A Rebecca Harding Davis Reader: Life in the Iron-mills, Selected Fiction and Essays

Davis, Rebecca Harding

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Rebecca Harding Davis Reader

Rebecca Harding Davis

Rebecca Harding Davis Reader:

A Rebecca Harding Davis Reader Jean Pfaelzer, 2014-09-29 Rebecca Harding Davis was a prolific writer who published chiefly in popular periodicals over the latter half of the nineteenth century In tales that combine realism with sentimentalism and in topical essays Davis confronted a wide range of current issues notably women s problems as one who knew the frustration caused by the genteel female's helpless social position and barriers against women entering the working world In an excellent critical introduction Jean Pfaelzer integrates cultural historical and psychological approaches in penetrating readings of Davis s work She emphasizes how Davis s fictional embrace of the commonplace was instrumental in the demise of American romanticism and in eroding the repressive cultural expectations for women In both fiction and nonfiction Davis attacked contemporary questions such as slavery prostitution divorce the Spanish American War the colonization of Africa the plight of the rural South northern racism environmental pollution and degraded work conditions generated by the rise of heavy industry Written from the standpoint of a critical observer in the midst of things Davis s work vividly recreates the social and ideological ferment of the post Civil War United States The American literary canon is enriched by this collection nearly all of which is reprinted for the first time A Rebecca Harding Davis Reader Rebecca Harding Davis, 1995 In this collection of stories that combine realism with sentimentalism and in topical essays Davis confronted a wide range of current issues as one who knew the frustration caused by the genteel female's helpless social position and barriers against women **Rebecca Harding Davis** Sharon M. Harris, 2019-06-04 Parlor Radical Jean entering the working world Pfaelzer, 2010-11-23 Rebecca Harding Davis was a prominent author of radical social fiction during the latter half of the nineteenth century. In stories that combine realism with sentimentalism Davis confronted a wide range of contemporary American issues giving voice to working women prostitutes wives seeking divorce celibate utopians and female authors Davis broke down distinctions between the private and the public worlds distinctions that trapped women in the ideology of domesticity By engaging current strategies in literary hermeneutics with a strong sense of historical radicalism in the Gilded Age Jean Pfaelzer reads Davis through the public issues that she forcefully inscribed in her fiction In this study Davis s realistic narratives actively construct a coherent social work not in a fictional vacuum but in direct engagement with the explosive movements of social change from the Civil War through the turn of the century **Rebecca Harding Davis** Rebecca Harding Davis, 2001 This is the annotated edition of novelist journalist Rebecca Harding Davis s 1904 autobiography Bits of Gossip and a previously unpublished family history written for her children The memoirs are not traditional autobiography rather they are Davis s perspective on the extraordinary cultural changes that occurred during her lifetime and of the remarkable and sometimes scandalous people who shaped the events She provides intimate portraits of the famous people she knew including Emerson Hawthorne Louisa May Alcott Ann Stephens Oliver Wendell Holmes and Horace Greeley Equally important are Davis s commentaries on the political activists of the Civil War era from Abraham Lincoln to

Booker T Washington from the daughters of the Southland to Lucretia Mott from Henry Ward Beecher to William Still The Cambridge Companion to Nineteenth-Century American Women's Writing Dale M. Bauer, Philip Gould, 2001-11-15 Providing an overview of the history of writing by women in the period this 2001 Companion establishes the context in which this writing emerged and traces the origin of the terms which have traditionally defined the debate It includes essays on topics of recent concern such as women and war erotic violence the liberating and disciplinary effects of religion and examines the work of a variety of women writers including Harriet Beecher Stowe Rebecca Harding Davis and Louisa May Alcott The volume plots new directions for the study of American literary history and provides several valuable tools for students including a chronology of works and suggestions for further reading Literature and Journalism in Antebellum America M. Canada, 2011-04-11 Explores the sibling rivalry that emerged in the American literary marketplace in the decades after the advent of the penny press showing how journalism became a target a counterpoint and even a model for numerous American authors including Thoreau Cooper Poe and Stowe Southern Women Novelists and the Civil War Sharon Talley, 2014-04-09 During and after the Civil War southern women played a critical role in shaping the South s evolving collective memory by penning journals and diaries historical accounts memoirs and literary interpretations of the war While a few of these writings most notably Mary Chesnut's diaries and Margaret Mitchell's novel Gone with the Wind have been studied in depth by numerous scholars until now there has been no comprehensive examination of Civil War novels by southern women In this welcome study Sharon Talley explores works by fifteen such writers illuminating the role that southern women played in fashioning cultural identity in the region Beginning with Augusta Jane Evans s Macaria and Sallie Rochester Ford's Raids and Romance of Morgan and His Men which were published as the war still raged Talley offers a chronological consideration of the novels with informative introductions for each time period She examines Reconstruction works by Marion Harland Mary Ann Cruse and Rebecca Harding Davis novels of the Redeemed South and the turn of the century by Mary Noailles Murfree Ellen Glasgow and Mary Johnston and narratives by Evelyn Scott Margaret Mitchell and Caroline Gordon from the Modern period that spanned the two World Wars Analysis of Margaret Walker's Jubilee 1966 the first critically acclaimed Civil War novel by an African American woman of the South as well as other post World War II works by Kaye Gibbons Josephine Humphreys and Alice Randall offers a fitting conclusion to Talley's study by addressing the inaccuracies in the romantic myth of the Old South that Gone with the Wind most famously engraved on the nation s consciousness Informed by feminist poststructural and cultural studies theory Talley's close readings of these various novels ultimately refute the notion of a monolithic interpretation of the Civil War presenting instead unique and diverse approaches to balancing fact and fiction in the long period of artistic production concerning this singular traumatic event in American history Sharon Talley professor of English at Texas A M University Corpus Christi is the author of Ambrose Bierce and the Dance of Death and Student Companion to Herman Melville Her articles have appeared in American Imago Journal of Men s

Studies and Nineteenth Century Prose Political Prayer in Nineteenth-Century American Literature Amy Dunham Strand, 2024-09-30 Political Prayer in Nineteenth Century American Literature explores how American women writers such as Catharine Maria Sedgwick Harriet Beecher Stowe Rebecca Harding Davis and Emily Dickinson translated petitioning a political form for redress of grievances with religious resonance or what Strand calls political prayer in their literary works At a time when petitioning was historically transforming governments mobilizing masses and democratizing North America these White women writers wrote literary petitions to advocate for others in social justice causes such as antiremoval antislavery and labor reform to transform American literature and culture and to articulate an ambivalent political agency Political Prayer in Nineteenth Century American Literature introduces historic petitioning into literary study as an overlooked but important new lens for reading nineteenth century fiction and poetry Understanding petitions in these literary works and these literary works as petitions also helps us to understand women s political agency before their enfranchisement to explain why scholars have long debated and inconsistently interpreted the works of well anthologized women writers and to see more clearly the multidimensional coexisting and often competing religious and political aspects of their writings A Jury of Her Peers Elaine Showalter, 2010-01-12 An unprecedented literary landmark the first comprehensive history of American women writers from 1650 to the present In a narrative of immense scope and fascination here are more than 250 female writers including the famous Harriet Beecher Stowe Dorothy Parker Flannery O Connor and Toni Morrison among others and the little known from the early American bestselling novelist Catherine Sedgwick to the Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Susan Glaspell Showalter integrates women s contributions into our nation s literary heritage with brilliance and flair making the case for the unfairly overlooked and putting the overrated firmly in their place

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