

“Twentieth Century and Contemporary American Literature in Context”

I am seeking contributors for a reference work, “Twentieth Century and Contemporary American Literature in Context,” to be published by ABC-CLIO in 2018. Written for students and general readers alike, the work will include entries on significant authors, works, and literary movements from L. Frank Baum's “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz” (1900) to Toni Morrison's “Beloved” (1987)--and beyond. While the encyclopedia will include entries on all the obvious “canonical” writers throughout American literary history, it will also give particular attention to multi-ethnic and women writers who have been hitherto unjustly neglected. Offering more than simple plot summaries and capsule biographies, the essays will provide cogent critical analysis, with a special emphasis on situating the authors and their works within their broader historical, political, and social contexts and serve as valuable resources for high school and undergraduate students as well as teachers interested in the full range of modern American literature.

Anyone interested in contributing the volume should send an email of introduction, including interests and qualifications, to Linda De Roche at linda.deroche@wesley.edu. Entries must be submitted by January 1, 2017.