



THE LITERARY ENCYCLOPEDIA
Exploring literature, history and culture

The Literary Encyclopedia Newsletter

May 2020, Issue 2:1



Announcements from *The Literary Encyclopedia*

Bookshelves

We would like to remind you of the pedagogic benefits of our course-related Bookshelves. *Literary Encyclopedia* Bookshelves function allows you to collate LE articles, timelines, and reference groups in one central location for easy access by your students. Examples of public and institution-specific bookshelves can be found [here](#).

As contributors to the LE, we'd like to help you make the most of this facility. However, we understand that this is a very busy time, and would like to make this process as simple as possible by collating these bookshelf resources for you. With this in mind, if you send your course reading lists to our Assistant Editor, [Dr Jessica Gossling](#), she will be happy to set up the corresponding course bookshelves and then send you the link(s) to distribute to your students or post to your VLE.

Students have found this facility exceptionally useful in assisting their research, so we encourage you to make use of it. We would also be grateful if you could share this email across your department, so that other colleagues are aware of this facility and encouraged to use it."

Free Access

As part of a collective effort of alleviating some of the acute challenges academic institutions face in delivering teaching and research during the COVID-19 outbreak, The Literary Encyclopedia at www.litencyc.com has extended free access until the end of June to all HE and FE institutions across the UK, US, and Europe – but also other regions where universities and colleges have been closed due to the healthcare crisis we are facing.

Our articles are primarily addressed to literature undergraduates and provide the optimal combination of size, content and contextual elements (weblinks, recommended readings, author chronologies, thematic grouping of articles etc.) to offer the perfect tool for revision and end-of-year examinations. Our editorial policies emphasize the expertise of each author commissioned to write articles: these are peer-reviewed by specialist editorial teams and are therefore authoritative and reliable in a way that many free-for-all reference resources such as Wikipedia are not.

All interested institutions should contact our Managing Editor, Dr Cristina Sandru at cristinasandru@litencyc.com, providing the following information:

Total FTE

Remote access URL (in the UK preferably Shibboleth; otherwise Athens or EZproxy). Other ways of connecting remotely (such as setting up unique accounts for smaller institutions, which can be accessed by users simultaneously) are also possible.

Contact person

So far, the following institutions have taken advantage of this offer:

UK& Ireland:

Oxford University
Canterbury Christ Church University
City College of Norwich
Leeds Beckett University
University of Lincoln
University College Dublin
University of Dundee
University of Bristol
Liverpool John Moores University
University of Nottingham
University of Edinburgh
University of Keele
Oxford Brookes University
University of Bath
Chester University
Brunel University London
University of Salford
University of South Wales
University of Wolverhampton
University of Sunderland
University of Southampton
Nottingham Trent University
Maynooth University

Europe:

University of Warsaw
University of Bucharest
University of Genova
University of Turin
J. W. Goethe Frankfurt University
University of Montpellier
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich
Giessen University
Wurzburg University
University of Bologna
Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University, Warsaw
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

World:

University of the Western Cape
AURO University, India

US:

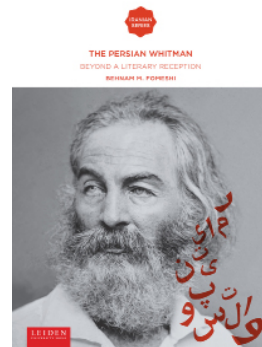
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Clark University
The College of New Jersey
State University of NY, New Paltz
Queen's College, CUNY
Arizona State University
Community College of Rhode Island
CUNY Graduate Center
John Paul the Great Catholic University in Escondido, California
Wichita State University
University of Akron
DePaul University
Rutgers University
Northpark University
George Washington University
University of Texas, Austin

Publications

The Persian Whitman: Beyond a Literary Reception

Behnam M. Fomeshi

Walt Whitman, a world-renowned poet and the father of American free verse, is read by diverse audiences around the world. Literary and cultural scholars have studied Whitman's interaction with and influence in social, political, and literary movements of different countries. Despite his work's continuing presence in Iran, Whitman's reception in this country has remained unexplored, and, particularly due to contemporary political circumstances, Iranian reception of Western literature is a field still under-researched. The Persian Whitman examines Whitman's reception in Iran and explores a new phenomenon born in dialogue between the Persian culture and the American poet. .

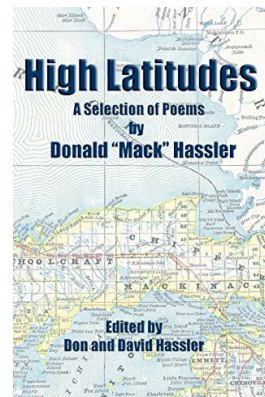


2020 | [Weblink](#)

High Latitudes - A Selection of Poems

Donald M. Hassler

High Latitudes is a selection of poetry written by Donald "Mack" Hassler and collected over a fifty-year period between 1966 and 2016. These poems provide a snapshot of various influences and periods in the author's life, as well as that of his family, as seen through his eyes. The title, High Latitudes, reflects on the theme of the traveler, voyager and explorer, both physically and intellectually through the pursuit of knowledge. The collection was selected and edited by his sons, Don & David Hassler, in honor of their father's 80th birthday, and they hope that the reader shares in the same sense of adventure and exploration when reading these poems that they feel as voyagers in this life.

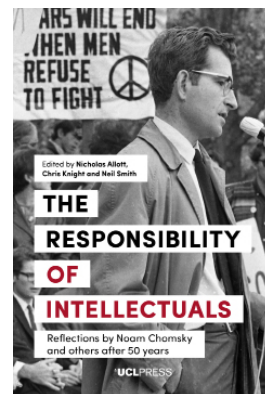


2019 | [Weblink](#)

The Responsibility of Intellectuals – Reflections by Noam Chomsky and others after 50 years

Edited by Nicholas Allott, Chris Knight, and Neil Smith

With the publication of 'The Responsibility of Intellectuals' half a century ago, Noam Chomsky burst onto the US political scene as a leading critic of the war in Vietnam. Privilege, he argues, brings with it the responsibility to tell the truth and expose lies, but our intellectual culture only pays lip-service to this ideal. The essay has been described as 'the single most influential piece of anti-war literature' of the Vietnam War period. Since then, Chomsky has continued to equip a growing international audience with the facts and arguments needed to understand – and change – our world. According to The New York Times, Chomsky 'may be the most widely read American voice on foreign policy on the planet today'.



This book revisits 'The Responsibility of Intellectuals' half a century on. It includes six new essays written to celebrate Chomsky's famous intervention and explore its relevance in today's world. Nicholas Allott, Chris Knight, Milan Rai and Neil Smith have studied and written about Chomsky's

thought for many years, while Craig Murray and Jackie Walker describe the personal price they have paid for speaking out. The book finishes with Chomsky's recollections of the background to the original publication of his essay, followed by extensive commentary from him on its 50th anniversary.

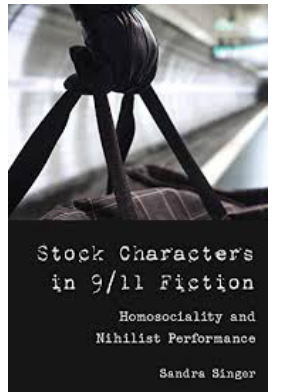
Read the whole book for free at the weblink below.

2019 | [Weblink](#)

Sandra Singer, Stock Characters in 9/11 Fiction: Homosociality and Nihilist Performance

Sandra Singer

Stock Characters in 9/11 Fiction considers fictional work of the time subsequent to the attacks. The book develops and investigates models of stock characters in 9/11 fiction who promote the trauma meme within a narrative arc of tragedy; the conceptual evolution of trauma and media as thematic arcs is interpreted within specific 9/11 novels and in correspondence with other terrorist fiction. The almost exclusively male stock character protagonists include the male homosocial perpetrator and the tightrope walker. Among the more recent authors discussed are Amy Waldman and Thomas Pynchon, whose novels illustrate the way characters inhabit media models, rather than, as previously thought, using media for disseminating terrorist events and messaging. Other featured writers include Bernhard Schlink, Don DeLillo, Claire Messud, Ian McEwan, Joseph O'Neill, and Colum McCann. *Stock Characters in 9/11 Fiction* is a valuable text for scholars of 9/11 fiction, as well as for professors and university students studying contemporary literature.



2019 | [Weblink](#)

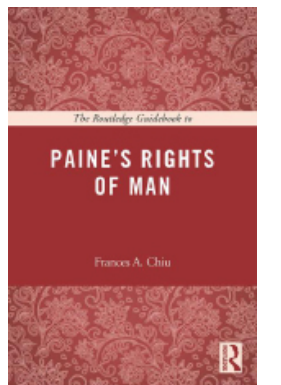
The Routledge Guidebook to Paine's Rights of Man

Frances A. Chiu

Upon publication in 1791-92, the two parts of Thomas Paine's *Rights of Man* proved to be both immensely popular and highly controversial. An immediate bestseller, it not only defended the French revolution but also challenged current laws, customs, and government.

The *Routledge Guidebook to Paine's Rights of Man* provides the first comprehensive and fully contextualized introduction to this foundational text in the history of modern political thought, addressing its central themes, reception, and influence. The Guidebook examines: the history of rights, populism, representative governments, and challenges to monarchy from the 12th through 18th century; Paine's arguments against monarchies, mixed governments, war, and state-church establishments; Paine's views on constitutions; Paine's proposals regarding suffrage, inequality, poverty, and public welfare; Paine's revolution in rhetoric and style; and he critical reception upon publication and influence through the centuries, as well as Paine's relevance today.

The Routledge Guidebook to Paine's Rights of Man is essential reading for students of eighteenth-century American and British history, politics and philosophy, and anyone approaching Paine's work for the first time.



John Banville and His Precursors

Edited by Pietra Palazzolo, Michael Springer, and Stephen Butler

Bringing together leading international scholars, *John Banville and His Precursors* explores Booker and Franz Kafka prize-winning Irish author John Banville's most significant intellectual influences. The book explores how Banville's novels engage deeply with a wide range of sources, from literary figures such as Samuel Beckett, Heinrich von Kleist, Wallace Stevens, Rainer Maria Rilke, and Henry James, to thinkers such as Freud, Heidegger, and Blanchot.

Reading the full range of Banville's writings - from his Booker Prize-winning novel *The Sea* to his latest book, *Mrs Osmond* – *John Banville and His Precursors* reveals the richness of the author's work. In this way, the book also raises questions about the contemporary moment's relationship to a variety of intellectual and cultural traditions - Romanticism, Modernism, existentialism – and how the significance of these can be appreciated in new and often surprising ways.

2019 | [Weblink](#)

Tennyson's Poems: New Textual Parallels

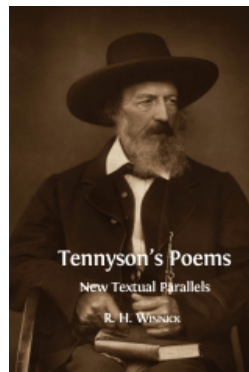
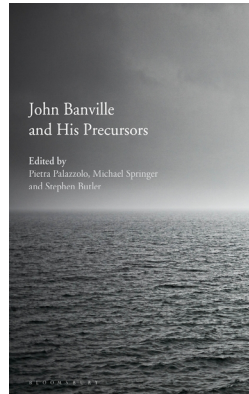
Roy Winnick

In *Tennyson's Poems: New Textual Parallels*, R. H. Winnick identifies more than a thousand previously unknown instances in which Tennyson phrases of two or three to as many as several words are similar or identical to those occurring in prior works by other hands—discoveries aided by the proliferation of digitized texts and the related development of powerful search tools over the three decades since the most recent major edition of Tennyson's poems was published.

Each of these instances may be deemed an allusion (meant to be recognized as such and pointing, for definable purposes, to a particular antecedent text), an echo (conscious or not, deliberate or not, meant to be noticed or not, meaningful or not), or merely accidental. Unless accidental, Winnick writes, these new textual parallels significantly expand our knowledge both of Tennyson's reading and of his thematic intentions and artistic technique. Coupled with the thousand-plus textual parallels previously reported by Christopher Ricks and other scholars, he says, they suggest that a fundamental and lifelong aspect of Tennyson's art was his habit of echoing any work, ancient or modern, which had the potential to enhance the resonance or deepen the meaning of his poems.

Tennyson's Poems: New Textual Parallels is thus a major new resource for Tennyson scholars and students, an indispensable adjunct to the 1987 edition of Tennyson's complete poems edited by Christopher Ricks.

2019 | [Weblink](#)



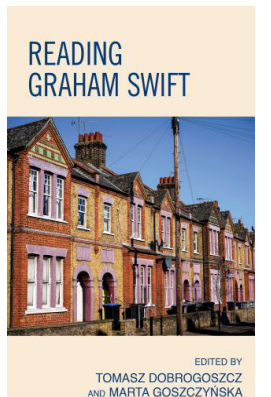
Reading Graham Swift

Edited by Tomasz Dobrogoszcz and Marta Goszczynska

This collection of essays on Graham Swift's fiction brings together the perspectives of renowned Swift scholars from around the world. Authors look at the swift's oeuvre from different interpretative angles, combining a variety of critical and theoretical approaches. This book covers all of Swift's fiction, including his novels and short stories; special emphasis, however, is on his most recent books. By approaching Swift's work from a number of perspectives, the volume offers a synthetic overview of his literary output. In particular, it searches for thematic and formal continuities between his early and more recent fiction, and attempts to emphasize its new developments and interests.

Includes the chapter 'Reticent Detecting: The Evolution of Swift's (Un)Confessing Narrators' by Anastasia Logotheti (Deree College, The American College of Greece).

2019 | [Weblink](#)



Journal Articles

'Joan Slonczewski's *The Highest Frontier*, Preceded by Tentatively Seeded Genre Implications, After Suvin'

Donald M. Hassler

The New York Review of Science Fiction, 351.30.3 (2019): 21-26

“‘Something Foreign In It’: A Study of an Iranian Translation of Whitman's Image’

Behnam M. Fomeshi

Transfer, 14.1-2 (2019): 49-72.

[Weblink](#)

Calls for Papers

Magic: A Companion

Edited by Katharina Rein (Bauhaus-University-Weimar)

For the longest time, magic has been devalued as both a concept of belief and as an artform. Western philosophy conceived of magic in opposition to itself: Aristotle, Heidegger, Nietzsche, Hegel, and Marx considered it as a dangerous deception, standing in the way of understanding. Among the performing arts, magic has been under researched for a long time, associated with children's birthday parties and not deemed worthy of academic attention. Slowly but steadily, however, it has in recent years made its way into the visual field of academics, becoming the topic of a number of research projects. Performance and other magic have also invaded popular culture in the last two decades: Starting with J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* series, magic and magicians appeared increasingly in cultural artefacts from Hollywood blockbusters with star casts, to TV series, literature, games and the arts.

This edited volume aims to explore a variety of concepts of magic, providing a historical overview as well as investigating representations and translations across various media. Topics covered include magic in anthropology, as well as rituals, shamanism, spiritualism, occultism, performance magic, Magick and Pagan Witchcraft. We encounter these magics, if you will, in literature, film and TV, art, (video) games, graphic novels, music, exhibitions and advertising. In what ways does magic influence our perception of reality and subjectivity? How and why can it be and was it construed as opposing reason or have they never been intertwined with one another? How can magic and illusion be understood as producing new ways of viewing the world instead of as something blinding us to reality? How does magic change in modernity or with increasing digitization? In what ways does magic and do its representations broach issues of different bodies, abilities, ethnicities and sexualities?

Each short essay is dedicated to a single cultural artefact that serves to shed light on the larger context of the various guises of magic in past and present cultures. Contributions focusing on non-Western artefacts and minority discourse are very welcome. The range of artefacts, media, topics and questions is by no means limited to the list above. To propose an essay, please send an abstract of no more than 300 words to: magic.a.companion@gmail.com no later than **10 May 2020**.

Urban Assemblage : The City as Architecture, Media, AI and Big Data

Virtual / London / Hatfield, UK

Through digital technology and computation our cities are sites of data. They are also places designed and built through data based architecture, planning and construction. The 'digital city' and 'smart buildings' are not just consequences, they are also ideas for the creative imagination of filmmakers and digital artists who see this new world with awe and dread. Concerns include the amount of data our cities generate for third parties; the dangers of 'digital dependency' for future generations; and the unemployment that could result from digital building construction, to name a few. This conference explores this complex set of interrelated issues.

For more information, visit the [website](#).

Online Education: Teaching in a Time of Change

Virtual / University of Manchester

Recent events across the world of academia have brought into full light the various agendas around online education and research. As universities, schools and colleges closed across the world in 2020, researchers, teachers and students scrambled to adapt to a whole host of new pedagogical tools, communicative techniques, learning methods and teaching styles almost overnight. Some survived, others thrived, while some struggled and ultimately went 'out of business'.

For some disciplines, the transition was seamless, with lectures, tests and projects administered online with little or no change at all. Other disciplines writhed at having to forego the peer-to-peer learning environment of the classroom, the dynamic interaction of the design studio, or the personal contact of the open-ended seminar discussion. Skills-based courses such as model making lost their contact with 'materiality' while the physicality of lab experiments on materials or prototypes was totally lost.

Despite the 'shock of the new' all this represented, the debates around the virtual classroom, the online studio, the remote seminar, and distance education more generally, were far from new. Universities like Purdue in the US and the Open University in the UK had been operating this way for years. Experiments into how to teach design online had been happening for decades across the world, the evolution of remote educational interfaces had been evolving non-stop since the 1980s.

What then, is the "new present" for education in the discipline areas of this conference, and what will the tomorrow hold?

Themes:

This virtual conference welcomes presentations from researchers and teachers on how they operate in the 'online classroom, studio or lab' and how they function 'in the field' using the new technologies available to them.

It welcomes papers on:

Emergency remote responses to the 'online switch' produced by the Coronavirus; techniques for teaching traditionally 'physical' activities like prototyping online; technologies that facilitate real-time discussion on designed objects, buildings and places; the potential shifts in student demographics initiated by online education; how internationalization in the Higher Education sector will be affected by 'place free' universities; how place-focused disciplines such as geography and urban planning can respond to the 'impossibility' of place bound study; how do study tours get replaced by virtual tours in disciplines like art history.... and more.

Formats:

This conference is global in its reach. The issues it deals with cross geographical boundaries. As a virtual conference it has several presentation formats available:

Zoom: for real-time interaction between presenter and audience

Pre-recorded film: for presenters who wish their work to be permanently available

Streaming: for audience members who wish to view all presentations in their own time

Written Papers: for delegates who seek publication

Deadline for submission of proposals: 30 June 2020

[Website](#)

Mi Casa Tu Casa: Netflix' Spain

Edited by Jorge González del Pozo (University of Michigan-Dearborn) & Xosé Pereira Boán (SUNY Oswego)

In the midst of a pandemic, Netflix has become an even more prominent household member. According to IHS Markit Technology, between December 2018 and September 2019, Netflix increased its Spanish-language content by nearly 30,000 hours. Worldwide, as of today April 3rd 2020, many are eagerly anticipating the release of global phenomenon series *La Casa de Papel* 4. Netflix has undoubtedly changed the way we consume visual narratives, ranging from TV shows, and series to documentary and full-length films projected and tailored to global audiences, contributing thus, as a powerful tool for (mis)representation with a massive reach. Moreover, the export of productions aiming for and conquering that global extent, which once pertained exclusively to Hollywood, threatens the film metropolis par excellence. As a hybrid site of enunciation in theory, which, according to its president of Original Series, aims to produce “local stories with a global appeal,” we propose to survey Netflix in Spain as a vernacular case study, within the frame of the so called glocal visual scene, pivoting as we speak.

In this edited volume, we encourage analysis of the contradictions, tensions, contributions and new horizons generated and/or imposed by the online platform within Peninsular cultural creation; particularly, catalyzed by the recent development in progress of the first European production hub in the Community of Madrid (Casa Netflix, Madrid Content City...) —in partnership with other major Spanish powerhouses. We welcome contributions that address Peninsular Netflix (co)productions, exclusive distributions, pick-them-up extended seasons, as well as its business model (catalog configuration, partnerships...). Critical approaches may include but need not be limited to those from film, gender, postcolonial, literary and cultural studies.

Please send a full 500-words abstract along with a 100-200-word scholarly bio to: Netflixspaincfp@gmail.com by **1 June 2020**

Expected chapter length (in English) and deadline:
Min. 6000 — Max. 9000 words by 1 December 2020

Eco-Georgic: From Antiquity to the Anthropocene

Ecozon@ 12.2 Autumn 2021

Guest Editors: Sue Edney (University of Bristol), Philipp Erchinger (University of Duesseldorf) and Pippa Marland (University of Leeds)

Georgic, a genre or mode of writing about agricultural labour and rural life, is typically concerned with ways of being at work in an environment that tends to overtake or resist all human efforts to master it. As David Fairer has argued, georgic nature is always, to some degree, out of tune with our human endeavours to live in agreement with it (2011). It therefore constantly challenges us to adapt to its changing conditions. In *Virgil's Georgics*, for example, human activities of cultivation and construction are repeatedly threatened to be overrun or swept away by the life of the more-than-human world—the world of pests, storms and droughts—in and through which they have to proceed. Georgic work, in short, takes place in a “world in process whose rewards are hard won” (Fairer 2015: 111). Hence the genre's interest in all products of human skill and invention by means of which the earth, not necessarily a comfortable place, can be made to yield its fruits (Beck 2004). Yet, while georgic, from today's perspective, is often quickly dismissed as being deeply implicated in outdated anthropocentric and nationalist ideologies of cultural improvement,

industrialisation, exploitation and colonisation, it also addresses a number of questions about the relations between human and nonhuman spheres that, in our contemporary historical moment, seem urgent and fresh.

Thus, this issue of *Ecozon@*, taking its cue from Fairer's concept of “Eco-Georgic” (2011), proceeds from the assumption that the georgic mode, with its interest in the messy involvement of human and nonhuman action, resonates with current debates in ecocriticism and the environmental humanities. Like much recent work in this field (Abram 1996, Alaimo 2010, Bennett 2010, Moore 2015), georgic literature often presents human culture as a way of working through, rather than being opposed to, nature. The daily work of sustaining, understanding, refining, and transforming human existence, it suggests, is inextricably caught up in, rather than separate from, the evolution of non-human matter and life. Last but not least, the georgic tradition affords a consideration of the changing functions of literature. For georgic has always reflected the use of the pen through the work of the plough, creating analogies between the making of poetry and the cultivation of the land. As a result, it poses questions about the relationship between the arts of writing and farming and, more generally, between literary and non-literary ways of working with the material world.

We invite articles that explore the ecology of georgic literature in all its theoretical and historical implications and shades. Conceptually, we encourage contributors to think of georgic in three ways: as a specific generic tradition that has its roots in Hesiod and Virgil, reaching its heyday in seventeenth and eighteenth-century verse; as a more fluid way of writing that, as “a rhizomatic underpresence” (Goodman 2004: 1), has remained influential throughout the history of literature, informing not only poems, but also fictional prose, essays and travel reports; and, finally, as a mode that is gaining new relevance and vitality as contemporary writers increasingly find themselves “writing to” the multifaceted crisis of the Anthropocene.

Submissions could address, but are not limited to, one of the following topics:

- Re-readings of the georgic tradition in the light of ecological and ecocritical concerns
- Issues, such as human-animal relations or the weather, that are relevant to the georgic tradition
- Farming and literature
- Anthropological and ecological aspects of literary labour or work
- Cultural histories of soil
- Georgic's relation to pastoral and other genres
- Rewilding, wilding, land sharing
- Georgic ontology and epistemology
- Queer and feminist Eco-Georgic
- Georgic and contemporary ecocritical theory
- Anthropocene Georgic

Please direct any queries to the editors Sue Edney (sue.edney@bristol.ac.uk), Philipp Erchinger (Philipp.Erchinger@uni-duesseldorf.de), and Pippa Marland (P.J.Marland@leeds.ac.uk).

Manuscripts of 6000-8000 words may be submitted via the journal platform as early as December 2020 and no later than **15 January 2021**. Authors must comply with the guidelines indicated on the platform.

Other Announcements

The fourth issue of *Volupté: Interdisciplinary Journal of Decadence Studies*, on 'Decadence and Cinema' can be read online and for free on the journal's website. A new issue on decadence and the archive will be released on 20th June 2020.

[Website](#)

The Institute of English Studies would like to draw your attention to the fantastic range of free videos and podcasts that are hosted on its website.

[Website](#)

If you are interested in writing for the Literary Encyclopedia, please email Dr Jessica Gossling (jessicagossling@litencyc.com) with a brief outline of your area(s) of expertise, or with the title of the article that you would like to write, and she will put you in touch with the relevant editor.

Thank you for reading The Literary Encyclopedia Newsletter.

Please send any submission for the September 2020 newsletter to
Jessica Gossling: jessicagossling@litencyc.com