



EDITED BY CHARLES L. CROW

AMERICAN GOTHIC

FROM SALEM WITCHCRAFT TO H. P. LOVECRAFT

AN ANTHOLOGY **SECOND EDITION**

 WILEY-BLACKWELL

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“This is the definitive anthology of American Gothic tales, the one that offers the most representative range of major authors and texts, in addition to excellent introductions and helpful annotations. All of this has only been enhanced in this second edition, since now there is an even wider range of important Gothic works for students and more advanced scholars to study and interpret. For reading and understanding the American Gothic short story, then, there is no better single volume anywhere.” — *Jerrold E. Hogle, University of Arizona*

“This anthology is comprehensive and authoritative and will be an essential source for scholars and students for years to come. Professor Crow is to be congratulated for the meticulous care he has taken to introduce authors and for the extraordinary inclusiveness of the material selected.” — *Andrew Smith, University of Sheffield*

“This new edition of Charles L. Crow’s anthology presents a panoramic overview of the American Gothic tradition from its Puritan origins to the 1930s Weird tale. One of the main strengths of the collection lies in the fact that it places, alongside the intelligent selections from authors already rightly well associated with the genre (figures such as Hawthorne, Poe, Brown, Irving, and James), contributions from lesser known figures such as George Lippard, John Neal, Charles W. Chesnutt, and Cotton Mather, to name but a few. This edition also benefits from a much greater acknowledgment of the traditionally overlooked contributions to the genre made by female authors: Crow selects not just obvious authors and poets such as Emily Dickinson, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Louisa May Alcott, and Edith Wharton, but also the likes of Rose Terry Cooke, Harriet Prescott Spofford, Gertrude Atherton, and Madeline Yale Wynne. It is a development which, as Crow

acknowledges in his preface, reflects the considerable amount of scholarly work that has been done in this area since the first version of the book was published.

Academics and students will find helpful other new additions such as the chronology (which collates relevant literary events with historical ones) and the thematic table of contents, which helpfully groups extracts under suggestive headings such as 'Animals,' 'Children,' 'Cities,' and 'Feminist Themes,' thereby facilitating a rewarding cross-pollination of authors and texts that might not otherwise be considered alongside one another. The anthology's thoughtful selection of texts and authors, and practical scholarly apparatus, mean that it should be an immensely useful resource for anyone teaching on courses related to this ever-expanding and influential subsection of American literary studies." — *Bernice Murphy, Trinity College Dublin*

*A*merican Gothic

FROM SALEM WITCHCRAFT TO
H. P. LOVECRAFT, AN ANTHOLOGY

Second Edition

EDITED BY CHARLES L. CROW

 **WILEY-BLACKWELL**

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Harriet Prescott Spofford (1835-1921)

Edith Wharton (1862-1937)

Madeline Yale Wynne (1847-1918)

Chronology

Date	Literary Event	Historical Event
1663		Cotton Mather b.
1689	Mather, <i>Memorable Provinces, Relating to Witchcrafts and Possessions</i>	
1692		Salem Witch trials begin
1693	Mather, <i>The Wonders of the Invisible World</i>	
		Witch trials end
1702	Mather, <i>Magnalia Christi Americana</i>	
1728		Cotton Mather d.
1735		J. Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur b.
1771		Charles Brockden Brown b.
1776		United States Declaration of Independence
1787	Anon., "An Account of a Beautiful Young Lady"	
1794	William Godwin, <i>Caleb Williams</i>	
1798	Brown, <i>Wieland</i>	

Date Literary Event**Historical Event**

1799 Brown, *Arthur Mervyn*,
Ormond, Edgar Huntly

1782 Crèvecoeur, *Letters from an
American Farmer*

1783

Washington Irving b.

1787

U.S. Constitution
signed

1793

John Neal b.

1803

Louisiana Purchase

1804

Nathaniel Hawthorne
b.

1807

Henry Wadsworth
Longfellow b.

1809

Edgar Allan Poe b.

1810

Charles Brockden
Brown d.

1812

War with Britain

1813

J. Hector St. John de
Crèvecoeur d.

1818 Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*

1819 Irving, *The Sketch Book* begins
serial publication

Herman Melville b.

1820

Missouri Compromise

1822

George Lippard b.

1825

Henry Clay Lewis b.

Date Literary Event**Historical Event**

1827

Rose Terry Cooke b.

1830

Indian Removal Act
signed

Emily Dickinson b.

1831 Poe, *Poems by Edgar A. Poe*

1832

Louisa May Alcott b.

1835

Harriet Prescott
Spofford b.1836 Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Nature*1837 Hawthorne, *Twice-Told Tales*1838 Poe, *The Narrative of Arthur
Gordon Pym*1840 Poe, *Tales of the Grotesque
and Arabesque*1841 Longfellow, *Ballads and Other
Poems*

1842

Ambrose Bierce b.

1843

Henry James b.

1844 Lippard, *The Quaker City; or,
the Monks of Monk Hall*George Washington
Cable b.1845 Poe, *Tales**Poe, The Raven and Other
Poems*1846 Hawthorne, *Mosses from an
Old Manse*

1847

Madeline Yale Wynne
b.

Date Literary Event**Historical Event**

1848		Gold discovered in California
1849		Edgar Allan Poe d. Sarah Orne Jewett b.
1850	Hawthorne, <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> <i>Harper's New Monthly Magazine</i> founded Lewis, <i>Odd Leaves from the Life of a Louisiana Swamp Doctor</i>	Henry Clay Lewis d.
1851	Melville, <i>Moby-Dick</i> Hawthorne, <i>House of the Seven Gables</i>	Kate Chopin b.
1852	Hawthorne, <i>The Blithedale Romance</i> Melville, <i>Pierre</i>	Mary E. Wilkins Freeman b.
1854		George Lippard d.
1856	Melville, <i>Piazza Tales</i>	
1857	Melville, <i>The Confidence Man</i> <i>Atlantic Monthly</i> founded	Dred Scott decision by Supreme Court Gertrude Atherton b.
1858	Cooke, "My Visitation"	Charles W. Chesnutt b.
1859	Charles Darwin, <i>The Origin of Species</i>	John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry Washington Irving d.

Date Literary Event**Historical Event**1860 Hawthorne, *The Marble Faun*Abraham Lincoln
elected

Spofford, "Circumstance"

Charlotte Perkins
Gilman b.

1861

Civil War begins

1862

Elia Wilkinson Peattie
b.

Edith Wharton b.

1863 Alcott, "A Whisper in the Dark"

1864

Nathaniel Hawthorne
d.

1865

Civil War ends

Lincoln assassinated

Robert W. Chambers
b.1868 Alcott, *Little Women*, v. 1

Edgar Lee Masters b.

1868

Edwin Arlington
Robinson b.1869 Alcott, *Little Women*, v. 2

1870

Frank Norris b.

1871

Stephen Crane b.

1872 Spofford, "Her Story"

Paul Laurence Dunbar
b.

1873

Alexander Posey b.

1876

Jack London b.

Date Literary Event

Historical Event

		Battle of Little Big Horn
		Philadelphia Exposition
		John Neal d.
1877		President Hayes ends Southern Reconstruction
1879	G. W. Cable, <i>Old Creole Days</i>	
1880	Cable, <i>The Grandissimes</i>	
1882		Henry Wadsworth Longfellow d.
1884	Mark Twain, <i>Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i>	
1886	Bierce, "An Inhabitant of Carcosa"	Haymarket Riot in Chicago
		Emily Dickinson d.
1888		Louisa May Alcott d.
1890		H[oward] P[hillips] Lovecraft b.
1891	Bierce, "The Death of Halpin Frayser"	Herman Melville d.
	Gilman, "The Giant Wisteria"	
1892	Bierce, <i>Black Beetles in Amber</i>	Rose Terry Cooke d.
	Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper"	
1893	Fran Norris, "Lauth"	Major Depression begins

Date Literary Event**Historical Event**

Columbian Exposition
in Chicago

1894 Twain, *The Tragedy of Pudd'nhead Wilson*

1895 Chambers, *The King in Yellow*

Wynne, "The Little Room"

1896 Jewett, *The Country of the
Pointed Firs*

1897 E. A. Robinson, *Children of the
Night*

Bram Stoker, *Dracula*

1898 James, *The Turn of the Screw*

Spanish-American
War

Peattie, "The House That Was
Not"

1899 Bierce, *Fantastic Fables*

Chesnutt, *The Conjure Woman, The Wife of His Youth*

Crane, "The Monster"

Norris, *McTeague*

1900 Chesnutt, *The House Behind
the Cedars*

Stephen Crane d.

1901 Chesnutt, *The Marrow of
Tradition*

McKinley
assassinated

T. Roosevelt president

1902 Chesnutt, *The Colonel's Dream*

Frank Norris d.

Date	Literary Event	Historical Event
1904	Dunbar, <i>The Heart of Happy Hollow</i>	Kate Chopin d.
1905	Atherton, <i>The Bell in the Fog and Other Stories</i>	
1906		Paul Laurence Dunbar d.
1908		Alexander Posey d.
1909		Sarah Orne Jewett d.
1910	Wharton, "The Eyes"	Mexican Revolution begins
1911	Wharton, <i>Ethan Frome</i>	
1914	Norris, <i>Vandover and the Brute</i>	World War I begins
1915	Masters, <i>Spoon River Anthology</i>	
1916	Robinson, <i>The Man Against the Sky</i>	Henry James d. Jack London d. Ambrose Bierce d.?
1917		Russian Revolution begins
1918		World War I ends Madeline Yale Wynne d.
1920	Robinson, <i>The Three Taverns</i>	Mexican Revolution ends
1921		Harriet Prescott Spofford d.

Date Literary Event**Historical Event**

1925 Robinson, *Dionysus in Doubt*

George Washington
Cable d.

1926 Lovecraft, "The Outsider"

1930

Mary E. Wilkins
Freeman d.

1932

Charles W. Chesnutt
d.

1933

Robert W. Chambers
d.

1935

Charlotte Perkins
Gilman d.

Elia Wilkinson Peattie
d.

Edwin Arlington
Robinson d.

1937

H. P. Lovecraft d.

Edith Wharton d.

1948

Gertrude Atherton d.

1950

Edgar Lee Masters d.

1955 Thomas H. Johnson (ed.), *The Complete Poems of
Emily Dickinson*

1967 Richard M. Dorson (ed.), *American Negro Folktales*

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[The Narrative of Hannah Dustan]
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A surprising account of the Discovery of a Lady ...
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Herman Melville
“The Bell-Tower”
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