision to settle in southern France. James Baldwin’s Turkish Decade expands the knowledge of Baldwin’s role as a transnational African American intellectual, casts new light on his later works, and suggests ways of reassessing his earlier writing in relation to ideas of exile and migration.

Toni Morrison Valerie Smith 2014-09-22 This compelling study explores the inextricable links between the Nobel laureate’s aesthetic practice and her political vision, through an analysis of the key texts as well as her lesser-studied works, books for children, and most recent novels. Offers provocative new insights and a refreshingly original contribution to the scholarship of one of the most important contemporary American writers Analyzes the celebrated fiction of Morrison in relation to her critical writing about the process of reading and writing literature, the relationship between readers and writers, and the cultural contributions of African-American literature Features extended analyses of Morrison’s lesser-known works, most recent novels, and books for children as well as the key texts

Toni Morrison L. Wagner-Martin 2015-04-22 A reading of the oeuvre of Toni Morrison – fiction, non-fiction, and other – drawing extensively from her many interviews as well as her primary texts. The author aligns Morrison’s novels with the works of Virginia Woolf and William Faulkner, assessing her works as among the most innovative, and most significant, worldwide, of the past fifty years.

Me and My House Magdalena J. Zaborowska 2018-04-06 The last sixteen years of James Baldwin’s life (1971-87) unfolded in a village in the South of France, in a sprawling house nicknamed “Chez Baldwin.” In *Me and My House* Magdalena J. Zaborowska employs Baldwin’s home space as a lens through which to expand his biography and explore the politics and poetics of blackness, queerness, and domesticity in his complex and underappreciated later works. Zaborowska shows how the themes of dwelling and black queer male sexuality in *The Welcome Table*, *Just above My Head*, and *If Beale Street Could Talk* directly stem from *Chez Baldwin*’s influence on the writer. The house was partially torn down in 2014. Accessible, heavily illustrated, and drawing on interviews with Baldwin’s friends and lovers, unpublished letters, and manuscripts, *Me and My House* offers new insights into Baldwin’s life, writing, and relationships, making it essential reading for all students, scholars, and fans of Baldwin.

Cross-Rhythms Keren Omry 2011-10-20 *Cross-Rhythms* investigates the literary uses and effects of blues and jazz in African-American literature of the twentieth century. Texts by James Baldwin, Ralph Ellison, Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Gayl Jones, Toni Morrison and Ishmael Reed variously adopt or are consciously informed by a jazz aesthetic; this aesthetic becomes part of a strategy of ethnic identification and provides a medium with which to consider the legacy of trauma in African-American history. These diverse writers are all thoroughly immersed in a socio-cultural context and a literary aesthetic that embodies shifting conceptions of ethnic identity across the twentieth century. The emergence of blues and jazz is, likewise, a crucial product of, as well as catalyst for, this context, and in their own aesthetic explorations of notions of ethnicity these writers consciously engage with this musical milieu. By examining the highly varied manifestations of a jazz aesthetic as possibly the fundamental common denominator which links these writers, this study attempts to identify an underlying unifying principle. As the different writers write against essentializing or aqueous categories of race, the very fact of a shared engagement with jazz sensibilities in their work redefines the basis of African-American communal identity.

A Queering of Black Theology E. Kornegay 2013-12-11 Kornegay’s brilliant and insightful use of James Baldwin’s literary genius offers a way forward that promises to overcome the divide between religion and sexuality that is of crucial importance not only for black church and theology but for socio-political-religious and theological discourse generally.

Depictions of Home in African American Literature Trudier Harris 2021 This book studies fictional homespaces in African American literature from those set in the time of slavery to modern urban configurations of the homespace. The author examines the factors that influence homespaces in African American literature and analyzes why African American writers often portray troubling and dysfunctional homespaces.

The White Man’s World Bill Schwarz 2015-10-27 Includes bibliographical references and index.

A Political Companion to James Baldwin Susan J. McWilliams 2017-11-15 “Uniformly excellent” essays on the work of the renowned author and his “extraordinary relevance in the present moment.” (Choice). In seminal works such as *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, *Notes of a Native Son*, and *The Fire Next Time*, acclaimed author and social critic James Baldwin expresses his profound belief that writers have the power to transform society, engage the public, and inspire and channel conversation to achieve lasting change. While Baldwin is best known for his writings on racial consciousness and injustice, he is also one of the country’s most eloquent theorists of democratic life and the national psyche. In this book, prominent scholars assess the prolific author’s relevance to present-day political challenges. Together, they address Baldwin as a democratic theorist, activist, and citizen, examining his writings on the civil rights movement, religion, homosexuality, and women’s rights. They investigate the ways in which his work speaks to and galvanizes a collective American polity, and explore his views on the political implications of individual experience in relation to race and gender. This volume not only considers Baldwin’s works within their own historical context, but also applies the author’s insights to recent events such as the Obama presidency and the Black Lives Matter movement, emphasizing his faith in the connections between the past and present. These incisive essays will encourage a new reading of Baldwin that celebrates his significant contributions to political and democratic theory.

All Those Strangers Douglas Field 2015-06-02 Adored by many, appalling to some, baffling still to others, few authors defy any single critical narrative to the confounding extent that James Baldwin manages. Was he a black or queer writer? Was he a religious or secular writer? Was he a spokesman for the civil rights movement or a champion of the individual? His critics, as disparate as his readership, endlessly wrestle with paradoxes, not just in his work but also in the life of a man who described himself as “all those strangers called Jimmy Baldwin” and who declared that “all theories are suspect.” Viewing Baldwin through a cultural-historical lens alongside a more traditional literary critical approach, *All Those Strangers* examines how his fiction and nonfiction shaped and responded to key political and cultural developments in the United States from the 1940s to the 1980s. Showing how external forces molded Baldwin’s personal, political, and psychological development, Douglas Field breaks through the established critical difficulties caused by Baldwin’s geographical, ideological, and artistic multiplicity by analyzing his life and work against the radically transformative politics of his time. The book explores under-researched areas in Baldwin’s life and work, including his relationship to the Left, his FBI files, and the significance of Africa in his writing, while also contributing to wider discussions about postwar US culture. Field deftly navigates key twentieth-century themes–the Cold War, African American literary history, conflicts between spirituality and organized religion, and transnationalism–to bring a number of isolated subjects into dialogue with each other. By exploring the paradoxes in Baldwin’s development as a writer, rather than trying to fix his life and work into a single framework, *All Those Strangers* contradicts the accepted critical paradigm that Baldwin’s life and work are too ambiguous to make sense of. By studying him as an individual and an artist in flux, Field reveals the manifold ways in which Baldwin’s work develops and coheres.

Utopianism, Modernism, and Literature in the Twentieth Century A. Reeve-Tucker 2013-05-07 Utopianism, Modernism, and Literature in the Twentieth Century considers the links between utopianism and modernism in two ways: as an under-theorized nexus of aesthetic and political interactions; and as a sphere of confluences that challenges accepted critical models of modernist and twentieth-century literary history. An international group of scholars considers works by E. M. Forster, Ford Madox Ford, Wyndham Lewis, Naomi Mitchison, Katharine Burdekin, Rex Warner, Yevgeny Zamyatin, Thomas Pynchon, Elizabeth Bowen, James Baldwin, Toni Morrison, and Ernst Bloch. In doing so, this volume’s contributors prompt new reflections on key aspects of utopianism in experimental twentieth-century literature and non-fictional writing; deepen literary-historical understandings of modernism’s socio-political implications; and bear out the on-going relevance of modernism’s explorations of utopian thought. Utopianism, Modernism, and Literature in the Twentieth Century will appeal to anyone with an interest in how deeply and how differently modernist writers, as well as writers influenced by or resistant to modernist styles, engaged with issues of utopianism, perfectibility, and social betterment.

Toni Morrison and the Limits of a Politics of Recognition William Jefferson 2014-05-25 Is Toni Morrison’s writing as politically progressive as is widely assumed? In this eye-opening study, critic William Jefferson argues that it is not. Analyzing Morrison’s major texts from the 1970s, ‘80s, and ‘90s, Jefferson argues that Morrison’s writing has advanced problematic conceptions of racial essentialism, sexuality, and agency that would not be identified as in any way progressive if issued from the pen of a white writer. More than merely showing readers underappreciated aspects of African-American history, Morrison’s fiction has actively intervened in the politics of her era—and in

ways politically reactionary and disturbing. Stepping back from Morrison’s fiction, Jefferson asks why scholars have not recognized these political aspects of Morrison’s writing. What he finds is a purportedly left-wing academy focused predominantly on recognizing the indisputably black aspects of Morrison’s work. This “politics of recognition,” unfortunately, also naturalizes Morrison’s representations in the same manner liberal humanist criticism naturalized the representations of the pre-1970 literary canon.

Black Looks & Black Acts Ritashona Simpson 2007 How does Toni Morrison use language to represent race? Answering this question through literary criticism and linguistic research, this book shows how Morrison’s language reflects the souls of black folk in *The Bluest Eye* and *Beloved*. The book focuses on the way in which Morrison forces language to reveal what cannot be spoken by a «black» grammar. To achieve the breaking of this silence, Morrison uses rhetoric, voice, and narrative structures not conventionally used to achieve the effect of «black English.» Students and teachers of Toni Morrison’s novels and black English will find this book useful.

Death in Literature Outi Hakola 2014-05-02 Death is an inevitable, yet mysterious event. Fiction is one way to imagine and gain knowledge of death. Death is very useful to literature, as it creates plot twists, suspense, mysteries, and emotional effects in narrations. But more importantly, stories about death seem to have an existential importance to our lives. Stories provide fictional encounters with death and give meaning for both death and life. Thus, death is more than a physical or psychological experience in literature; it also highlights existential questions concerning humanity and storytelling. This volume, entitled *Death in Literature*, approaches death by examining the narratives and spectacles of death, dying and mortality in different literary genres. The articles consider literary representations of death from ancient Rome to the Netherlands today, and explore ways of dealing with death and dying. The discussions also transcend the boundaries of literature by studying literary representations of such socially relevant and death-related issues as euthanasia and suicide. The articles offer a broad perspective on death’s role in literature as well as literature’s role in the social and cultural debates about death.

Salvific Manhood Ernest L. Gibson 2019-10 “Salvific Manhood reimagines the complexities of human brotherhood and masculinity by examining distinct iterations of male intimacy within all of James Baldwin’s novels.”

Race, Theft, and Ethics Lovalerie King 2007-12-01 In *Race, Theft, and Ethics*, Lovalerie King examines African American literature’s critique of American law concerning matters of property, paying particular attention to the stereotypical image of the black thief. She draws on two centuries of African American writing that reflects the manner in which human value became intricately connected with property ownership in American culture, even as racialized social and legal custom and practice severely limited access to property. Using critical race theory, King builds a powerful argument that the stereotype of the black thief is an inevitable byproduct of American law, politics, and social customs. In making her case, King ranges far and wide in black literature, looking closely at over thirty literary works. She uses four of the best-known African American autobiographical narratives -- Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs’s *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, Booker T. Washington’s *Up From Slavery*, and Richard Wright’s *Black Boy* -- to reveal the ways that law and custom worked to shape the black thief stereotype under the institution of slavery and to keep it firmly in place under the Jim Crow system. Examining the work of William Wells Brown, Charles Chesnut, James Weldon Johnson, and Alice Randall, King treats “the ethics of passing” and considers the definition and value of whiteness and the relationship between whiteness and property. Close readings of Richard Wright’s *Native Son* and Dorothy West’s *The Living is Easy*, among other works, question whether blacks’ unequal access to the economic opportunities held out by the American Dream functions as a kind of expropriation for which there is no possible legal or ethical means of reparation. She concludes by exploring the theme of theft and love in two famed neo-slave or neo-freedom narratives -- Toni Morrison’s *Beloved* and Charles Johnson’s *Middle Passage*. *Race, Theft, and Ethics* shows how African American literature deals with the racialized history of unequal economic opportunity in highly complex and nuanced ways, and illustrates that, for many authors, an essential aspect of their work involved contemplating the tensions between a given code of ethics and a moral course of action. A deft combination of history, literature, law and economics, King’s groundbreaking work highlights the pervasiveness of the property/race/ethics dynamic in the interfaces of African American lives with American law.

Intergenerational Complexes in Analytical Psychology Samuel L. Kimmles 2021-04-12 *Intergenerational Complexes in Analytical Psychology: The Suffering of Ghosts* draws attention to human suffering and how it relates to unacknowledged and unrecognized traumatic cultural histories that continue to haunt us in the present. The book shows the many ways that our internal lives are organized and patterned by both racial, ethnic, and national identities, and personal experiences. This book shows how the cultural unconscious with its multiple group dynamics, identities, nationalities, seething differences of conflicts, polarizations, and individual personalities are organized by cultural complexes and narrated by archetypal story formations, which the author calls phantom narratives. The emotional dynamics generated constitute potential transitional spaces or holding containers that allow us to work with these issues psychologically at both the individual and group levels, offering opportunities for healing. The chapters of the book provide numerous examples of the applications of these terms to natural and cultural catastrophes as well as expressions as uncanny phenomena. *Intergenerational Complexes in Analytical Psychology* is essential reading for analytical psychologists, Jungian psychotherapists, and other professionals seeking to understand the impact of intergenerational trauma on individuals and groups. It is also relevant to the work of academics and scholars of Jungian studies, sociology, trauma studies, politics, and social justice.

Contemporary Women’s Fiction. Feminist Narratives in Selected Twentieth Century Women’s Novels Subashish Bhattacharjee 2016-06 Women’s writing in the twentieth century has shown a dramatic shift in its preoccupations and intentions. Rather than occupying itself with the trivialities of the social and domestic spheres, the writing by women in the latter half of the twentieth century and approaching the twenty-first century inheres concerns such as political, historical, questions of gender equity and rights, interrogations of normative and patriarchal practices and other such issues that have not been adequately addressed in women’s writing thus far. The four essays in the present volume are certainly not exhaustive or adequate in this regard – that of addressing this lacuna in literary scholarship – but it may be viewed as an attempt to bridge the proverbial gap. As a precursor to further scholarly works in the area, already existing as well as forthcoming, the essays discuss the works of Toni Morrison, Margaret Atwood, Bapsi Sidhwa, Manju Kapur and Sunanda Sikdar. Although the essays purport to exploring select areas of the authors’ oeuvre, the distinctive fictional structures of the authors help us to explore wider theoretical and critical issues such as postmodernity, postcolonialism, feminism, globalism, nationalism and other related issues. *Trust in Theological Education* Eve Parker 2022-05-31 As those coming forward for ministerial training change and diversify, is the way we learn theology changing too? Integrity within our training institutions has often been assumed and granted to white, male, or those from the middle or upper classes. This has come at the expense of the faith truths, beliefs and perspectives offered by women, people of colour, indigenous theologies and the working classes, whose testimonies have often been ignored or marginalised by the dominant discourses that have been deemed more trustworthy as a consequence of the way in which imperialism has enabled knowledge and religion to be constructed and controlled. Yet theological education also has a potential to challenge these norms. It holds the potential to challenge oppressive cultures, theologies and pedagogies. Relying on feminist, black, indecent, and postcolonial theologies this book will deconstruct dominant models of theological education, by incorporating ethnographic research, alongside educational theory, liberation theology and radical exegesis’. It will demonstrate theological educations potential to change, and be transformed in order to enable those who have been excluded and marginalised to become speaking subjects and agents for systemic change.

MIA International Bibliography of Books and Articles on the Modern Languages and Literatures 2006

The Critical Life of Toni Morrison Susan Neal Mayberry 2021 The first book to trace the critical reception of the great African American woman writer, attending not only to her fiction but to her nonfiction and critical writings.

Audionarratology Jarmila Mildorf 2016-04-25 Audionarratology is a new 'postclassical' narratology that explores interfaces of sound, voice, music and narrative in different media and across disciplinary boundaries. Drawing on sound studies and transmedial narratology, audionarratology combines concepts from both while also offering fresh insights. Sound studies investigate sound in its various manifestations from disciplinary angles as varied as anthropology, history, sociology, acoustics, articulatory phonetics, musicology or sound psychology. Still, a specifically narrative focus is often missing. Narratology has broadened its scope to look at narratives from transdisciplinary and transmedial perspectives. However, there is a bias towards visual or audio-visual media such as comics and graphic novels, film, TV, hyperfiction and pictorial art. The aim of this book is to foreground the oral and aural sides of storytelling, asking how sound, voice and music support narrative structure or even assume narrative functions in their own right. It brings together cutting-edge research on forms of sound narration hitherto neglected in narratology: radio plays, audiobooks, audio guides, mobile phone theatre, performance poetry, concept albums, digital stories, computer games, songs.

Kierkegaard's Influence on Literature, Criticism, and Art: The Anglophone world Jon Bartley Stewart 2013 Vol. 2 is dedicated to the use of Kierkegaard by later Danish writers. Almost from the beginning Kierkegaard's works were standard reading for these authors. Danish novelists and critics from the Modern Breakthrough movement in the 1870s were among the first to make extensive use of his writings. These included the theoretical leader of the movement, the critic Georg Brandes, who wrote an entire book on Kierkegaard, and the novelists Jens Peter Jacobsen and Henrik Pontoppidan

Dismemberment in the Fiction of Toni Morrison Jaleel Akhtar 2014-06-19 Dismemberment in the Fiction of Toni Morrison is a multifaceted study of Toni Morrison’s fiction. It investigates racism and the concomitant experiences of dismemberment in Morrison’s fiction from multiple perspectives, including history, psychology, and culture. Looking at dismemberment from multiple perspectives, rather than the more generic and abstract expression of fragmentation, likens the impact of racism on individuals to the splitting of bodies, amputation, phantom limbs and traumatic memories, and in more concrete and visceral terms. Morrison’s art of story-telling involves an interactive conversation from multiple perspectives, demanding more attentive participation from her readers in deconstructing the meaning of her narratives. Studying her fiction from multiple perspectives suggests various ways of examining the pernicious impact of racism which produces various forms of dismemberment in her characters. This investigation does this without giving prominence to one perspective at the expense of other equally relevant modes of interpretation. Morrison’s depiction of the trauma of racism on the psyche of her characters and the concomitant experiences of dismemberment has its roots in the historical and social realities of African Americans. The psychological impact of racism on Morrison’s characters requires viewing through the lens of the historical and social realities that play a significant role. Morrison enacts racial alienation and dismemberment as complex processes; it is consequently important to look at her project from multiple perspectives. Examining the lived reality of African Americans from only one perspective ignores dismemberment in the light of the socio-political and historical realities of African American experience in the United States, and entails reconsideration of the physical, historical, social and psychological realities. This investigation argues for the importance of combining these historical and psychological, as well as sociocultural, analyses of Morrison’s fiction in order to acquire a more rounded understanding of racism and its debilitating effects on the psyche. By situating Morrison’s fiction within a variety of discourses, this study offers a multifaceted, highly interdisciplinary framework for a more rewarding analysis of her fiction.

Drawing the Line Doreen Fowler 2013-05-06 In an original contribution to the psychoanalytic approach to literature, Doreen Fowler focuses on the fiction of four major American writers–William Faulkner, Richard Wright, Flannery O’Connor, and Toni Morrison–to examine the father’s function as a “border figure.” Although the father has most commonly been interpreted as the figure who introduces opposition and exclusion to the child, Fowler finds in these literary depictions fathers who instead support the construction of a social identity by mediating between cultural oppositions. Fowler counters the widely accepted notion that boundaries are solely sites of exclusion and offers a new theoretical model of boundary construction. She argues that boundaries are mysterious, dangerous, in-between places where a balance of sameness and difference makes differentiation possible. In the fiction of these southern writers, father figures introduce a separate cultural identity by modeling this mix of relatedness and difference. Fathers intervene in the mother-child relationship, but the father is also closely related to both mother and child. This model of boundary formation as a balance of exclusion and relatedness suggests a way to join with others in an inclusive, multicultural community and still retain ethnic, racial, and gender differences. Fowler’s model for the father’s mediating role in initiating gender, race, and other social differences shows not only how psychoanalytic theory can be used to interpret fiction and cultural history but also how literature and history can reshape theory.

Volume 12, Tome IV: Kierkegaard's Influence on Literature, Criticism and Art Jon Stewart 2016-12-05 While Kierkegaard is primarily known as a philosopher or religious thinker, his writings have also been used extensively by literary writers, critics and artists. This use can be traced in the work of major cultural figures not just in Denmark and Scandinavia but also in the wider world. They have been attracted to his creative mixing of genres, his complex use of pseudonyms, his rhetoric and literary style, and his rich images, parables, and allegories. The present volume documents this influence in the different language groups and traditions. Tome IV examines Kierkegaard’s surprisingly extensive influence in the Anglophone world of literature and art, particularly in the United States. His thought appears in the work of the novelists Walker Percy, James Baldwin, Flannery O’Connor, William Styron, Don DeLillo, and Louise Erdrich. He has also been used by the famous American literary critics, George Steiner and Harold Bloom. The American composer Samuel Barber made use of Kierkegaard in his musical works. Kierkegaard has also exercised an influence on British and Irish letters. W.H. Auden sought in Kierkegaard ideas for his poetic works, and the contemporary English novelist David Lodge has written a novel *Therapy*, in which Kierkegaard plays an important role. Cryptic traces of Kierkegaard can also be found in the work of the famous Irish writer James Joyce.

The Impact of Racism on African American Families Paul C. Rosenblatt 2016-03-03 In spite of the existence of statistics and numerical data on various aspects of African American life, including housing, earnings, assets, unemployment, household violence, teen pregnancy and encounters with the criminal justice system, social science literature on how racism affects the everyday interactions of African American families is limited. How does racism come home to and affect African American families? If a father in an African American family is denied employment on the basis of his race or a wife is demeaned at work by racist slurs, how is their family life affected? Given the lack of social science literature responding to these questions, this volume turns to an alternative source in order to address them: literature. Engaging with novels written by African American authors, it explores their rich depictions of African American family life, showing how these can contribute to our sociological knowledge and making the case for the novel as an object and source of social research. As such, it will appeal to scholars and students of the sociology of the family, race and

ethnicity, cultural studies and literature.

James Baldwin Douglas Field 2011 A clear overview and analysis of James Baldwin's life and work. This study provides an engaging overview and clear analysis of the fiction, non-fiction and drama of African- American writer James Baldwin (1924-1987). Whilst giving close attention to Baldwin's popular works such as *Go Tell it on the Mountain* and *Another Country*, it also explores other important but less well known themes and texts, including the use of the blues, masculinity, race and sexuality.

James Baldwin's Go Tell it on the Mountain Carol E. Henderson 2006 The publication of James Baldwin's *Go Tell It on the Mountain* ushered in a new age of the urban telling of a tale twice told yet rarely expressed in such vivid portraits. *Go Tell It* unveils the struggle of man with his God and that of man with himself. Baldwin's intense scrutiny of the spiritual and communal customs that serve as moral centers of the black community directs attention to the striking incongruities of religious fundamentalism and oppression. This book examines these multiple impulses, challenging the widely held convention that politics and religion do not mix.

Toni Morrison's The Bluest Eye Harold Bloom 2010 Discusses the writing of *The Bluest eye* by Toni Morrison. Includes critical essays on the work and a brief biography of the

author.

James Baldwin and Toni Morrison: Comparative Critical and Theoretical Essays Lovalerie King 2006-10-16 This collection of comparative critical and theoretical essays examines James Baldwin and Toni Morrison's reciprocal literary relationship. By reading these authors side-by-side, this collection forges new avenues of discovery and interpretation related to their representations of African American and American literature and cultural experience.

Slavery in Toni Morrison's Beloved Dedria Bryfonski 2012-07-10 This compelling volume explores Toni Morrison's classic novel through the lens of slavery. The book examines Morrison's life and influences and takes a critical look at key ideas related to slavery in *Beloved*, such as the role of slavery in both the forging and destruction of an African-American identity, the impact of slavery on family relationships, and the psychological trauma caused by slavery. Contemporary perspectives on the subject of slavery are presented as well, touching upon topics such as the global problem of human trafficking and the role of multinational corporations in modern day slavery.

James Baldwin Jules B. Farber 2016-07-01