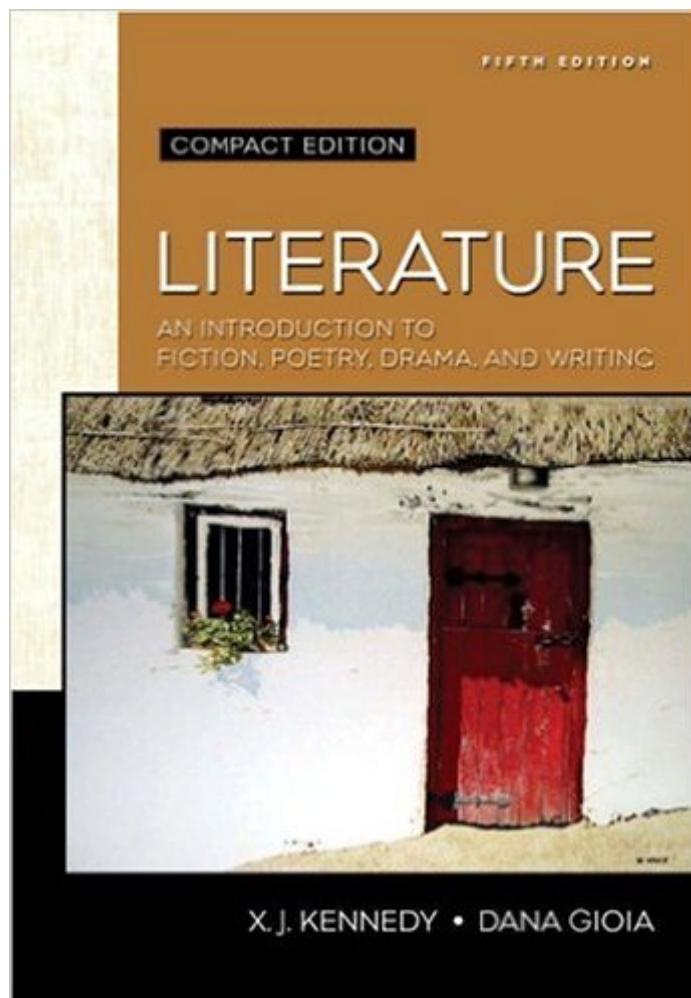


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# Literature: An Introduction To Fiction, Poetry, Drama, And Writing, Compact Edition (5th Edition)



## **Synopsis**

The concise version of the discipline's most popular introductory anthology, Kennedy/Gioia's Literature, Compact Edition continues to inspire students with engaging insights on reading and writing about stories, poems, and plays. Poets in their own right, editors X.J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia bring personal warmth and a human perspective to this compact, paperback anthology. Organized into three genres—Literature, Compact Edition presents readable discussions of the literary devices, illustrated by apt works, supported by useful writing tips, and followed by (now) six full chapters devoted to writing. A broad scope of traditional and contemporary works is provided, most headed by author images and richly detailed biographical notes and some followed by author commentary. While maintaining the characteristics of its previous editions' "accessible apparatus, expansive author representation" this Compact, Fifth Edition has been re-imagined to include new casebooks, a lively new design, and more writing coverage than ever before.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The first review of this textbook is extremely misleading. This is THE most popular textbook in the country for Introduction to Literature courses. While the Norton is certainly popular too, it is not the "standard." Furthermore, the literature examples in the book are copious, varied and extremely well chosen. All periods and types of the genres are represented, and the headnotes are generous and well-written. The emphasis on writing is quite welcome, since in most Introduction to Literature

courses the ultimate goal is for students to be able to write mature critical essays about what they're reading. The previous reviewer reveals his or her bias with the sneer about the book seeming to come from a "bygone era." By that I think the reviewer means that the book does not particularly emphasize late 20th century and 21st century authors and theoretical approaches. It does not ignore them, but it also doesn't emphasize them. I think the reason for that is that the book is an INTRODUCTION--not all first-year college students have the background to cope with the extremely abstract. Many of them have never before seriously read a poem. That's a sad comment on American high schools, but there it is. For most college Intro to Lit classes, this book is the best choice.

This book is quite amazing, there is so much jam packed in this book that it could be used for many years and many levels of English / Literature for many different types of people with their own individual styles. The pages are like bible paper... thin, and so much knowledge contained within. It is going to be an adventure getting through this whole book, even if we don't get through the whole thing in my class. I will not return this book, it is a great resource from beginning to end, from beginner to expert.

The literature included is great and the commentary/notes whatever is very helpful. Also the introduction to stories/authors is very helpful when one needs to analyze the literature. Down side is the pages are tracing paper thin and tear easily, also it bends really easily while being carried in backpack.

If you are an instructor interested in using this for your class, it is pretty good, though a bit on the conservative side. If you are a general reader or a student, you may very well like it, but the Norton series of anthologies are the standards. No anthology can do it all, but this one includes good critical sections on genres and basic approaches, as well as a little of everything: English, American, Minority, and World lit. It has pretty strong African American selections and a decent slice of classics. It has a handfull of selections from Latino writers. My main complaint is that it's pretty weak on Asian American writers and Native American writers. While it has a few of them, they tend to be pretty marginal. It works well for a class that functions as both composition and intro to lit. Unfortunately, some of the choices seem to come from a bygone era.

This book has a good cross-selection of classic and contemporary works. Some are traditional

school literature, and some are less common but make for a nice variety of styles.

item arrived in good condition the short stories are a good read the skills and exercises also do a good job to help one out.

i think this book is great. those 1 stars with the book having to be cut is probably a bad batch. the book is very useful

I needed this book for class, and it has been exactly what was needed for the class. Informative and easy to understand.

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