

Loon Lake El Doctorow

E. L. Doctorow is acclaimed internationally for such novels as *Ragtime*, *Billy Bathgate*, and *The March*. Now here are Doctorow's rich, revelatory essays on the nature of imaginative thought. In *Creationists*, Doctorow considers creativity in its many forms: from the literary (Melville and Mark Twain) to the comic (Harpo Marx) to the cosmic (Genesis and Einstein). As he wrestles with the subjects that have teased and fired his own imagination, Doctorow affirms the idea that "we know by what we create." Just what is Melville doing in *Moby-Dick*? And how did *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* impel Mark Twain to radically rewrite what we know as *Huckleberry Finn*? Can we ever trust what novelists say about their own work? How could Franz Kafka have written a book called *Amerika* without ever leaving Europe? In posing such questions, Doctorow grapples with literary creation not as a critic or as a scholar—but as one working writer frankly contemplating the work of another. It's a perspective that affords him both protean grace and profound insight. Among the essays collected here are Doctorow's musings on the very different Spanish Civil War novels of Ernest Hemingway and André Malraux; a candid assessment of Edgar Allan Poe as our "greatest bad writer"; a bracing analysis of the story of Genesis in which God figures as the most complex and riveting character. Whether he is considering how Harpo Marx opened our eyes to surrealism, the haunting photos with which the late German writer W. G. Sebald illustrated his texts, or the innovations of such literary icons as Heinrich von Kleist, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Sinclair Lewis, Doctorow is unfailingly generous, shrewd, attentive, surprising, and precise. In examining the creative works of different times and disciplines, Doctorow also reveals the source and nature of his own artistry. Rich in aphorism and anecdote, steeped in history and psychology, informed by a lifetime of reading and writing, *Creationists* opens a magnificent window into one of the great creative minds of our time.

In 1899 Henry Oades discovers he has two wives – and many dilemmas...

From a master of modern American letters comes an enthralling collection of brilliant short fiction about people who, as E. L. Doctorow notes in his Preface, are somehow "distinct from their surroundings—people in some sort of contest with the prevailing world." Containing six unforgettable stories that have never appeared in book form, and a selection of previous classics, *All the Time in the World* is resonant with the mystery, tension, and moral investigation that distinguish the fiction of E. L. Doctorow.

A superb collection of fifteen stories—including "Wakefield," the inspiration for the film starring Bryan Cranston—by the author of *Ragtime*, *The March*, *The Book of Daniel*, and *Billy Bathgate*. He has been called "a national treasure" by George Saunders. Doctorow's great topic, said Don DeLillo, is "the reach of American possibility, in which plain lives take on the cadences of history." This power is apparent everywhere in these stories: the bravery and self-delusion of people seeking the American dream; the geniuses, mystics, and charlatans who offer people false hope, or an actual glimpse of greatness. In "A House on the Plains," a mother has a plan for financial independence, which may include murder. In "Walter John Harmon," a man starts a cult using subterfuge and seduction. "Jolene: A Life" follows a teenager who escapes her home for Hollywood on a perilous quest for success. "Heist," the account of an Episcopal priest coping with a crisis of faith, was expanded into the bestseller *City of God*. "The Water Works," about the underbelly of 1870s New York, grew into a brilliant novel. "Liner Notes: The Songs of Billy Bathgate" is a corollary to the renowned novel and includes Doctorow's revisions. These fifteen stories, written from the 1960s to the early twenty-first century, and selected, revised, and placed in order by the author himself shortly before he died in 2015, are a testament to the genius of E. L. Doctorow. Praise for Doctorow: *Collected Stories* "Here, without the framework of historical context that defines his best-known novels, we discover a Doctorow equally adept at plumbing the contemporary American psyche and are reminded of

literature's loss following his death."—O: The Oprah Magazine "These tales—sketches, really, wide-ranging in time, place and circumstances—are penned by a modern master. . . . What makes Doctorow's historical novels brilliant is their engaging prose, smart writerly style, unconventional narratives and inventive and entertaining plots. Same for these dog-eared, pre-owned stories."—USA Today Praise for E. L. Doctorow "He has rewarded us, these forty-five years, with a vision of ourselves, as a people, a vision possessed of what I might call 'aspirational verve'—he sees us clearly and tenderly, just as we are, but also sees past that—to what we might, at our best, become."—George Saunders "Doctorow did not so much write fiction about history as he seemed to occupy history itself. He owned it. He made it his own."—Ta-Nehisi Coates "On every level, [Doctorow's] work is powerful. . . . His sensitivity to language is perfectly balanced, and complemented by a gigantic vision."—Jennifer Egan "[He wrote] with such stunning audacity that I can still remember my parents' awed dinner-table conversation, that summer, about a novel they were reading, called Ragtime, that went up to the overgrown wall enclosing the garden of fiction and opened the doorway to history."—Michael Chabon "Doctorow's prose tends to create its own landscape, and to become a force that works in opposition to the power of social reality."—Don DeLillo "A writer of dazzling gifts and boundless imaginative energy."—Joyce Carol Oates

'I was living in even greater circles of gangsterdom than I had dreamed, latitudes and longitudes of gangsterdom' It's 1930's New York and fifteen-year-old streetkid Billy, who can juggle, somersault and run like the wind, has been taken under the wing of notorious gangster Dutch Schultz. As Billy learns the ways of the mob, he becomes like a son to Schultz - his 'good-luck kid' - and is initiated into a world of glamour, death and danger that will consume him, in this vivid, soaring epic of crime and betrayal.

WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD WINNER OF THE PEN/FAULKNER AWARD NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER In 1864, Union general William Tecumseh Sherman marched his sixty thousand troops through Georgia to the sea, and then up into the Carolinas. The army fought off Confederate forces, demolished cities, and accumulated a borne-along population of freed blacks and white refugees until all that remained was the dangerous transient life of the dispossessed and the triumphant. In E. L. Doctorow's hands the great march becomes a floating world, a nomadic consciousness, and an unforgettable reading experience with awesome relevance to our own times.

The long-unavailable work by one of America's most eminent writers. *Drinks Before Dinner*, called "witty and provocative" by the New York Times, is E.L. Doctorow's only play. A tour-de-force of language and ideas concerning the individual's role in and response to contemporary America, *Drinks Before Dinner* revolves around a dinner party for the economically privileged. As Doctorow writes in his introduction, "[This play] deals in general statements about the most common circumstances of our lives, the numbers of us, the cars we drive, the television we watch, the cities we live in, our contraception and our armaments, and our underlying sense of the apocalypse. . . ."

In the late 1930s, a young man who has been turned out of his home discovers his destiny on the vast Adirondack estate of one of the nation's wealthiest men, where several extraordinary men and women contribute to his education. Reader's Guide included. Reprint. 10,000 first printing.

New York magazine was born in 1968 after a run as an insert of the New York Herald Tribune and quickly made a place for itself as the trusted resource for readers across the country. With award-winning writing and photography covering everything from politics and food to theater and fashion, the magazine's consistent mission has been to reflect back to its audience the energy and excitement of the city itself, while celebrating New York as both a place and an idea.

Filled with philosophical musings and personal observations, this fiction writerÆs take on the universe combines memoir with science to explore the American consciousness and experience. (Literature)

Here is E. L. DoctorowÆs debut novel, a searing allegory of frontier life that sets the stage for his subsequent classics. *Hard Times* is the name of a town in the barren hills of the Dakota Territory. To this town there comes one day one of the reckless sociopaths who wander the West to kill and rape and pillage. By the time he is through and has ridden off, *Hard Times* is a smoking ruin. The de facto mayor, Blue, takes in two survivors of the carnage—a boy, Jimmy, and a prostitute, Molly, who has suffered unspeakably—and makes them his provisional family. Blue begins to rebuild *Hard Times*, welcoming new settlers, while Molly waits with vengeance in her heart for the return of the outlaw. Praise for *Welcome to Hard Times* “A forceful, credible story of cowardice and evil.”—*The Washington Post* “We are caught up with these people as real human beings.”—*Chicago Sun-Times* “Dramatic and exciting.”—*The New York Times* “Terse and powerful.”—*Newsweek* “A taut, bloodthirsty read.”—*The Times Literary Supplement* “A superb piece of fiction.”—*The New Republic*

FBI agents pay a surprise visit to a Communist man and his wife in their New York apartment, and after a trial that divides the country, the couple are sent to the electric chair for treason. Decades later, in 1967, their son Daniel struggles to understand the tragedy of their lives. But while he is tormented by his past and trying to appreciate his own wife and son, Daniel is also haunted, like millions of others, by the need to come to terms with a country destroying itself in the Vietnam War. A stunning fictionalization of a political drama that tore the United States apart, *The Book of Daniel* is an intensely moving tale of political martyrdom and the search for meaning.

This brilliant new novel by an American master, the author of *Ragtime*, *The Book of Daniel*, *Billy Bathgate*, and *The March*, takes us on a radical trip into the mind of a man who, more than once in his life, has been an inadvertent agent of disaster. Speaking from an unknown place and to an unknown interlocutor, Andrew is thinking, Andrew is talking, Andrew is telling the story of his life, his loves, and the tragedies that have led him to this place and point in time. And as he confesses, peeling back the layers of his strange story, we are led to question what we know about truth and memory, brain and mind, personality and fate, about one another and ourselves. Written with psychological depth and great lyrical precision, this suspenseful and groundbreaking novel delivers a voice for our times—funny, probing, skeptical, mischievous, profound.

In een oud vervallen Engels landhuis, groeit na de oorlog het dochtertje van de huishoudster op, temidden van de bewoners.

Through a close-reading of the work of five prominent American postmodernist writers, this book re-evaluates the role of the past in recent American fiction, outlines the development of the postmodernist historical novel and considers the waning influence of postmodernism in contemporary American literature.

First published in 1925, 'Arrowsmith' is a novel by American author Sinclair Lewis. It is arguably the earliest major novel to deal with the culture of science. It was written in the period after the reforms of medical education flowing from the Flexner Report on Medical Education in the United States and Canada: A Report to the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 1910, which had called on medical schools in the United States to adhere to mainstream science in their teaching and

research.

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An assortment of short fiction ranges across America, from Alaska to the District of Columbia, as it explores the complexities of modern life in such stories as "Jolene: a Life," "A House on the Plains," "Baby Wilson," and "Walter John Harmon."

Presents a collection of stories selected from magazines in the United States and Canada

"An elegant page-turner of nineteenth-century detective fiction." –The Washington Post

Book World One rainy morning in 1871 in lower Manhattan, Martin Pemberton a freelance writer, sees in a passing stagecoach several elderly men, one of whom he recognizes as his supposedly dead and buried father. While trying to unravel the mystery, Pemberton disappears, sending McIlvaine, his employer, the editor of an evening paper, in pursuit of the truth behind his freelancer's fate. Layer by layer, McIlvaine reveals a modern metropolis surging with primordial urges and sins, where the Tweed Ring operates the city for its own profit and a conspicuously self-satisfied nouveau-riche ignores the poverty and squalor that surrounds them. In E. L.

Doctorow's skilled hands, *The Waterworks* becomes, in the words of *The New York Times*, "a dark moral tale . . . an eloquently troubling evocation of our past." "Startling and spellbinding . . . The waters that lave the narrative all run to the great confluence, where the deepest issues of life and death are borne along on the swift, sure vessel of [Doctorow's] poetic imagination." –*The New York Times Book Review* "Hypnotic . . . a dazzling romp, an extraordinary read, given strength and grace by the telling, by the poetic voice and controlled cynical lyricism of its streetwise and world-weary narrator."

–*The Philadelphia Inquirer* "A gem of a novel, intimate as chamber music . . . a thriller guaranteed to leave readers with residual chills and shudders." –*Boston Sunday Herald*

"Enthralling . . . a story of debauchery and redemption that is spellbinding from first page to last." –*Chicago Sun-Times* "An immense, extraordinary achievement." –*San Francisco Chronicle*

Kenneth Toomey is an eminent novelist of dubious talent; Don Carlo Campanati is a man of God, a shrewd manipulator who rises through the Vatican to become the architect of church revolution and a candidate for sainthood. These two men are linked not only by family ties but by a common understanding of mankind's frailties. In this epic masterpiece, Anthony Burgess plumbs the depths of the essence of power and the lengths men will go for it.

An introspective narrative of the activities, attitudes, and concerns of a writer in his fiftieth year is accompanied by stories that address the same artistic and personal preoccupations

From the author of the *New York Times* bestselling novels *The Handmaid's Tale*—now an Emmy Award-winning Hulu original series—and *Alias Grace*, now a Netflix original series. Imprisoned by walls of their own construction, here are three people, each in midlife, in midcrisis, forced to make choices--after the rules have changed. Elizabeth, with her controlled sensuality, her suppressed rage, is married to the wrong man. She has just lost her latest lover to suicide. Nate, her gentle, indecisive husband, is planning to leave her for Lesje, a perennial innocent who prefers dinosaurs to men. Hanging over them all is the ghost of

Elizabeth's dead lover...and the dizzying threat of three lives careening inevitably toward the same climax.

Selected by the Modern Library as one of the 100 best novels of all time
Published in 1975, *Ragtime* changed our very concept of what a novel could be. An extraordinary tapestry, *Ragtime* captures the spirit of America in the era between the turn of the century and the First World War. The story opens in 1906 in New Rochelle, New York, at the home of an affluent American family. One lazy Sunday afternoon, the famous escape artist Harry Houdini swerves his car into a telephone pole outside their house. And almost magically, the line between fantasy and historical fact, between real and imaginary characters, disappears. Henry Ford, Emma Goldman, J. P. Morgan, Evelyn Nesbit, Sigmund Freud, and Emiliano Zapata slip in and out of the tale, crossing paths with Doctorow's imagined family and other fictional characters, including an immigrant peddler and a ragtime musician from Harlem whose insistence on a point of justice drives him to revolutionary violence.

"Text accompanies photographs of posters for the missing put up around New York City following 9/11. It is a personal reflection on the people of the city and the special bond that gives them strength."--BOOK JACKET.
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Describes Doctorow's work in terms of the author's intentions, inventions, politics, creation of voice, taste for melodrama, & character types.

E. L. Doctorow is one of America's most accomplished and acclaimed living writers. Winner of the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award (twice), the PEN/Faulkner Award, and the National Humanities Medal, he is the author of nine novels that have explored the drama of American life from the late nineteenth century to the present. Doctorow has also played an active role in transforming his novels into films, writing screenplay adaptations of three of his works -- *The Book of Daniel*, *Ragtime*, and *Loon Lake*. Published here for the first time, his scripts reveal a new aspect of this writer's remarkable talents and offer film students and other cineastes unique insight into the complex relationship of literature and motion pictures. Each of these screenplays has undergone a different fate. Doctorow's script for *Daniel* was made into a feature film by director Sidney Lumet in 1983. The monumental *Ragtime* screenplay he wrote for director Robert Altman was to have been filmed as either a six-hour feature film or a ten-hour television series. When Altman was replaced on the project by Milos Forman, a shorter, more conventional script was commissioned from another writer. In 1981, Doctorow adapted *Loon Lake*, but this challenging work has yet to be filmed. For this book, Doctorow has revised his dazzling *Ragtime* screenplay, making clear how different the film might have been, and has written a preface about the art of screenwriting. In addition, editor Paul Levine provides a general introduction to Doctorow's fiction and specific introductions to each screenplay; interviews Lumet about making *Daniel*; and talks with Doctorow about his abiding interest in the art and craft of cinema.

Winner of the National Book Award • “Marvelous . . . You get lost in World’s Fair as if it were an exotic adventure. You devour it with the avidity usually provoked by a suspense thriller.”—The New York Times Hailed by critics from coast to coast and by readers of all ages, this resonant novel is one of E.L. Doctorow’s greatest works of fiction. It is 1939, and even as the rumbles of progress are being felt worldwide, New York City clings to remnants of the past, with horse-drawn wagons, street peddlers, and hurdy-gurdy men still toiling in its streets. For nine-year-old Edgar Altschuler, life is stoopball and radio serials, idolizing Joe DiMaggio, and enduring the conflicts between his realist mother and his dreamer of a father. The forthcoming World’s Fair beckons, an amazing vision of American automation, inventiveness, and prosperity—and Edgar Altschuler responds. A marvelous work from a master storyteller, World’s Fair is a book about a boy who must surrender his innocence to come of age, and a generation that must survive great hardship to reach its future. Praise for World’s Fair “Something close to magic.”—Los Angeles Times “World’s Fair is better than a time capsule; it’s an actual slice of a long-ago world, and we emerge from it as dazed as those visitors standing on the corner of the future.”—Anne Tyler “Doctorow has managed to regain the awed perspective of a child in this novel of rare warmth and intimacy. . . . Stony indeed in the heart that cannot be moved by this book.”—People “Fascinating . . . exquisitely rendered details of a lost way of life.”—Newsweek “Wonderful reading.”—USA Today

Inleiding tot het werk van de Amerikaanse schrijver (1931-)

Doctorow's novels imagine the great moments of American history - the Old West, the Depression - as backdrops for tales of moral pain and injustice. In these interviews, Doctorow explores the themes of his work.

Forty-eight reviews and nine essays trace the critical reputation of E.L. Doctorow's literary works.

Brilliant brothers Langley and Homer Collyer are born into bourgeois New York comfort in settled times, their home a fin-de-siècle mansion on upper Fifth Avenue, their future rosy. But before he is out of his teens Homer begins to lose his sight, Langley returns from the War in Europe with his lungs seared by gas, and when the death of their parents in the influenza epidemic of 1918 leaves the brothers orphaned, they seem perilously ill-equipped to deal with the new era. Around Central Park carriages give way to motor cars, Prohibition to free love, but Homer and Langley adapt: their townhouse fills and empties and fills again, with servants, lodgers, tea-dancers and gangsters. They are mocked and spied on, embraced by hippies and besieged by bailiffs, but as the world turns ever more incomprehensible Homer and Langley hold fast to their principles of self-reliance, courage, kindness and love, and they endure.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER With brilliant and audacious strokes, E. L. Doctorow creates a breathtaking collage of memories, events, visions, and provocative thought, all centered on an idea of the modern reality of God. At the heart of this stylistically daring tour de force is a detective story about a cross that vanishes from a rundown Episcopal church in lower Manhattan only to reappear on the roof of an Upper West Side synagogue. Intrigued by the mystery—and by the maverick rector and the young rabbi investigating the strange act of desecration—is a well-known novelist, whose capacious brain is a virtual repository for the ideas and disasters of the age. Daringly poised at the junction of the sacred and the profane, filled with the sights and sounds of New York, and encompassing a large cast of vividly drawn

characters including theologians, scientists, Holocaust survivors, and war veterans, *City of God* is a monumental work of spiritual reflection, philosophy, and history by America's preeminent novelist and chronicler of our time. Praise for *City of God* "A grander perspective on the universe . . . a novel that sets its sights on God."—*The Wall Street Journal* "Dazzling . . . The true miracle of *City of God* is the way its disparate parts fuse into a consistently enthralling and suspenseful whole."—*Time* "Blooms with humor, and a humanity that carries triumphant as intelligent a novel as one might hope to find these days."—*Los Angeles Times* "Radiates [with] panoramic ambition and spiritual incandescence."—*Chicago Tribune* "One of the greatest American novels of the past fifty years . . . Reading *City of God* restores one's faith in literature."—*The Houston Chronicle*

Featuring critical and biographical portraits of notable figures of the American Civil War, *Patriotic Gore* remains one of Edmund Wilson's greatest achievements. Considered one of the 100 Best Nonfiction books by The Modern Library. Figures discussed include Harriet Beecher Stowe, Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, William Tecumseh Sherman, and Oliver Wendell Holmes, among many others.

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