

Moby Dick English Center

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Herman Melville's Moby-Dick - Michael J. Davey
2013-11-19

No book is more central to the study of nineteenth-century American literature than Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick*; or *The Whale*. First published it 1851, it still speaks powerfully to readers today. Combining reprinted documents with clear introductions for student readers, this volume examines the contexts of and critical responses to Melville's work. It draws together: *an introduction to the contexts in which Melville was writing and relevant contextual documents, including letters *chronology of key facts and dates *critical history and extracts from early reviews and modern criticism *fully annotated key passages from the novel *a list of biblical allusions *an annotated guide to further reading. Extensive cross-references link contextual information, critical materials and passages from the novel providing a wide-ranging view of the work and ensuring a successful and enjoyable encounter with the world of *Moby-Dick*.

Moby Dick - Herman Melville 2010-07-27

It was an obsession that would destroy them all... On a cold December night, a young man called Ishmael rents a room at an inn in Massachusetts. He has come from Manhattan to the north-east of America to sign up for a whaling expedition. Later that same night, as Ishmael is sleeping, a heavily tattooed man wielding a blade enters his room. This chance meeting is just the start of what will become the greatest adventure of his life. The next day, Ishmael joins the crew of a ship known as the *Pequod*. He is approached by a man dressed in

rags who warns him that, if he sails under the command of Captain Ahab, he may never come back. Undaunted, Ishmael returns early the next morning and leaves for the high seas. For the crew of the *Pequod*, their voyage is one of monetary gain. For Captain Ahab, however, it is a mission driven by hatred, revenge, and his growing obsession with the greatest creature of the sea.

The Cambridge Introduction to Herman Melville - Kevin J. Hayes 2007-03-08

Despite its indifferent reception when it was first published in 1851, *Moby Dick* is now a central work in the American literary canon. This introduction offers readings of Melville's masterpiece, but it also sets out the key themes, contexts, and critical reception of his entire oeuvre. The first chapters cover Melville's life and the historical and cultural contexts. Melville's individual works each receive full attention in the third chapter, including *Typee*, *Moby Dick*, *Billy Budd* and the short stories. Elsewhere in the chapter different themes in Melville are explained with reference to several works: Melville's writing process, Melville as letter writer, Melville and the past, Melville and modernity, Melville's late writings. The final chapter analyses Melville scholarship from his day to ours. Kevin J. Hayes provides comprehensive information about Melville's life and works in an accessible and engaging book that will be essential for students beginning to read this important author.

Moby Dick - Herman Melville 1955-09

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adapted classic, illustrated classic, short stories, biographies, special anthologies, atlases, visual dictionaries, history trade, animal, sports titles and more

Moby Dick - Herman Melville 2020-12-15

The novel *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville is an epic tale of the voyage of the whaling ship the *Pequod* and its captain, Ahab, who relentlessly pursues the great Sperm Whale (the title character) during a journey around the world. The narrator of the novel is Ishmael, a sailor on the *Pequod* who undertakes the journey out of his affection for the sea. *Moby Dick* begins with Ishmael's arrival in New Bedford as he travels toward Nantucket. He rests at the Spouter Inn in New Bedford, where he meets Queequeg, a harpooner from New Zealand who will also sail on the *Pequod*. Although Queequeg appears dangerous, he and Ishmael must share a bed together and the narrator quickly grows fond of the somewhat uncivilized harpooner. Queequeg is actually the son of a High Chief who left New Zealand because of his desire to learn among Christians. The next day, Ishmael attends a church service and listens to a sermon by Father Mapple, a renowned preacher who delivers a sermon considering Jonah and the whale that concludes that the tale is a lesson to preacher Truth in the face of Falsehood.

Zen and the White Whale - Daniel Herman 2014-05-01

In *Moby-Dick's* wide philosophical musings and central narrative arch, Herman finds a philosophy very closely aligned specifically with the original teachings of Zen Buddhism. In exploring the likelihood of this hitherto undiscovered influence, Herman looks at works Melville is either known to have read or that there is a strong likelihood of his having come across, as well as offering a more expansive consideration of *Moby-Dick* from a Zen Buddhist perspective, as it is expressed in both ancient and modern teachings. But not only does the book delve deeply into one of the few aspects of *Moby-Dick's* construction left unexplored by scholars, it also conceives of an entirely new way of reading the greatest of American books—offering critical re-considerations of many of its most crucial and contentious issues, while focusing on what Melville has to teach us about coping with adversity, respecting

ideological diversity, and living skillfully in a fickle, slippery world.

Moby-Dick - Herman Melville 1967

In this adaptation of Melville's masterpiece, McCaughean recounts the tale of the obsessed Captain Ahab, as he pursues the great white whale--a creature as vast and dangerous as the sea itself. 55 illustrations, 25 in color.

Sea-Brothers - Bert Bender 2015-11-16

Sea-Brothers offers the most extensive analysis to date of the sea and its meaning in American literature. On the basis of his study of Melville, Crane, London, Hemingway, Matthiessen, and ten lesser-known sea-writers, Bert Bender argues that the tradition of American sea fiction did not end with the opening of the western frontier and the replacement of sailing ships by steamers. Rather, he demonstrates its continuity and vitality, identifying a central vision within the tradition and showing how particular authors draw from, transform, and contribute to it. What is most distinctive about American sea fiction, Bender contends, is its visionary, often mystical, response to the biological world and to man's perceived place in the larger universe. When Melville envisioned the sea as the essential element of life, indeed as life itself, he changed the course of American sea fiction by introducing the relevance of biological thought. But his meditations on the whale and "the ungraspable phantom of life" project a different reality from that envisioned by his successors. In American sea fiction after Melville, the influence of *Origin of Species* is as powerful as that of *Moby Dick* or the theme of sailing ships being displaced by steam. The ideal of brotherhood so central to American sea fiction was severely compromised by the biological reality of a competitive, warring nature. Twentieth-century sea fiction has continued to center on the biological world and address the possibility of democratic brotherhood, but the issues were fundamentally changed by Darwin's theories. This book will be a valuable source for students and scholars of American literature and will interest readers of sea fiction.

Moby Dick, the Whale - Herman Melville 2006-11

This is a classic adventurous novel by Herman Melville with metaphysical conjecture. The novel follows the experiences of the author in vast

seas with the dramatic narration. A story of all-consuming obsession; everything about the book is whale-like in its vastness, its richness and its power. Captivating due to its philosophical depths!

A Complete eBook of Puzzles & Seating Arrangement (Second English Edition) -

Adda247 Publications

ADDA 247 has been consistently working to make the word "SUCCESS" a true companion to all the banking aspirants. As the year 2020 has just marked its presence, we are delighted to announce that ADDA 247 is launching - "A Complete eBook of Puzzles & Seating Arrangement" Second Edition. Puzzles are an important part of Reasoning Section, the one that you cannot escape from. It is the topic that dominates the Reasoning Section of all sorts of banking exams. So many other miscellaneous topics too are now being asked in the form of puzzles. The number of questions being asked on puzzles ranges from 60 to 65 percent of the total number of questions in the Reasoning Section. So it is now very obvious that the strategy of ignoring questions based on puzzles, thereby solving other questions won't be working anymore as neglecting questions on puzzles can risk the likelihood of you clearing the sectional cut off or scoring satisfactory marks in the Reasoning Section. It is already known to all the aspirants that Puzzles & Seating Arrangement form the most important part of the Reasoning Section as they carry the highest weightage among the other topics. So, considering all the significance that these portions carry, this eBook would provide all the necessary help and guidance in clearing the given sections smoothly. SALIENT FEATURES: -2500+ Questions on Puzzles & Seating Arrangement - New pattern Based Questions of 2017-18 Exams including 10 practice sets - Expect the Unexpected ones[Surprised Pattern] - Incorporates more than 10 Types of Puzzles & Sitting Arrangement -Incorporates the last 5-year Memory Based Questions asked in SBI, IBPS, RBI & Other Examinations
Moby-Dick; Or, the Whale. By: Herman Melville, this Book Is Inscribed to Nathaniel Hawthorne (complete Aet Volume 1, And 2). - Herman Melville 2017-01-06
Moby-Dick; or, The Whale is a novel by American

writer Herman Melville, published in 1851 during the period of the American Renaissance. Sailor Ishmael tells the story of the obsessive quest of Ahab, captain of the whaler the Pequod, for revenge on Moby Dick, the white whale that on the previous whaling voyage bit off Ahab's leg at the knee. The novel was a commercial failure and out of print at the time of the author's death in 1891, but during the 20th century, its reputation as a Great American Novel was established. William Faulkner confessed he wished he had written it himself, and D. H. Lawrence called it "one of the strangest and most wonderful books in the world," and "the greatest book of the sea ever written." "Call me Ishmael" is among world literature's most famous opening sentences. The product of a year and a half of writing, the book draws on Melville's experience at sea, on his reading in whaling literature, and on literary inspirations such as Shakespeare and the Bible. The white whale is modeled on the notoriously hard to catch actual albino whale Mocha Dick, and the ending is based on the sinking of the whaler Essex by a whale. The detailed and realistic descriptions of whale hunting and of extracting whale oil, as well as life aboard ship among a culturally diverse crew, are mixed with exploration of class and social status, good and evil, and the existence of God. In addition to narrative prose, Melville uses styles and literary devices ranging from songs, poetry, and catalogs to Shakespearean stage directions, soliloquies, and asides. Dedicated to Nathaniel Hawthorne, "in token of my admiration for his genius," the work was first published as *The Whale* in London in October 1851, and under its definitive title in New York in November. Hundreds of differences, mostly slight and some important, are seen between the two editions. The London publisher censored or changed sensitive passages and Melville made revisions, as well, including the last-minute change in the title for the New York edition. The whale, however, appears in both editions as "Moby Dick," with no hyphen. Because the British edition lacked the Epilogue, which accounts for Ishmael's survival, it seemed that the story was told by someone who was supposed to have perished. Many reviewers in British magazines recognized a violation of the rules of fiction and criticized the

author for a serious flaw. Other reviewers, however, found the book too fascinating to dismiss it for these reasons. Some of the scornful British reviews were either reprinted or quoted in American periodicals, wrongfooting the American readers though the Epilogue was present in *Moby-Dick*. About 3,200 copies were sold during the author's life.... Nathaniel Hawthorne; July 4, 1804 - May 19, 1864) was an American novelist, Dark Romantic, and short story writer. He was born in 1804 in Salem, Massachusetts, to Nathaniel Hawthorne and the former Elizabeth Clarke Manning. His ancestors include John Hawthorne, the only judge involved in the Salem witch trials who never repented of his actions. Nathaniel later added a "w" to make his name "Hawthorne" in order to hide this relation. ... Herman Melville (August 1, 1819 - September 28, 1891) was an American novelist, short story writer, and poet of the American Renaissance period. His best known works include *Typee* (1846), a romantic account of his experiences in Polynesian life, and his whaling novel *Moby-Dick* (1851). His work was almost forgotten during his last thirty years....

Herman Melville's Moby-Dick - Harold Bloom 2007

Eleven critical essays examine the symbolism, philosophy, and themes in *Moby-Dick*.

Heggie and Scheer's Moby-Dick - Robert K. Wallace 2013

"Book describes the world premiere of the American opera based on Melville's novel *Moby-Dick*, with the same name. Wallace describes the creative process of writing the music and libretto, the rehearsals and stage design, and the opening night in Dallas in May 2010."--ECIP Data View, Summary.

Moby Dick - Herman Melville 2016-06-17

Moby Dick is a novel by American author Herman Melville. It was first published in 1851. It is considered one of the treasures of world literature. The story of the novel tells the adventures of the wandering sailor Ishmael and his voyage on the whaleship *Pequod*. *Pequod* is commanded by Captain Ahab. Ishmael soon knows that Ahab seeks one specific whale, *Moby Dick*, a ferocious, enigmatic white whale. In a previous encounter, the whale destroyed Ahab's boat and bit off his leg. Ahab intends to take revenge. This book, under the series 'Young

Reader Classic', tells the story of Ishmael and his voyage in an interesting way. The language used in the book is simple and lucid. The lively and attractive illustrations make the story even more interesting.

Kit - Herman Melville 2018-12

Priča o nemilosrdnom luđaku koji progoni nepozeljni rat protiv bica kao ogromne i opasne i nepoznate kao i sam more. No, vise nego samo roman avanture, vise od enciklopedije prirode i predaje o lovu kitolova, knjiga se moze promatrati kao dio svoje cjelovite meditacije na Americi. Napisano s čudesnim otkupiteljskim humorom, kit je također temeljito ispitivanje karaktera, vjere i prirode percepcije.

Moby Dick by Herman Melville - Herman Melville 2021-02-23

One of the greatest books ever written. A splendid masterpiece...

Why Read Moby-Dick? - Nathaniel Philbrick 2013-09-24

A "brilliant and provocative" (The New Yorker) celebration of Melville's masterpiece—from the bestselling author of *In the Heart of the Sea*, *Valiant Ambition*, and *In the Hurricane's Eye* One of the greatest American novels finds its perfect contemporary champion in *Why Read Moby-Dick?*, Nathaniel Philbrick's enlightening and entertaining tour through Melville's classic. As he did in his National Book Award-winning bestseller *In the Heart of the Sea*, Philbrick brings a sailor's eye and an adventurer's passion to unfolding the story behind an epic American journey. He skillfully navigates Melville's world and illuminates the book's humor and unforgettable characters—finding the thread that binds Ishmael and Ahab to our own time and, indeed, to all times. An ideal match between author and subject, *Why Read Moby-Dick?* will start conversations, inspire arguments, and make a powerful case that this classic tale waits to be discovered anew.

"Gracefully written [with an] infectious enthusiasm..."—New York Times Book Review

The Game of Creation. The Primeval Unlettered Language of Moby-Dick Or, the Whale. - Viola Sachs 1982

Herman Melville: Redburn, White-Jacket, Moby-Dick (LOA #9) - Herman Melville 1983-04-15

Well over a century after its publication, *Moby-*

Dick still stands as an indisputable literary classic. It is the story of an eerily compelling madman pursuing an unholy war against a creature as vast and dangerous and unknowable as the sea itself. But more than just a novel of adventure, more than an encyclopedia of whaling lore and legend, *Moby-Dick* is a haunting, mesmerizing, and important social commentary populated with several of the most unforgettable and enduring characters in literature. Written with wonderfully redemptive humor, *Moby-Dick* is a profound and timeless inquiry into character, faith, and the nature of perception. LIBRARY OF AMERICA is an independent nonprofit cultural organization founded in 1979 to preserve our nation's literary heritage by publishing, and keeping permanently in print, America's best and most significant writing. The Library of America series includes more than 300 volumes to date, authoritative editions that average 1,000 pages in length, feature cloth covers, sewn bindings, and ribbon markers, and are printed on premium acid-free paper that will last for centuries.

Dive Deeper - George Cotkin 2012-09-06

An easy-to-navigate guide to Herman Melville's epic American novel, *Dive Deeper* consists of 135 brief chapters, along with Etymology, Extracts, and Epilogue, each keyed to a phrase, issue, image, sensibility or notion in corresponding chapters of the original.

Moby-Dick - Herman Melville 1982

The Moby-Dick Blues - Michael Strelow 2018-03-30

Arvin Kraft loves his complicated family, but they talk about him: how slow he is, how they need to share the burden of caring for him, how tired they all are. He hides in the walls of the family's old house in Boston and listens to their laments. And he also discovers there a lead box of old papers. Slowly he reads them and finds they are the original manuscript of Melville's *Moby-Dick*, long thought to have been lost in an 1850s fire at his publisher. The manuscript is valuable enough to save the family's failing construction business if marketed properly. But Arvin wants more and Professor Thorne is the Melville expert who can help. Arvin and the professor take turns telling this tale with its lyric resonances of *Moby-Dick*, the specter of the

curse of Ahab and strange deaths, and the scramble of greed as the manuscript becomes more valuable by the hour.

Reading in a Participatory Culture: Remixing Moby-Dick in the English Classroom - Henry Jenkins 2013-03-22

EDUCATION / Teaching Methods & Materials / Language Arts

Moby-Dick, Or The Whale - Herman Melville 1988-09-09

The classic American novel about the doomed voyage of the Pequod in pursuit of the enigmatic white whale

Melville's Anatomies - Samuel Otter 1999-03-05

"What Otter has done better than most contemporary readers of Melville is to bring Melville's obsession with rhetoric and with authorship into alignment with those political issues and to capture fully the context of Melville's concerns."—Priscilla Wald, author of *Constituting Americans*

The Errant Art of Moby-Dick - William V. Spanos 1995

In *The Errant Art of "Moby-Dick,"* one of America's most distinguished critics reexamines Melville's monumental novel and turns the occasion into a meditation on the history and implications of canon formation. In *Moby-Dick*—a work virtually ignored and discredited at the time of its publication—William V. Spanos uncovers a text remarkably suited as a foundation for a "New Americanist" critique of the ideology based on Puritan origins that was codified in the canon established by "Old Americanist" critics from F. O. Matthiessen to Lionel Trilling. But Spanos also shows, with the novel still as his focus, the limitations of this "New Americanist" discourse and its failure to escape the totalizing imperial perspective it finds in its predecessor. Combining Heideggerian ontology with a sociopolitical perspective derived primarily from Foucault, the reading of *Moby-Dick* that forms the center of this book demonstrates that the traditional identification of Melville's novel as a "romance" renders it complicitous in the discourse of the Cold War. At the same time, Spanos shows how New Americanist criticism overlooks the degree to which *Moby-Dick* anticipates not only America's self-representation as the savior of the

world against communism, but also the emergent postmodern and anti-imperial discourse deployed against such an image. Spanos's critique reveals the extraordinary relevance of Melville's novel as a post-Cold War text, foreshadowing not only the self-destructive end of the historical formation of the American cultural identity in the genocidal assault on Vietnam, but also the reactionary labeling of the current era as "the end of history." This provocative and challenging study presents not only a new view of the development of literary history in the United States, but a devastating critique of the genealogy of ideology in the American cultural establishment.

Inscrutable Malice - Jonathan A. Cook
2012-12-15

In *Inscrutable Malice*, Jonathan A. Cook expertly illuminates Melville's abiding preoccupation with the problem of evil and the dominant role of the Bible in shaping his best-known novel. Drawing on recent research in the fields of biblical studies, the history of religion, and comparative mythology, Cook provides a new interpretation of *Moby-Dick* that places Melville's creative adaptation of the Bible at the center of the work. Cook identifies two ongoing concerns in the narrative in relation to their key biblical sources: the attempt to reconcile the goodness of God with the existence of evil, as dramatized in the book of Job; and the discourse of the Christian end-times involving the final destruction of evil, as found in the apocalyptic books and eschatological passages of the Old and New Testaments. With his detailed reading of *Moby-Dick* in relation to its most important source text, Cook greatly expands the reader's understanding of the moral, religious, and mythical dimensions of the novel. Both accessible and erudite, *Inscrutable Malice* will appeal to scholars, students, and enthusiasts of Melville's classic whaling narrative.

Moby Dick, The Whale - Herman Melville
2006-11

This is a classic adventurous novel by Herman Melville with metaphysical conjecture. The novel follows the experiences of the author in vast seas with the dramatic narration. A story of all-consuming obsession; everything about the book is whale-like in its vastness, its richness and its power. Captivating due to its philosophical

depths!

Moby Dick Herman Melville - Herman Melville 2013-11

The classic book, *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville! There's a reason why *Moby Dick* is one of the best books of all time. If you haven't read this classic, then you'd better pick up a copy of *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville today!

How D. H. Lawrence Read Herman Melville - Kevin J. Hayes 2021

Details Lawrence's reception of Melville and reveals his underacknowledged role in the Melville Revival, while contributing to the history of the book and the study of the creative process.

A Heart at Fire's Center - Steven C. Smith
2002-05-31

No composer contributed more to film than Bernard Herrmann, who in over 40 scores enriched the work of such directors as Orson Welles, Alfred Hitchcock, François Truffaut, and Martin Scorsese. In this first major biography of the composer, Steven C. Smith explores the interrelationships between Herrmann's music and his turbulent personal life, using much previously unpublished information to illustrate Herrmann's often outrageous behavior, his working methods, and why his music has had such lasting impact. From his first film (*Citizen Kane*) to his last (*Taxi Driver*), Herrmann was a master of evoking psychological nuance and dramatic tension through music, often using unheard-of instrumental combinations to suit the dramatic needs of a film. His scores are among the most distinguished ever written, ranging from the fantastic (*Fahrenheit 451*, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*) to the romantic (*Obsession*, *The Ghost and Mrs. Muir*) to the terrifying (*Psycho*). Film was not the only medium in which Herrmann made a powerful mark. His radio broadcasts included Orson Welles's Mercury Theatre on the Air and *The War of the Worlds*. His concert music was commissioned and performed by the New York Philharmonic, and he was chief conductor of the CBS Symphony. Almost as celebrated as these achievements are the enduring legends of Herrmann's combativeness and volatility. Smith separates myth from fact and draws upon heretofore unpublished material to illuminate Herrmann's life and influence. Herrmann remains as

complex as any character in the films he scored—a creative genius, an indefatigable musicologist, an explosive bully, a generous and compassionate man who desperately sought friendship and love. Films scored by Bernard Herrmann: Citizen Kane, The Ghost and Mrs. Muir, Vertigo, Psycho, Fahrenheit 451, Taxi Driver, The Magnificent Ambersons, The Man Who Knew Too Much, North By Northwest, The Birds, The Snows of Kilimanjaro, Cape Fear, Marnie, Torn Curtain, among others

Penguin Readers Level 7: Moby Dick (ELT Graded Reader) - Herman Melville 2020-11-05

Penguin Readers is an ELT graded reader series. Please note that the eBook edition does NOT include access to the audio edition and digital book. Written for learners of English as a foreign language, each title includes carefully adapted text, new illustrations and language learning exercises. Titles include popular classics, exciting contemporary fiction, and thought-provoking non-fiction, introducing language learners to bestselling authors and compelling content. The eight levels of Penguin Readers follow the Common European Framework of Reference for language learning (CEFR). Exercises at the back of each Reader help language learners to practise grammar, vocabulary, and key exam skills. Before, during and after-reading questions test readers' story comprehension and develop vocabulary. Moby Dick, a Level 7 Reader, is B2 in the CEFR framework. The longer text is made up of sentences with up to four clauses, introducing future perfect simple, mixed conditionals, past perfect continuous, mixed conditionals, more complex passive forms and modals for deduction in the past. When the young sailor "Ishmael" decides to sail on the Pequod with the mysterious Captain Ahab, he has no idea about Ahab's plans to get revenge on the great white whale Moby Dick. Ahab wants to find and kill the whale at any cost - even if it means losing his ship and his crew. Visit the Penguin Readers website Register to access online resources including tests, worksheets and answer keys. Exclusively with the print edition, readers can unlock a digital book and audio edition (not available with the eBook).

Moby-Dick, Or, The White Whale - Herman Melville 1991

A story of the war between man and mammal, in which the author explores his obsessions with good and evil, love and solitude, speech and silence, using his technical knowledge of sailing and the sea to tell a story which is at once minutely realistic and powerfully symbolic.

New Essays on Moby-Dick - Richard H. Brodhead 1986-11-28

An introductory critical guide with five specialised essays analysing Melville's classic Moby-Dick.

MOBY DICK (Modern Classics Series) - Herman Melville 2016-12-05

This carefully crafted ebook: "MOBY DICK (Modern Classics Series)" is formatted for your eReader with a functional and detailed table of contents. Moby-Dick by Herman Melville: first published in 1851, considered to be one of the Great American Novels and a treasure of world literature, one of the great epics in all of literature. The story tells the adventures of wandering sailor Ishmael, and his voyage on the whaleship Pequod, commanded by Captain Ahab. Ishmael soon learns that Ahab has one purpose on this voyage: to seek out Moby Dick, a ferocious, enigmatic white sperm whale. In a previous encounter, the whale destroyed Ahab's boat and bit off his leg, which now drives Ahab to take revenge...

Moby Dick - Herman Melville 1992

All Things Dickinson: An Encyclopedia of Emily Dickinson's World [2 volumes] -

Wendy Martin Ph.D. 2014-01-27

An exciting new reference work that illuminates the beliefs, customs, events, material culture, and institutions that made up Emily Dickinson's world, giving users a glance at both Dickinson's life and times and the social history of America in the 19th century. • Provides more than 200 alphabetically arranged entries, covering such subjects as architecture; dress; education and intellectual life; newspapers; marriage; family (including Dickinson's own); food and drink; friends; plants and animals; religious practices; philosophies; war; some of the symbols and themes found in Dickinson's poetry; and other aspects of Dickinson's era • Presents a chronology from 1801 to 1945 listing milestones in Emily Dickinson's life, her publications, as well as significant events of the 19th century •

Offers listings of recommended books, online resources, and videos • Supplies illustrations and photos that add to the understanding of Dickinson's experiences and the world around her

Moby-Dick; Or, The Whale - H. Melville
2016-01-04

Call me Ishmael. So begins the famous opening chapter of *Moby-Dick; or, The Whale*. Young sailor Ishmael is hired as a crew member of a whaler named *Pequod*, captained by a man named Ahab. In between lengthy chapters on whale biology and descriptions of the crew and the whaling trade, readers are slowly introduced to a captivating tale. Ahab is out for revenge on the great white whale that stole his leg, leaving him with a whale-bone prosthesis and a withering hatred for the beast. Known as *Moby Dick*, the whale is infamous for his encounters and escapes with whale ships, and Ahab offers a gold coin, nailed to the *Pequod*'s mast, as a reward for whoever sights him first. Beginning on a cold Christmas morning, the crew embarks on a journey to find the whale and make their fortunes. An exciting staple of American literature, *Moby-Dick* is a must-read for anyone interested in the classics. Herman Melville was inspired to write *Moby Dick* by the 1821 biographical account *Narrative of the Most Extraordinary and Distressing Shipwreck of the Whale-ship Essex* (Cosimo Classics, 2015), which in turn inspired the 2000 novel and 2015 movie, *In the Heart of the Sea*. HERMAN MELVILLE (1819-1891) was an American novelist. Born in New York, Melville lived and worked in the city for many years before moving with his family to Massachusetts, where he enjoyed a short friendship with author Nathaniel Hawthorne. Many of Melville's books are inspired by his own experiences; he sailed on merchant and whaling ships, spent time on the Marquesas Islands with natives, and spent time in England, Egypt, and Palestine. Melville even wrote poetry reflecting on the American Civil War. He eventually retired in New York City, where he was buried in the Bronx, relatively unknown. Melville was the author of 19 books of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, including *Typee* (1846), *Moby-Dick* (1851), "Bartelby the Scrivener" (1853), "Benito Cerino" (1855), *Battle-Pieces and Aspects of the War* (1866), and *Billy Budd, Sailor* (1891,

unfinished).

Queequeg's Coffin - Birgit Brander Rasmussen
2012-01-06

The encounter between European and native peoples in the Americas is often portrayed as a conflict between literate civilization and illiterate savagery. That perception ignores the many indigenous forms of writing that were not alphabet-based, such as Mayan pictographs, Iroquois wampum, Ojibwe birch-bark scrolls, and Incan quipus. *Queequeg's Coffin* offers a new definition of writing that comprehends the dazzling diversity of literature in the Americas before and after European arrivals. This groundbreaking study recovers previously overlooked moments of textual reciprocity in the colonial sphere, from a 1645 French-Haudenosaunee Peace Council to Herman Melville's youthful encounters with Polynesian hieroglyphics. By recovering the literatures and textual practices that were indigenous to the Americas, Birgit Brander Rasmussen reimagines the colonial conflict as one organized by alternative but equally rich forms of literacy. From central Mexico to the northeastern shores of North America, in the Andes and across the American continents, indigenous peoples and European newcomers engaged each other in dialogues about ways of writing and recording knowledge. In *Queequeg's Coffin*, such exchanges become the foundation for a new kind of early American literary studies.

Ahab's Rolling Sea - Richard J. King
2019-11-11

Although Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick* is beloved as one of the most profound and enduring works of American fiction, we rarely consider it a work of nature writing—or even a novel of the sea. Yet Pulitzer Prize-winning author Annie Dillard avers *Moby-Dick* is the "best book ever written about nature," and nearly the entirety of the story is set on the waves, with scarcely a whiff of land. In fact, Ishmael's sea yarn is in conversation with the nature writing of Emerson and Thoreau, and Melville himself did much more than live for a year in a cabin beside a pond. He set sail: to the far remote Pacific Ocean, spending more than three years at sea before writing his masterpiece in 1851. A revelation for *Moby-Dick* devotees and neophytes alike, *Ahab's Rolling Sea* is a

chronological journey through the natural history of Melville's novel. From white whales to whale intelligence, giant squids, barnacles, albatross, and sharks, Richard J. King examines what Melville knew from his own experiences and the sources available to a reader in the mid-1800s, exploring how and why Melville might have twisted what was known to serve his fiction. King then climbs to the crow's nest, setting Melville in the context of the American perception of the ocean in 1851—at the very start of the Industrial Revolution and just before the publication of *On the Origin of Species*. King compares Ahab's and Ishmael's worldviews to

how we see the ocean today: an expanse still immortal and sublime, but also in crisis. And although the concept of stewardship of the sea would have been entirely foreign, if not absurd, to Melville, King argues that Melville's narrator Ishmael reveals his own tendencies toward what we would now call environmentalism. Featuring a coffer of illustrations and an array of interviews with contemporary scientists, fishers, and whale watch operators, *Ahab's Rolling Sea* offers new insight not only into a cherished masterwork and its author but also into our evolving relationship with the briny deep—from whale hunters to climate refugees.