19th Century American List


1823 *Cooper, James Fenimore. *The Pioneers

1824 *Child, Lydia Maria. *Hobomok

1829 *Walker, David. *David Walker’s Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World


1830 *Apess, William. A Son of the Forest


1845 *Douglass, Frederick. Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, “The Heroic Slave,” “What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?”

1845 *Fuller, Margaret. Woman in the Nineteenth Century


1851, 1856, 1866 *Melville, Herman. *Moby-Dick,* "Bartleby, the Scrivener," "Benito Cereno," "Billy Budd," "The Paradise of Bachelors and The Tartarus of Maids," "Battle-Pieces"

1851-2 *Stowe, Harriet Beecher. *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*

1853 *Brown, William Wells. Crotel*

1855, 1865 *Whitman, Walt.* "Song of Myself" "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry" "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed" "O Captain My Captain"

1858 *Jacobs, Harriet. *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*

1861 *Davis, Rebecca Harding. "Life in the Iron Mills."

1867 *DeForest, William. Miss Ravenal’s Conversion from Secession to Loyalty*

1868 *Alcott, Louisa May. Little Women.*


1884 *Clemens, Samuel [Mark Twain]. Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.*

1885 *Howells, William Dean. The Rise of Silas Lapham.*


*Dickinson, Emily. Selected poems (collected in Final Harvest)*

1891 *Wilkins, Mary. A New England Nun and Other Stories*

1896 *Jewett, Sarah Orne. The Country of the Pointed Firs*

1898 *Crane, Stephen. “The Open Boat,” “Maggie: A Girl of The Streets” Poems: “A man said to the Universe” “I saw a man pursuing the horizon” “Do not weep, maiden, for war is kind” “the wayfarer” “a youth in apparel that glittered”

1899 *Norris, Frank. McTeague.*

1900 *Dreiser, Theodore. Sister Carrie.*
Critical Texts

Baym, Nina. Women’s Fiction.


Fiedler, Leslie. Love and Death in the American Novel (1966)

Lawrence, D.H. Studies in Classic American Fiction (1923)

Levine, Lawrence. Highbrow Lowbrow: The Emergence of Cultural Hierarchy in America (1988)

Matthiessen, F. O. American Renaissance.

Packer, Barbara. The Transcendentalists.

Sundquist, Eric. Empire and Slavery in American Literature.

Tennenhouse, Leonard. The Importance of Feeling English.