CONTENTS

PREFACE  v

Introduction  THE STORY AND ITS WRITER  1

Part One  STORIES

CHINUA ACHEBE

Civil Peace  10

RELATED COMMENTARY Chinua Achebe An Image of Africa Conrad's
Heart of Darkness  1373

ALICE ADAMS

The Last Lovely City  14

JACK AGUEROS

Dominoes  26
WOODY ALLEN

The Kugelmass Episode 32

ISABEL ALLENDE

And of Clay Are We Created 42

SHERWOOD ANDERSON

Death in the Woods 51
Hands 60

RELATED COMMENTARY Sherwood Anderson Form Not Plot in the Short Story 1379

MARGARET ATWOOD

Happy Endings 66

RELATED COMMENTARY Margaret Atwood Reading Blind 1381

ISAAC BABEL

My First Goose 70

JAMES BALDWIN

Sonny's Blues 74

RELATED COMMENTARY James Baldwin Autobiographical Notes 1385

TONI CADE BAMBARA

The Lesson 99

JOHN BARTH

Lost in the Funhouse 105

DONALD BARTHELME

The Indian Uprising 123

ANN BEATTIE

Janus 129
AMBROSE BIERCE

An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge 134

AMY BLOOM

Silver Water 141

Jorge Luis Borges

The Garden of Forking Paths 150

RELATED COMMENTARIES Jorge Luis Borges The Labyrinth in The Garden of Forking Paths 1391 Peter Brooks A Narratological Analysis of Borges's The Garden of Forking Paths 1393

TADEUSZ BOROWSKI

This Way for the Gas Ladies and Gentlemen 159

PAUL BOWLES

The Eye 172

KAY BOYLE

Black Boy 179

T CORAGHESSAN BOYLE

Stones in My Passway Hellhound on My Trail 185

ROBERT OLEN BUTLER

A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain 191

ITALO CALVINO

The Feathered Ogre 200

RELATED COMMENTARY Italo Calvino On Quickness in Narrative 1396

ALBERT CAMUS

The Guest 206

ANGELA CARTER

The Erl King 216
RAYMOND CARVER

Cathedral 224
Errand 235

What We Talk About When We Talk About Love 243

RELATED COMMENTARIES Raymond Carver On Writing 1524
Raymond Carver Creative Writing 101 1528 Raymond Carver The Ashtray 1531 Raymond Carver On Errand 1532 Henri Troyat From Chekhov 1534 Tom Jenks The Origin of Cathedral 1537
Arthur M Saltzman A Reading of What We Talk About When We Talk About Love 1539

WILLA CATHER

Paul's Case 254

RELATED COMMENTARY Willa Cather The Stories of Katherine Mansfield 1398

JOHN CHEEVER

The Swimmer 270

RELATED COMMENTARY John Cheever Why I Write Short Stories 1403

ANTON CHEKHOV

The Darling 280
The Lady with the Pet Dog 289

RELATED COMMENTARIES Raymond Carver The Ashtray 1531
Anton Chekhov Technique in Writing the Short Story 1405 Vladimir Nabokov A Reading of Chekhov's The Lady with the Little Dog 1471
Leo Tolstoy Chekhov's Intent in The Darling 1497 Henri Troyat From Chekhov 1534 Eudora Welty Plot and Character in Chekhov's The Darling 1510 Eudora Welty Reality in Chekhov's Stories 1512

CHARLES CHESNUTT

The Sheriff's Children 302

KATE CHOPIN

Desiree's Baby 316
The Story of an Hour 320

RELATED COMMENTARY Kate Chopin How I Stumbled upon Maupassant 1407
SANDRA CISNEROS

Little Miracles Kept Promises 323

JOSEPH CONRAD

Heart of Darkness 333

RELATED COMMENTARIES Chinua Achebe An Image of Africa Conrad's Heart of Darkness 1373 Lionel Trilling, The Greatness of Conrad's Heart of Darkness 1501

JULIO CORTAZAR

Axolotl 397

STEPHEN CRANE

The Open Boat 402

RELATED COMMENTARY Stephen Crane The Sinking of the Commodore 1408

ISAK DINESEN

The Sailor Boy's Tale 421

RALPH ELLISON

Battle Royal 430

King of the Bingo Game 441

RELATED COMMENTARY Ralph Ellison The Influence of Folklore on Battle Royal 1412

LOUISE ERDRICH

The Red Convertible 448

WILLIAM FAULKNER

A Rose for Emily 457

That Evening Sun 464

RELATED COMMENTARY William Faulkner The Meaning of A Rose for Emily 1416

F SCOTT FITZGERALD

Babylon Revisited 478
GUSTAVE FLAUBERT
A Simple Heart 495

MAVIS GALLANT
1933 519
RELATED COMMENTARY Mavis Gallant What Is Style? 1418

GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ
A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings 525

CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN
The Yellow Wallpaper 531
RELATED COMMENTARIES Sandra M Gilbert and Susan Gubar A Feminist Reading of Gilman's The Yellow Wallpaper 1420 Charlotte Perkins Gilman Undergoing the Cure for Nervous Prostration 1423

NIKOLAI GOGOL
The Overcoat 544
RELATED COMMENTARY Vladimir Nabokov Gogol's Genius in The Overcoat 1469

NADINE GORDIMER
Town and Country Lovers 567
RELATED COMMENTARY Nadine Gordimer The Flash of Fireflies 1425

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE
My Kinsman Major Molineux 582
Young Goodman Brown 595
RELATED COMMENTARIES Simon O Lesser A Psychological Reading of Hawthorne's My Kinsman Major Molineux 1450 Herman Melville Blackness in Hawthorne's Young Goodman Brown 1458 Edgar Allan Poe The Importance of the Single Effect in a Prose Tale 1488

BESSION HEAD
Life 605

ERNEST HEMINGWAY
Hills Like White Elephants 615
ZORA NEALE HURSTON

The Gilded Six Bits  620
Spunk  628

RELATED COMMENTARIES  Robert Bone  A Folkloric Analysis of Hurston's Spunk and The Gilded Six Bits  1389  Zora Neale Hurston  What White Publishers Won't Print  1430  Alice Walker  Zora Neale Hurston  A Cautionary Tale and a Partisan View  1505

SHIRLEY JACKSON

The Lottery  634

RELATED COMMENTARY  Shirley Jackson  The Morning of June 28  1948 and The Lottery  1434

HENRY JAMES

The Beast in the Jungle  642

RELATED COMMENTARIES  Henry James  The Subject of The Beast in the Jungle  1437  Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick  The Beast in the Closet  A Gender Critic Reads James's The Beast in the Jungle  1491

SARAH ORNE JEWETT

A White Heron  675

RELATED COMMENTARY  Sarah Orne Jewett  Looking Back on Girlhood  1441

CHARLES JOHNSON

Menagerie  A Child's Fable  684

JAMES JOYCE

Araby  692
The Dead  696

RELATED COMMENTARIES  Richard Ellmann  A Biographical Perspective on Joyce's The Dead  1414  Frank O'Connor  Style and Form in Joyce's The Dead  1482

FRANZ KAFKA

A Hunger Artist  727
The Metamorphosis 733

RELATED COMMENTARIES  Gustav Janouch  Kafka's View of The Metamorphosis 1439  Milan Kundera  Kafka and Modern History 1444  Jane Smiley  Gregor My Life as a Bug 1495  John Updike  Kafka and The Metamorphosis 1502

JAMAICA KINCAID

Girl 769

MILAN KUNDERA

The Hitchhiking Game 772

RELATED COMMENTARY  Milan Kundera  Kafka and Modern History 1444

D H LAWRENCE

Odour of Chrysanthemums 786

The Rocking Horse Winner 800

RELATED COMMENTARIES  Janice H Harris  A Psychosocial Explication of Lawrence's The Rocking Horse Winner 1428  D H Lawrence  The Lust of Hate in Poe's The Cask of Amontillado 1446

DAVID LEAVITT

Braids 812

RELATED COMMENTARY  David Leavitt  The Way I Live Now 1447

URSULA K LE GUIN

The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas 827

RELATED COMMENTARY  Ursula K Le Guin  The Scapegoat in Omelas 1449

DORIS LESSING

Debbie and Julie 833

NAGUIB MAHFOUZ

Half a Day 849

BERNARD MALAMUD

Black Is My Favorite Color 852
KATHERINE MANSFIELD

Bliss 860
The Garden Party 870

RELATED COMMENTARIES Willa Cather The Stories of Katherine Mansfield 1398 Katherine Mansfield Review of Woolf's Kew Gardens 1454

SAADAT HASAN MANTO

The Dog of Titwal 883

BOBBIE ANN MASON

Shiloh 888

GUY DE MAUPASSANT

The Necklace 900

RELATED COMMENTARIES Kate Chopin How I Stumbled upon Maupassant 1407 Guy de Maupassant The Writer's Goal 1456

HERMAN MELVILLE

Bartleby the Scrivener 908

RELATED COMMENTARIES Herman Melville Blackness in Hawthorne's Young Goodman Brown 1458 J Hillis Miller A Deconstructive Reading of Melville's Bartleby the Scrivener 1460

YUKIO MISHIMA

Fountains in the Rain 935

LORRIE MOORE

How to Become a Writer 942

ES KIA MPHAHLELE

Mrs Plum 948

BHARATI MUKHERJEE

The Management of Grief 975

RELATED COMMENTARY Bharati Mukherjee A Four Hundred Year Old Woman 1465
ALICE MUNRO

Walker Brothers Cowboy 987

JOYCE CAROL OATES

Heat 1000

Where Are You Going Where Have You Been? 1009

RELATED COMMENTARY Joyce Carol Oates Smooth Talk Short Story into Film 1477

TIM O BRIEN

The Things They Carried 1022

FLANNERY O CONNOR

Everything That Rises Must Converge 1037

Good Country People 1048

A Good Man Is Hard to Find 1063


FRANK O CONNOR

Guests of the Nation 1076

RELATED COMMENTARIES Frank O Connor The Nearest Thing to Lyric Poetry Is the Short Story 1481 Frank O Connor Style and Form in Joyce s The Dead 1482

BEN OKRI

In the Shadow of War 1086

TILLIE OLSEN

I Stand Here Ironing 1091
CYNTHIA OZICK
The Shawl 1098

GRACE PALEY
A Conversation with My Father 1103

RELATED COMMENTARY Grace Paley A Conversation with
Ann Charters 1484

OCTAVIO PAZ
My Life with the Wave 1108

EDGAR ALLAN POE
The Cask of Amontillado 1113
The Tell Tale Heart 1118

RELATED COMMENTARIES D H Lawrence The Lust of Hate in Poe's The
Cask of Amontillado 1446 Edgar Allan Poe The Importance of the Sin
gle Effect in a Prose Tale 1488

KATHERINE ANNE PORTER
He 1122

FRANK SARGESON
A Great Day 1131

LESLIE MARMON SILKO
Lullaby 1138
Storyteller 1145
Yellow Woman 1157

RELATED COMMENTARIES Leslie Marmon Silko Language and Literature
from a Pueblo Indian Perspective 1573 Kim Barnes An Interview with
Leslie Marmon Silko 1578 Cochiti Pueblo Story Sun Steals Yellow
Woman 1585 Paula Gunn Allen Whirlwind Man Steals Yellow Woman
1586 Jim Ruppert Storytelling The Fiction of Leslie Silko 1587 Linda
L. Danielson A Feminist Reading of Storyteller Grandmother Spider's Web
1590

ISAAC BASHEVIS SINGER
The Spinoza of Market Street 1165
JANE SMILEY

Long Distance 1178

RELATED COMMENTARY Jane Smiley Gregor My Life as a Bug 1495

SUSAN SONTAG

The Way We Live Now 1191

RELATED COMMENTARY David Leavitt The Way I Live Now 1447

JOHN STEINBECK

The Chrysanthemums 1206

AMY TAN

Two Kinds 1215

JAMES THURBER

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty 1225

TATYANA TOLSTAYA

Night 1229

LEO TOLSTOY

The Death of Ivan Ilych 1237

RELATED COMMENTARY Leo Tolstoy Chekhov’s Intent in The Darling 1497

JOHN UPDIKE

A & P 1280

RELATED COMMENTARY John Updike Kafka and The Metamorphosis 1502

ALICE WALKER

Roselily 1286

RELATED COMMENTARY Alice Walker Zora Neale Hurston A Cautionary Tale and a Partisan View 1505

EUDORA WELTY

Why I Live at the PO 1291

A Worn Path 1300
RELATED COMMENTARIES  Eudora Welty  Is Phoenix Jackson's Grandson Really Dead?  1507  Eudora Welty  Plot and Character in Chekhov's The Darling  1510  Eudora Welty  Reality in Chekhov's Stories  1512

EDITH WHARTON

Roman Fever  1308

RELATED COMMENTARY Edith Wharton  Every Subject Must Contain within Itself Its Own Dimensions  1514

JOHN EDGAR WIDEMAN

The Beginning of Homewood  1319

CHRISTA WOLF

Exchanging Glances  1329

TOBIAS WOLFF

Say Yes  1340

VIRGINIA WOOLF

Kew Gardens  1345

RELATED COMMENTARY Katherine Mansfield  Review of Woolf's Kew Gardens  1454

RICHARD WRIGHT

The Man Who Was Almost a Man  1351

RELATED COMMENTARY Richard Wright  Reading Fiction  1516

HISAYE YAMAMOTO

The Eskimo Connection  1361

Part Two  COMMENTARIES

CHINUA ACHEBE

An Image of Africa  Conrad's Heart of Darkness  1373

SHERWOOD ANDERSON

Form Not Plot in the Short Story  1379
MARGARET ATWOOD
   Reading Blind       1381

JAMES BALDWIN
   Autobiographical Notes       1385

ROBERT BONE
   A Folkloric Analysis of Hurston's Spunk and
   The Gilded Six Bits       1389

JORGE LUIS BORGES
   The Labyrinth in The Garden of Forking Paths       1391

PETER BROOKS
   A Narratological Analysis of Borges's
   The Garden of Forking Paths       1393

ITALO CALVINO
   On Quickness in Narrative       1396

WILLA CATHETER
   The Stories of Katherine Mansfield       1398

JOHN CHEEVER
   Why I Write Short Stories       1403

ANTON CHEKHOV
   Technique in Writing the Short Story       1405

KATE CHOPIN
   How I Stumbled upon Maupassant       1407

STEPHEN CRANE
   The Sinking of the Commodore       1408

RALPH ELLISON
   The Influence of Folklore on Battle Royal       1412
RICHARD ELLMANN

_A Biographical Perspective on Joyce's The Dead_ 1414

WILLIAM FAULKNER

_The Meaning of A Rose for Emily_ 1416

MAVIS GALLANT

_What Is Style?_ 1418

SANDRA M GILBERT AND SUSAN GUBAR

_A Feminist Reading of Gilman's The Yellow Wallpaper_ 1420

CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN

_Undergoing the Cure for Nervous Prostration_ 1423

NADINE GORDIMER

_The Flash of Fireflies_ 1425

JANICE H HARRIS

_A Psychosocial Explication of Lawrence's The Rocking Horse Winner_ 1428

ZORA NEALE HURSTON

_What White Publishers Won't Print_ 1430

SHIRLEY JACKSON

_The Morning of June 28 1948 and The Lottery_ 1434

HENRY JAMES

_The Subject of The Beast in the Jungle_ 1437

GUSTAV JANOUCH

_Kafka's View of The Metamorphosis_ 1439

SARAH ORNE JEWETT

_Looking Back on Girlhood_ 1441
Part Three  CASEBOOKS

1 RAYMOND CARVER

RELATED STORIES Cathedral 224  Errand 235
What We Talk About When We Talk About Love 243

RAYMOND CARVER
On Writing 1524
Creative Writing 101 1528
The Ashtray 1531
On Errand 1532

HENRI TROYAT
From Chekhov 1534

TOM JENKS
The Origin of Cathedral 1537

ARTHUR M SALTZMAN
A Reading of What We Talk About When We Talk About Love 1539

2 FLANNERY O CONNOR

RELATED STORIES Everything That Rises Must Converge 1037
Good Country People 1048  A Good Man Is Hard to Find 1063

FLANNERY O CONNOR
From Letters 1954–1955 1542
Writing Short Stories 1544
The Element of Suspense in A Good Man Is Hard to Find 1549
V S PRITCHETT
Flannery O'Connor Satan Comes to Georgia 1552

ROBERT H BRINKMEYER JR
Flannery O'Connor and Her Readers 1554

DOROTHY TUCK McFARLAND
On Good Country People 1559

WAYNE C BOOTH
A Rhetorical Reading of O'Connor's Everything That Rises Must Converge 1563

ANTHONY DI RENZO
A Dialogical Reading of Everything That Rises Must Converge 1567

3 LESLIE MARMON SILKO
RELATED STORIES Lullaby 1138 Storyteller 1145 Yellow Woman 1157

 LESLIE MARMON SILKO
Language and Literature from a Pueblo Indian Perspective 1573

KIM BARNES
An Interview with Leslie Marmon Silko 1578

COCHITI PUEBLO STORY
Sun Steals Yellow Woman 1585

PAULA GUNN ALLEN
Whirlwind Man Steals Yellow Woman 1586

JIM RUPPERT
Storytelling The Fiction of Leslie Silko 1587
Part Four  APPENDICES

1  A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SHORT STORY  1599
2  THE ELEMENTS OF FICTION  1608
3  WRITING ABOUT SHORT STORIES  1621
4  GLOSSARY OF LITERARY TERMS  1645
5  CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF AUTHORS AND STORIES  1655