



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 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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| 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> | |
| 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.

| | | |
|------|--|---|
| 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. Chesnut 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. |

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|------|---|---|
| 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. |
| 1925 | Robinson, <i>Dionysus in Doubt</i> | George Washington Cable d. |
| 1926 | Lovecraft, "The Outsider" | |
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| 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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