



## Literature and the Environment (Exploring Social Issues through Literature)

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The phrase literature and environment only achieved popularity in recent decades, yet writers dating back to the explorers of the 1500s and later such 19th-century Romanticists as Thoreau have long been addressing environmental issues through literary expression. This volume introduces students and educators to the field by tracing the evolution of environmental writing in the United States. Chapters written by distinguished scholars offer new perspectives on important environmental issues, guiding readers through 11 carefully selected literary works. Each chapter provides brief biographical information on the author, discussions of the work's structural, thematic, and stylistic components, and insights into the historical context that relates the work to relevant environmental issues. Each chapter concludes with information on works cited.

The analyzed works cover a wide spectrum of literature and span nearly 100 years. Included are early writings, such as Mary Austin's 1903 *The Land of Little Rain*, and famous groundbreaking works, such as Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* (1962) and Gary Snyder's *Turtle Island* (1974). Also included are frequently assigned works of special interest to students, such as *The Monkey Wrench Gang* (1975), *The Earthsea Trilogy* (1977), and *Ceremony* (1977). A list of selected further suggested readings completes the volume. Students of literature, as well as educators looking for new ways to present social issues, will find many ideas and much inspiration in this volume.

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