

# In Memoriam

Meyer Howard Abrams, Cornell University, 21 April 2015  
 Kaila Brown, Duke University, 21 September 2014  
 Raymond T. Caffrey, Iselin, New Jersey, 5 March 2014  
 Charles Kendrick Cannon, Coe College, 1 February 2015  
 Richard M. Cornelius, Bryan College, 21 August 2014  
 Elizabeth Adams Daniels, Vassar College, 28 January 2014  
 Father Charles J. Day, Mauldin, South Carolina, 26 October 2014  
 Assia Djebar, New York University, 7 February 2015  
 Maria I. Duke dos Santos, Texas A&M University, Commerce, 17 January 2015  
 Floyd Eugene Eddleman, Texas Tech University, 13 January 2015  
 Fred P. Ellison, University of Texas, Austin, 4 October 2014  
 Mary Anne Ferguson, University of Massachusetts, Boston, 9 April 2015  
 John Hurt Fisher, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 17 February 2015  
 Nadine Gordimer, Johannesburg, South Africa, 13 July 2014  
 Franz Peter Hugdahl, Cornell University, 14 October 2013  
 JoAnne O'Dowd Isbey, University of Detroit Mercy, 21 July 2014  
 Richard Lloyd-Jones, University of Iowa, 7 October 2014  
 Paul L. Love, American College, India, 24 April 2015  
 Irving Malin, City College, City University of New York, 3 December 2014  
 Barbara K. Mantini, North Hennepin Community College, MN, 25 December 2014  
 Megan Melancon, Georgia College & State University, 10 December 2014  
 Catharine Theimer Nepomnyashchy, Barnard College and Columbia University,  
 21 March 2015  
 James Olney, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, 4 February 2015  
 Elise Partridge, Vancouver, Canada, 31 January 2015  
 Remington P. Patterson, Barnard College, 7 January 2014  
 Joseph Raben, Queens College, City University of New York, 18 January 2015  
 Theda Shapiro, University of California, Riverside, 10 March 2015  
 Tobin Siebers, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 29 January 2015  
 Klaus Weiss, University of Freiburg, Germany, 22 December 2014  
 Shirley B. Whitaker, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, 27 December 2014  
 Robert L. Winters, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 29 December 2014  
 Anna B. Young, College of New Jersey, 19 August 2014

This listing contains names received by the membership office since the January 2015 issue. A cumulative list for the academic year 2015–16 appears at the MLA Web site ([www.mla.org/in\\_memoriam](http://www.mla.org/in_memoriam)).



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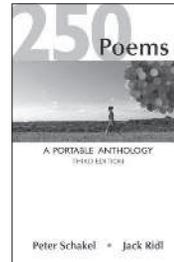
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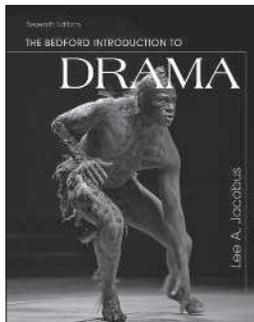
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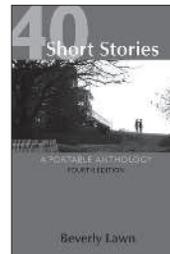
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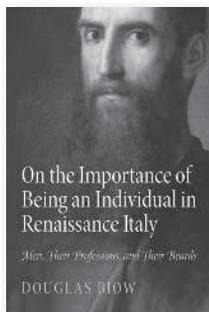


**JOHN HURT FISHER (16 Oct. 1919–17 Feb. 2015).** Born in Lexington, Kentucky, to missionary parents, John Fisher spent his first birthday in Bombay, India, and soon thereafter traveled by train and later horse and wagon to Hamadan, Persia (now Iran), the ancient summer capital of Darius and Xerxes, where he lived for fourteen years. He grew up speaking three languages—Assyrian, Farsi, and English—which augured well for a scholarly career as a linguist and for professional administrative service to the Modern Language Association. He returned to the United States alone, received his AB degree in 1940 from Maryville College, in Tennessee, and the AM (1942) and PhD (1945) from the University of Pennsylvania. His first academic appointment was at New York University, and in 1948 he was asked to help organize that year's MLA meeting, the first since 1942. The next year, the university gave him a course off, and he was appointed assistant secretary of the MLA; in 1952 he additionally was made treasurer. Leaving New York in 1955, he taught for five years at Duke University, followed by two at Indiana University. He then returned to the MLA to assume the executive secretaryship in 1963 and the editorship of *PMLA* in 1964, with a continuing appointment at NYU. He and his predecessor Win Stone were among the founders of the Association of Departments of English, an independent body supported by the MLA that set up seminars for incoming chairs of departments and established and published the *MLA Job Vacancy List*. Shortly thereafter, in 1969, came the Association of Departments of Foreign Languages. During his tenure, MLA membership grew from about fourteen thousand to thirty thousand, the ADE and ADFL bulletins were begun, the Center for Editions of American Authors became one of the first projects funded by the newly established National Endowment for the Humanities, and the *MLA Bibliography* was computerized and grew to more than forty thousand items. John's term as executive secretary ended in 1971, and after two more years at NYU he went to the University of Tennessee as John C. Hodges Professor, where he remained until he retired in 1988, having served as head of the Department of English during 1976–78. He was elected president of the MLA in 1974.

But the MLA was only a part of John's distinguished career. He cofounded the New Chaucer Society in 1974 and served as its bibliographer (1974–77), president (1982), and executive director (1982–89). He was elected a fellow of the Medieval Academy of America in 1983, president of the academy in 1987, and president of the fellows for 1993–96. He wrote or edited a dozen books on major medieval writers, chiefly Gower and Chaucer, and seminal studies on the emergence of standard English. A testament to the enduring quality of his work is the fact that 2012, twenty-four years after his retirement, saw the appearance of the third edition of his *The Complete Poetry and Prose of Geoffrey Chaucer* and of his and Mark Allen's *The Variorum Edition of the Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale*. For his administrative and his scholarly contributions, students and teachers of English and foreign languages will be long in his debt.

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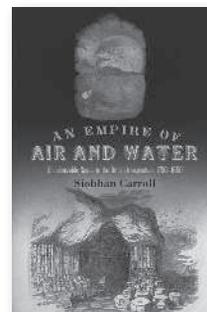
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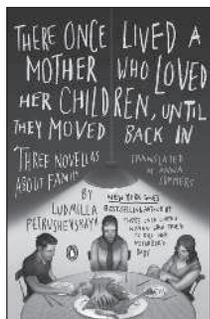
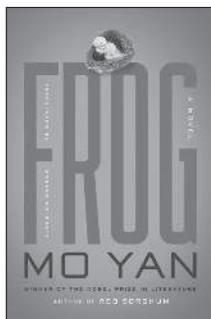
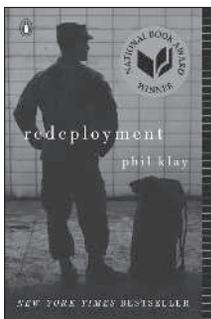
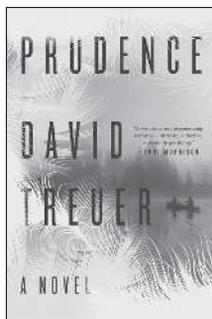
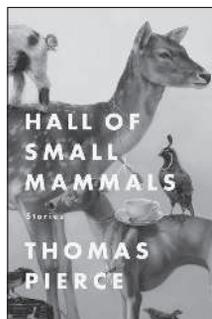
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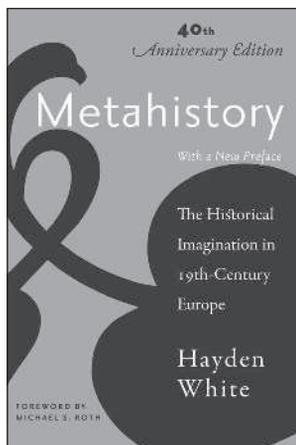
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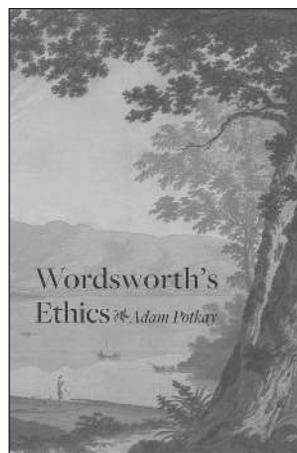


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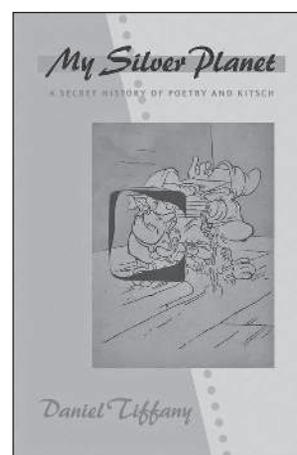
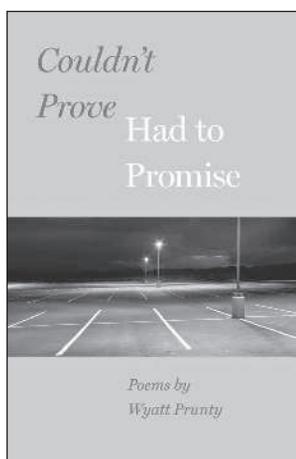
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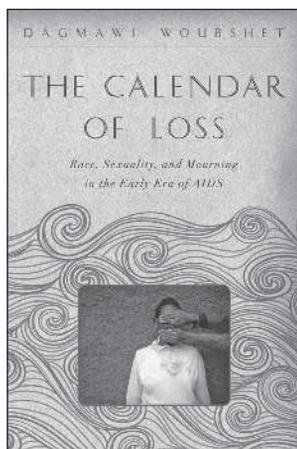
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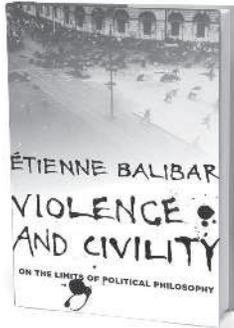
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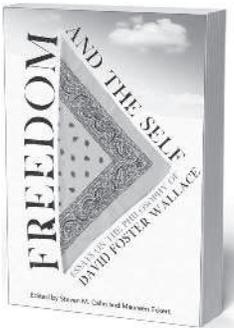


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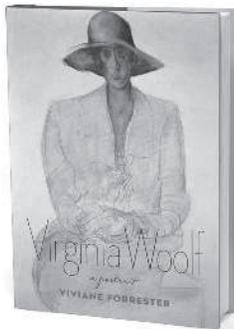
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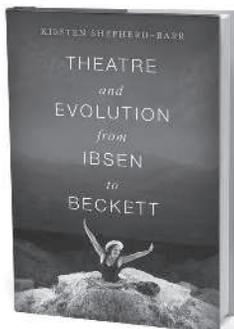
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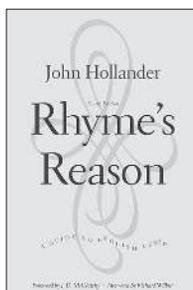
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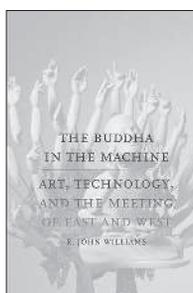
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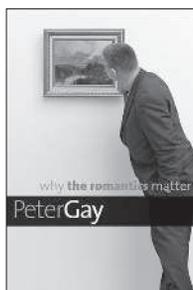
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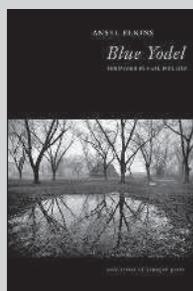
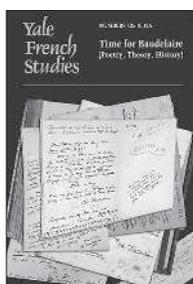
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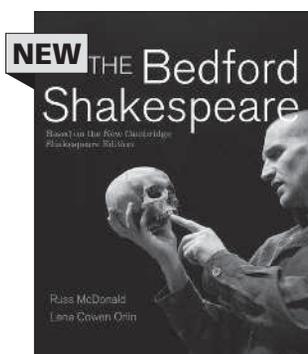
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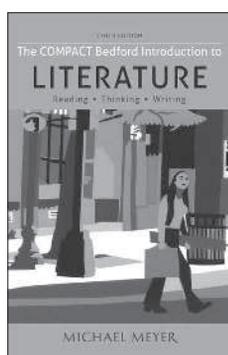
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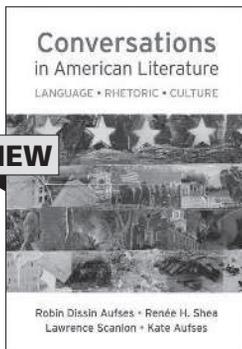
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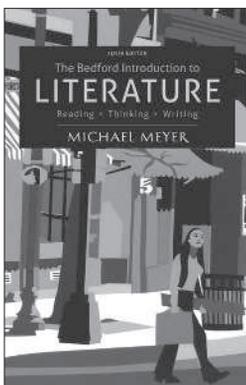
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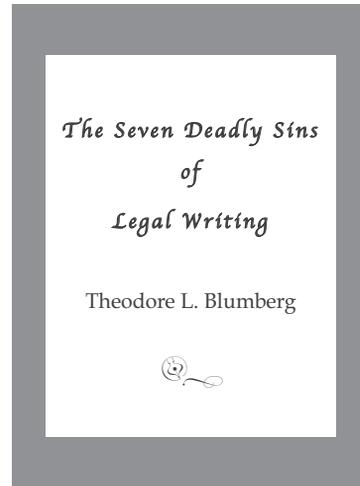
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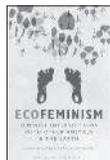
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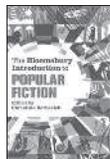
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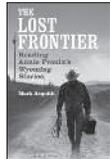


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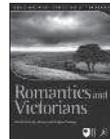
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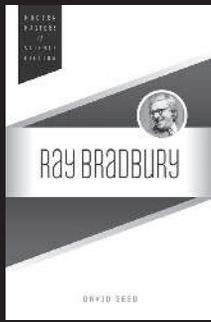


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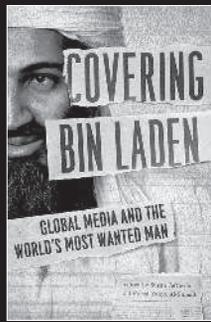
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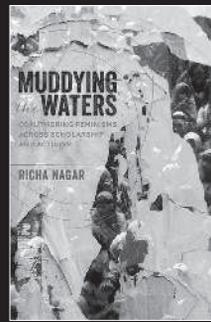
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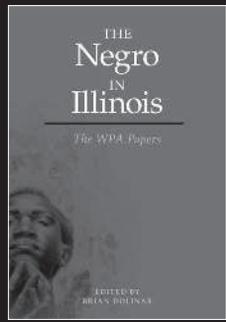
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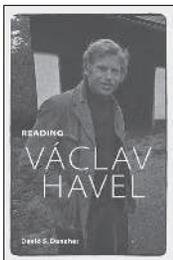


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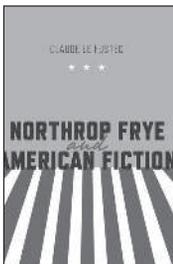
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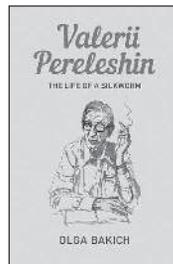
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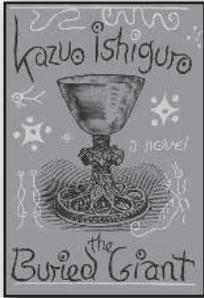
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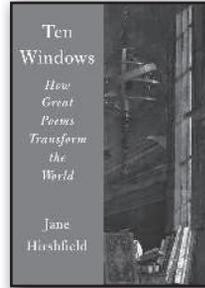
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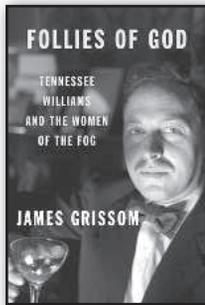
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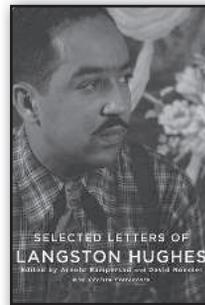
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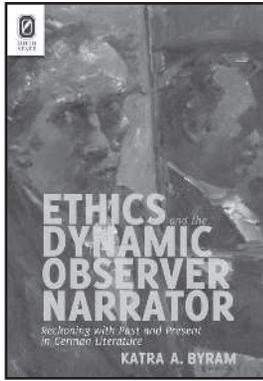
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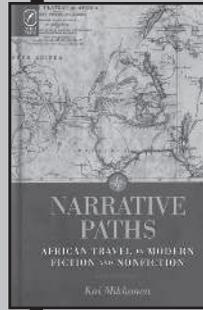
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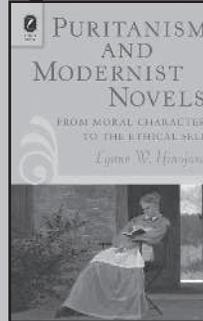
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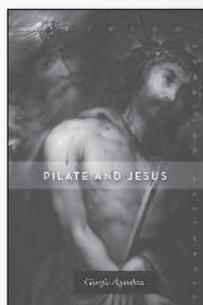
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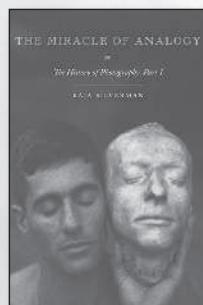
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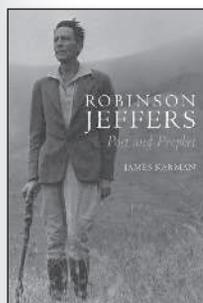
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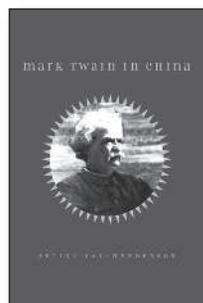
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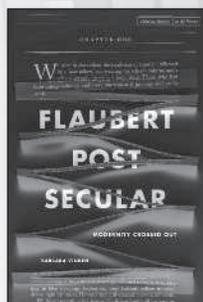
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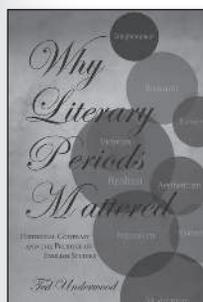
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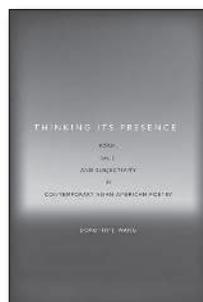
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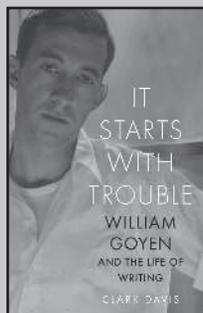
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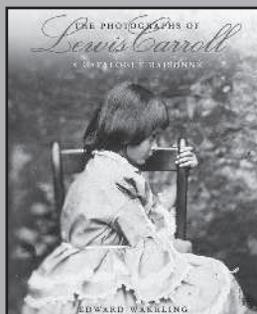
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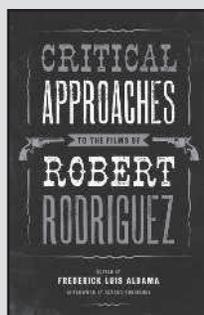
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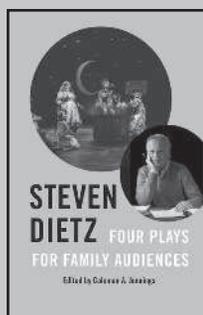
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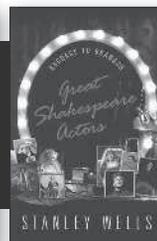
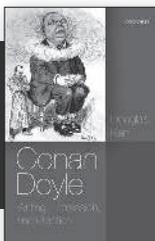
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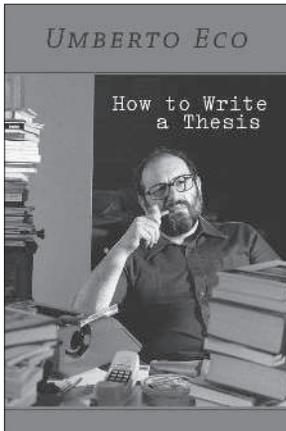
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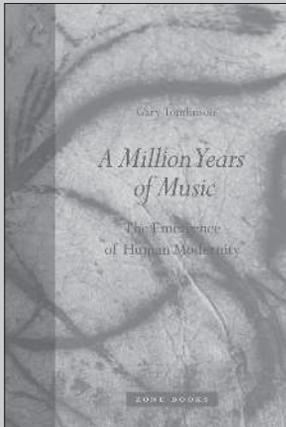
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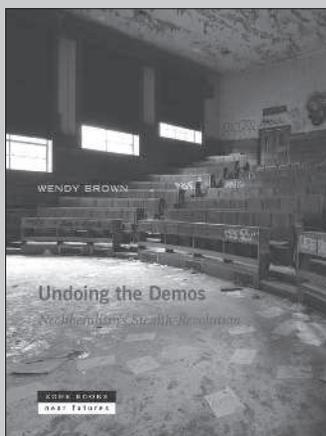
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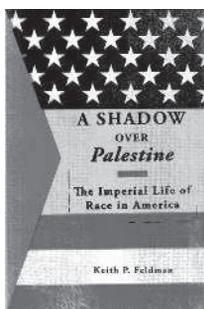
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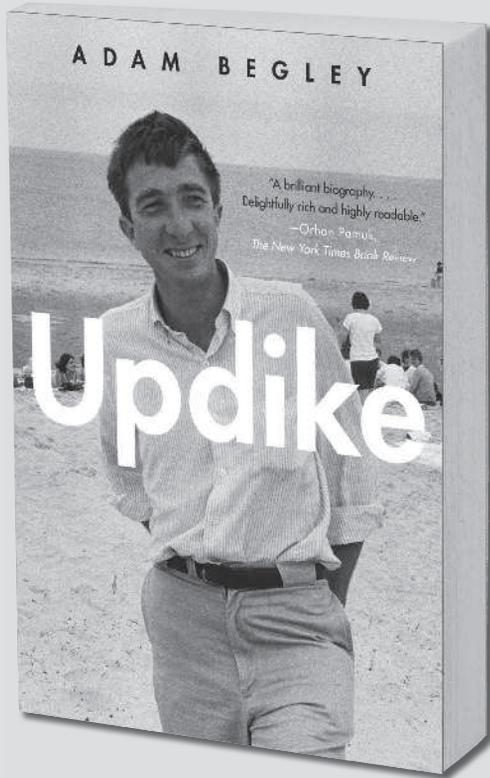
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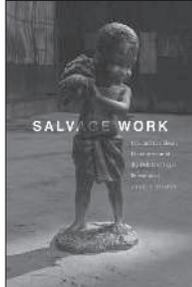
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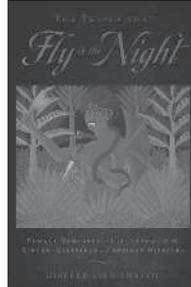
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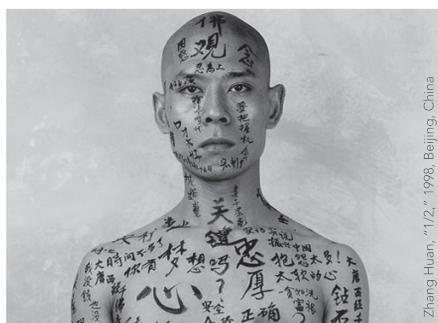
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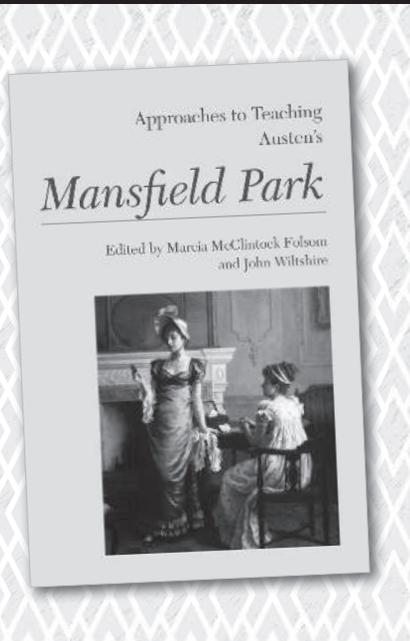
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