



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 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.” — *Andrea 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 the 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*

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# *A*merican Gothic

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

*Second Edition*

EDITED BY CHARLES L. CROW

 **WILEY-BLACKWELL**

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# List of Authors

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Edith Wharton (1862–1937)  
Madeline Yale Wynne (1847–1918)

# Chronology

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Literary Event</b>	<b>Historical Event</b>
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>	
1799	Brown, <i>Arthur Mervyn, Ormond, Edgar Huntly</i>	
1782	Crèvecoeur, <i>Letters from an American Farmer</i>	
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, <i>Frankenstein</i>	
1819	Irving, <i>The Sketch Book</i> begins serial publication	

Herman Melville b.

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1820		Missouri Compromise
1822		George Lippard b.
1825		Henry Clay Lewis b.
1827		Rose Terry Cooke b.
1830		Indian Removal Act signed Emily Dickinson b.
1831	Poe, <i>Poems by Edgar A. Poe</i>	
1832		Louisa May Alcott b.
1835		Harriet Prescott Spofford b.
1836	Ralph Waldo Emerson, <i>Nature</i>	
1837	Hawthorne, <i>Twice-Told Tales</i>	
1838	Poe, <i>The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym</i>	
1840	Poe, <i>Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque</i>	
1841	Longfellow, <i>Ballads and Other Poems</i>	
1842		Ambrose Bierce b.
1843		Henry James b.
1844	Lippard, <i>The Quaker City; or, the Monks of Monk Hall</i>	George Washington Cable b.
1845	Poe, <i>Tales</i> Poe, <i>The Raven and Other Poems</i>	
1846	Hawthorne, <i>Mosses from an Old Manse</i>	
1847		Madeline Yale Wynne b.
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.
1860	Hawthorne, <i>The Marble Faun</i> Spofford, "Circumstance"	Abraham Lincoln elected 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, <i>Little Women</i> , v. 1	Edgar Lee Masters b.
1868		Edwin Arlington Robinson b.
1869	Alcott, <i>Little Women</i> , 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. 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
		Columbian Exposition in Chicago
1894	Twain, <i>The Tragedy of Pudd'nhead Wilson</i>	
1895	Chambers, <i>The King in Yellow</i>	
	Wynne, "The Little Room"	
1896	Jewett, <i>The Country of the Pointed Firs</i>	
1897	E. A. Robinson, <i>Children of the Night</i>	
	Bram Stoker, <i>Dracula</i>	
1898	James, <i>The Turn of the Screw</i>	Spanish–American War
	Peattie, "The House That Was Not"	
1899	Bierce, <i>Fantastic Fables</i>	
	Chesnutt, <i>The Conjure Woman, The Wife of His Youth</i>	
	Crane, "The Monster"	
	Norris, <i>McTeague</i>	
1900	Chesnutt, <i>The House Behind the Cedars</i>	Stephen Crane d.
1901	Chesnutt, <i>The Marrow of Tradition</i>	McKinley assassinated
		T. Roosevelt president
1902	Chesnutt, <i>The Colonel's Dream</i>	
		Frank Norris d.
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.
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1921		Harriet Prescott Spofford d.
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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.), <i>The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson</i>	
1967	Richard M. Dorson (ed.), <i>American Negro Folktales</i>	



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“Abraham Panther”

*A surprising account of the Discovery of a Lady ...*

Charles Brockden Brown

“Somnambulism”

Herman Melville

“The Bell-Tower”

George Lippard

from *The Quaker City; or, The Monks of Monk Hall*

Stephen Crane



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