



Faulkner and the Ecology of the South (Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha)

From University Press of Mississippi

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In 1952, Faulkner noted the exceptional nature of the South when he characterized it as "the only really authentic region in the United States, because a deep indestructible bond still exists between man and his environment."

The essays collected in *Faulkner and the Ecology of the South* explore Faulkner's environmental imagination, seeking what Ann Fisher-Wirth calls the "ecological counter-melody" of his texts. "Ecology" was not a term in common use outside the sciences in Faulkner's time. However, the word "environment" seems to have held deep meaning for Faulkner. Often he repeated his abiding interest in "man in conflict with himself, with his fellow man, or with his time and place, his environment."

Eco-criticism has led to a renewed interest among literary scholars for what in this volume Cecelia Tichi calls, "humanness within congeries of habitats and environments." Philip Weinstein draws on Pierre Bourdieu's notion of habitus. Eric Anderson argues that Faulkner's fiction has much to do with ecology in the sense that his work often examines the ways in which human communities interact with the natural world, and François Pitavy sees Faulkner's wilderness as unnatural in the ways it represents reflections of man's longings and frustrations. Throughout these essays, scholars illuminate in fresh ways the precarious ecosystem of Yoknapatawpha County.

Joseph R. Urgo, Oxford, Mississippi, is chair of the English department at the University of Mississippi. His books include *Faulkner's Apocrypha*, *Novel Frames: Literature as Guide to Race, Sex, and History in American Culture*, and *In the Age of Distraction*, all published by University Press of Mississippi. Ann J. Abadie, Oxford, is associate director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi. She has coedited *Faulkner and His Contemporaries*, *Faulkner and War*, *Faulkner and Postmodernism*, and *Faulkner at 100: Retrospect and Prospect*, among other Faulkner volumes, all published by University Press of Mississippi.

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Editorial Review

From the Publisher

---Features essays on Nobel Laureate William Faulkner's use of ecological and environmental concerns in his fiction

---Includes essays by such prominent scholars as Philip Weinstein and Cecelia Tichi

---Includes contributions from Eric Gary Anderson (George Mason University), Seth Berner (independent; Portland, Maine), Jeanne de la Houssaye (independent; New Orleans), Ann Fisher-Wirth (University of Mississippi), Thomas L. McHaney (Georgia State University), François Pitavy (University of Burgundy), Scott Slovic (University of Nevada–Reno), Cecelia Tichi (Vanderbilt University), Joseph Urgo (University of Mississippi) Michael Wainwright (University of London), and Philip Weinstein (independent)

From the Inside Flap

Essays that explore Faulkner's relationship to land, people, and the environment

About the Author

Joseph Urgo is dean of the faculty at Hamilton College. His books include *Faulkner's Apocrypha; Novel Frames: Literature as Guide to Race, Sex, and History in American Culture*, and *In the Age of Distraction*, all published by University Press of Mississippi. **Ann J. Abadie** is associate director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi. She has coedited *Faulkner and His Contemporaries*, *Faulkner and War*, *Faulkner and Postmodernism*, and *Faulkner at 100: Retrospect and Prospect*, among other Faulkner volumes, all published by the University Press of Mississippi.

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Ardith Bobo:

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