

# **Making It Home Place In Canadian Prairie Literature**

**Jenny Kerber** 

#### **Making It Home Place In Canadian Prairie Literature:**

Making it Home Deborah Keahey, 1998-12-01 Traditional approaches to Prairie literature have focussed on the significance of the land in attempts to make a place into a home The emphasis on the importance of landscape as a defining feature ignores the important roles played by other influences brought to the land such as history culture gender ethnicity religion community family and occupation Deborah Keahey considers over 70 years of Canadian Prairie literature including poetry autobiography drama and fiction The 17 writers range from the well established like Martha Ostenso and Robert Kroetsch to newer writers like Ian Ross and Kelly Rebar Through their works she asks whether the Prairies are a physical or a political creation whether home is made by what you bring with you or what you find when you arrive and she incorporates the influences and effects far beyond landscape to understand what guides the home making process of both the writers and their creations Her study acknowledges that home is a complicated concept and making a place into a home place is a complicated process Informed by current linguistic feminist postcolonial and cultural theory Keahey explores these concepts in depth and redefines our understanding of place home and the relationship between them History, Literature and the Writing of the Canadian Prairies Alison Calder, Robert Wardhaugh, 2005-05-16 The Canadian Prairie has long been represented as a timeless and unchanging location defined by settlement and landscape Now a new generation of writers and historians challenge that perception and argue instead that it is a region with an evolving culture and history In a collection of ten essays History Literature and the Writing of the Canadian Prairies explores a more contemporary prairie identity and reconfigures the prairie as a construct that is non linear and diverse responding to the impact of geographical historical and political currents These writers explore the connections between document and imagination between history and culture and between geography and time The subjects of the essays range widely the non linear structure of Carol Shield's The Stone Diaries the impact of Aberhart s Social Credit Marshall McLuhan and Mesopotamian myth on Robert Kroetsch s prairie postmodernism the role of document in long prairie poems the connection between cultural tourism and heritage the theme of regeneration in Margaret Laurence's Manawaka writing the influence of imagination on geography in Thomas Wharton's Icefields and the effects on an alpine climber of pre WWII ideological concepts of time and individualism Literature in Canada Reingard M. Nischik, 2008 The development of literature in Canada with an eye to its multicultural multiethnic multilingual nature From modest colonial beginnings literature in Canada has arrived at the center stage of world literature Works by English Canadian writers both established writers such as Margaret Atwood and new talents such as Yann Martel make regular appearances on international bestseller lists French Canadian literature has also found its own voice in the North American and francophone worlds CanLit has likewise developed into a staple of academic interest pursued in Canadian Studies programs in Canada and around the world This volume draws on the expertise of scholars from Canada Germany Austria and France tracing Canadian literature from the indigenous oral tradition to the development of

English Canadian and French Canadian literature since colonial times Conceiving of Canada as a single but multifaceted culture it accounts for specific characteristics of English and French Canadian literatures such as the vital role of the short story in English Canada or that of the chanson in French Canada Yet special attention is also paid to Aboriginal literature and to the pronounced transcultural ethnically diverse character of much contemporary Canadian literature thus moving clearly beyond the traditions of the two founding nations Contributors Reingard M Nischik Eva Gruber Iain M Higgins Guy Lafl che Dorothee Scholl Gwendolyn Davies Tracy Ware Fritz Peter Kirsch Julia Breitbach Lorraine York Marta Dvorak Jerry Wasserman Ursula Mathis Moser Doris G Eibl Rolf Lohse Sherrill Grace Caroline Rosenthal Martin Kuester Nicholas Bradley Anne Nothof Georgiana Banita Gilles Dupuis and Andrea Oberhuber Reingard M Nischik is Professor of American Literature at the University of Constance Germany The Home Place Dennis Cooley, 2016-07-05 He wants to sit and visit at the kitchen table and he can hardly wait to get on the road again From Chapter 1 Robert Kroetsch one of Canada s most important writers was a fierce regionalist with a porous yet resilient sense of home Although his criticism and fiction have received extensive attention his poetry remains underexplored This exuberantly polyvocal text insightfully written by dennis cooley who knew Kroetsch and worked with him for decades seeks to correct that imbalance The Home Place offers a dazzling playful and intellectually complex conversation drawing together personal recollections Kroetsch's archival materials and the international body of Kroetsch scholarship For literary scholars and anyone who appreciates Canadian literature The Home Place will represent the standard critical evaluation of Kroetsch's poetry for years to come Toward Defining the Prairies Robert Wardhaugh, 2001-04-30 New ways of thinking about literature and history have radically changed how we think about or even define a region like the Prairie West In fact the very concept of defining has come into question by new theoretical approaches and it may now seem a hopeless endeavour But the process of defining can be just as important as the actual production of a definition Toward Defining the Prairies highlights recent approaches to thinking about the Prairie West Bounded by pieces from well known historian Gerald Friesen and Governor General's Award winning writer Robert Kroetsch these 13 essays are as diverse as the region itself In their examination of different aspects of Prairie history literature climate society culture and identity they help to provide a new understanding of this place and of the complexities of its definition The Oxford Handbook of Canadian Literature Cynthia Conchita Sugars, 2016 The Oxford Handbook of Canadian Literature provides a broad ranging introduction to some of the key critical fields genres and periods in Canadian literary studies The essays in this volume written by prominent theorists in the field reflect the plurality of critical perspectives regional and historical specializations and theoretical positions that constitute the field of Canadian literary criticism across a range of genres and historical periods The volume provides a dynamic introduction to current areas of critical interest including 1 attention to the links between the literary and the public sphere encompassing such topics as neoliberalism trauma and memory citizenship material culture literary prizes disability studies literature and history digital cultures globalization studies and environmentalism or ecocriticism 2 interest in Indigenous literatures and settler Indigenous relations 3 attention to multiple diasporic and postcolonial contexts within Canada 4 interest in the institutionalization of Canadian literature as a discipline 5 a turn towards book history and literary history with a renewed interest in early Canadian literature 6 a growing interest in articulating the affective character of the literary including an interest in affect theory mourning melancholy haunting memory and autobiography The book represents a diverse array of interests from the revival of early Canadian writing to the continued interest in Indigenous regional and diasporic traditions to more recent discussions of globalization market forces and neoliberalism It includes a distinct section dedicated to Indigenous literatures and traditions as well as a section that reflects on the discipline of Canadian literature as a whole

Canadian Literature Faye Hammill, 2007-09-13 An important critical study of Canadian literature placing internationally successful anglophone Canadian authors in the context of their national literary history While the focus of the book is on twentieth century and contemporary writing it also charts the historical development of Canadian literature and discusses important eighteenth and nineteenth century authors The chapters focus on four central topics in Canadian culture Ethnicity Race Colonisation Wildernesses Cities Regions Desire and Histories and Stories Each chapter combines case studies of five key texts with a broad discussion of concepts and approaches including postcolonial and postmodern reading strategies and theories of space place and desire Authors chosen for close analysis include Margaret Atwood Michael Ondaatje Alice Munro Leonard Cohen Thomas King and Carol Shields A New Heartland Janet Galligani Casey, 2009-04-16 This study investigates American rurality and modernity as mutually sustaining concepts and centres on women s engagement with those concepts The aim is to articulate a different mode of American modernism that signals meaning and appeal for women and to show how that mode responds to prevalent attitudes in the culture at large Wild Words Donna Coates, George Melnyk, 2009 As the first collection of literary criticism focusing on Alberta writers Wild Words establishes a basis for identifying Alberta fiction poetry drama and nonfiction as valid subjects of study in their own right The idea for this collection began with 100 years of literary tradition for Alberta's centenary However Alberta's literary roots go back much farther than that to the oration of First Nation's peoples and the colonizing exploration and travel literature of the 18th and 19th centuries Writing in Dust Jenny Kerber, 2011-03-17 Writing in Dust is the first sustained study of prairie Canadian literature from an ecocritical perspective Drawing on recent scholarship in environmental theory and criticism Jenny Kerber considers the ways in which prairie writers have negotiated processes of ecological and cultural change in the region from the early twentieth century to the present The book begins by proposing that current environmental problems in the prairie region can be understood by examining the longstanding tendency to describe its diverse terrain in dualistic terms either as an idyllic natural space or as an irredeemable wasteland It inquires into the sources of stories that naturalize ecological prosperity and hardship and investigates how such narratives have been deployed from the period of colonial settlement to

the present It then considers the ways in which works by both canonical and more recent writers ranging from Robert Stead W O Mitchell and Margaret Laurence to Tim Lilburn Louise Halfe and Thomas King consistently challenge these dualistic landscape myths proposing alternatives for the development of more ecologically just and sustainable relationships among people and between humans and their physical environments Writing in Dust asserts that reading environmentally can help us to better understand a host of issues facing prairie inhabitants today including the environmental impacts of industrial agriculture resource extraction climate change shifting urban rural demographics the significance of Indigenous understandings of human nature relationships and the complex often contradictory meanings of eco cultural metaphors of alien invasiveness hybridity and wildness

### Making It Home Place In Canadian Prairie Literature Book Review: Unveiling the Power of Words

In a world driven by information and connectivity, the power of words has become more evident than ever. They have the capability to inspire, provoke, and ignite change. Such could be the essence of the book **Making It Home Place In Canadian Prairie Literature**, a literary masterpiece that delves deep in to the significance of words and their effect on our lives. Published by a renowned author, this captivating work takes readers on a transformative journey, unraveling the secrets and potential behind every word. In this review, we will explore the book is key themes, examine its writing style, and analyze its overall effect on readers.

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