of the dispossessed derek walcott's omeros

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Epic of the Dispossessed - Robert D. Hamner - 1997
Hamner describes Omeros as an epic of the dispossessed because each of its protagonists is a castaway in one sense or another. Regardless of whether their ancestry is traced to the classical Mediterranean, Europe, Africa, or confined to the Americas, they are transplanted individuals whose separate quests all center on the fundamental human need to strike roots in a place where one belongs.

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Every great civilisation from the Bronze Age to the present day has produced epic poems. Epic poetry has always had a profound influence on other literary genres, including its own parody in the form of mock-epic. This Companion surveys over four thousand years of epic poetry from the Babylonian Epic of Gilgamesh to Derek Walcott's postcolonial Omeros. The list of epic poets analysed here includes some of the greatest writers in literary history in Europe and beyond: Homer, Virgil, Dante, Camões, Spenser, Milton, Wordsworth, Keats and Pound, among others. Each essay, by an expert in the field, pays close attention to the way these writers have intimately influenced one another to form a distinctive and cross-cultural literary tradition. Unique in its coverage of the vast scope of that tradition, this book is an essential companion for students of literature of all kinds and in all ages.

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Ambition and Anxiety - Line Henriksen - 2006-01
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Nobody's Nation - Paul Breslin - 2009-02-15
Nobody's Nation offers an illuminating look at the St. Lucian, Nobel-Prize-winning writer, Derek Walcott, and grounds his work firmly in the context of West Indian history. Paul Breslin argues that Walcott's poems and plays are bound up with an effort to re-imagine West Indian society since its emergence from colonial rule, its ill-fated attempt at political unity, and its subsequent dispersal into tiny nation-states. According to Breslin, Walcott's work is centrally concerned with the West Indies' imputed absence from history and lack of cohesive national identity or cultural tradition. Walcott sees this lack not as impoverishment but as an open space for creation. In his poems and plays, West Indian history becomes a realm of necessity, something to be confronted, contested, and remade through literature. What is most vexed and inspired in Walcott's work can be traced to this quixotic struggle. Linking extensive archival research and new interviews with Walcott himself to detailed critical readings of major works, Nobody's Nation will take its place as the definitive study of the poet.

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The recipient of the Nobel Prize for literature in 1992, Walcott is one of the most important postcolonial poets of the 20th century. His poetry delves into the dynamics of Caribbean marginalization and seeks to safeguard the paradigmatic characteristic of his island home. Several major studies have examined themes in his poetry but the images of communication in his poems have not been explored. This book examines Walcott's poetry expressions that the poet brings into play in order to demonstrate the relevance of the Caribbean in the contemporary world—firstly through a study of communication imagery, and secondly through an examination of the conclusions he reaches through these means. The quantitative chart demonstrates that Walcott is especially reliant upon images of communication from the 1980s. Extensive textual analysis indicates that the place and contextual meaning of communication imagery, for example, page mirrors the historical plight of the Caribbean region; likewise, line expresses an identity deficit. Finally, this book validates that Walcott's extensive use of communication imagery in his poetry contributes to a fluid notion of self that embraces multiculturalism while maintaining the imaginary intact.

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Symbolism 16 - Rüdiger Ahrens - 2016-10-10
Essays in this special focus constitute around the diverse symbolic forms in which Caribbean consciousness has manifested itself transhistorically, shaping identities within and without structures of colonialism and postcolonialism. Offering interdisciplinary critical, analytical and theoretical approaches to the objects of study, the book explores a wider range of environments in which the symbolic is played out, offering a new understanding of the iconicity of the objects of study.

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The Crowning of a Poet's Quest - Paola Loroeto - 2009
This first extended study of Derek Walcott's Tiepolo's Hound (2000) defines the book as the culmination of the poet's literary career. The recipient of the Nobel Prize for literature in 1992, Walcott is one of the most important postcolonial poets of the 20th century. His poetry delves into the dynamics of Caribbean marginalization and seeks to safeguard the paradigmatic characteristic of his island home. Several major studies have examined themes in his poetry but the images of communication in his poems have not been explored. This book examines Walcott's poetry expressions that the poet brings into play in order to demonstrate the relevance of the Caribbean in the contemporary world—firstly through a study of communication imagery, and secondly through an examination of the conclusions he reaches through these means. The quantitative chart demonstrates that Walcott is especially reliant upon images of communication from the 1980s. Extensive textual analysis indicates that the place and contextual meaning of communication imagery, for example, page mirrors the historical plight of the Caribbean region; likewise, line expresses an identity deficit. Finally, this book validates that Walcott's extensive use of communication imagery in his poetry contributes to a fluid notion of self that embraces multiculturalism while maintaining the imaginary intact.

Traversing Transnationalism - Pier Paolo Frassinelli - 2011
This recent dramatic expansion of the field of transnational studies has reshaped discourses across the humanities and social sciences and created the opportunity for extensive multi-regional exchanges. Traversing Transnationalism by offering essays from scholars working both within and outside the metropolitan OC centreOCO, and by reorientating the axis of research towards geopolitical and cultural formations located beyond the normal sites of production of globalization discourse. This interdisciplinary collection has a broad scope: it engages directly with a variety of literary and non-literary texts, diverse socio-cultural configurations, and the politics, theorization and aesthetics of transnationalism. It is of interest to both readers interested in how transnational discourses have been articulated in specific contexts and circumstances, and readers looking for an intervention into debates on transnationalism that draws attention to its complex, plural character."

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Critical and contextual coverage of the full range of English-language poetry in the last century.

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In the twentieth century more people spoke English and more people wrote poetry than in the whole of previous history, and this Companion strives to make sense of this crowded poetic era. The original contributions by leading international scholars and practising poets were written as the contributors adjusted to the idea that the possibilities of twentieth-century poetry were exhausted and finite. However, the volume also looks forward to the poetry and readings that the new century will bring. The Companion embraces the extraordinary development of poetry over the century in twenty English-speaking countries; a century which began with a bipolar transatlantic connection in modernism and ended with the decentred heterogeneity of post-colonialism. Representation of the 'canonical' and the 'marginal' is therefore balanced, including the full integration of women poets and feminist approaches and the in-depth treatment of post-colonial poets from various national traditions. Discussion of context, intertextualities and formal approaches illustrates the increasing self-consciousness and self-reflexivity of the period, whilst a 'Readings' section offers new readings of key selected texts. The volume as a whole offers critical and contextual coverage of the full range of English-language poetry in the last century.

The Underworld in Twentieth-Century Poetry - M. Thurston - 2009-12-21
The hero's descent into the Underworld is not only one of the oldest stories in western literature; it is also one of the most often retold. Why do so many modern poets - British and American, black and white, male and female, from the metropole and from the margins - stage Underworld descents in their works? Through a series of contextualized close readings, this study traces the cultural work performed by modern deployments of the classical narrative. While some poets engage their literary forebears to exorcise anxiety and others use Hell to sharpen their cultural critique, most recent poets, including James Merrill, Derek Walcott, Tony Harrison, and Seamus Heaney, have found the Underworld descent to be a useful framework for addressing the claims of history and politics.

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The Postcolonial Epic - Sneharika Roy - 2018-01-12
This book demonstrates the epic genre's enduring relevance to the Global South. It identifies a contemporary avatar of classical epic, the 'postcolonial epic', ushered in by Herman Melville's Moby Dick, a foundational text of North America, and exemplified by Derek Walcott's Caribbean masterpiece Omeros and Amitav Ghosh's South Asian saga, the Ibis trilogy. The work focuses on the epic genre's rich potential to articulate postimperial concerns with nation and migration across the Global North/South divide. It foregrounds postcolonial developments in the genre including a shift from politics to political economy, subaltern reconfigurations of capitalist and imperial temporalities, and the poststructuralist preoccupation with language and representation. In addition to bringing to light hitherto unexamined North/South affiliations between Melville, Walcott and Ghosh, the book proposes a fresh approach to epic through the comparative concept of 'political epic', where an avowed national politics promoting a culture's 'pure' origins coexists uneasily with a disavowed poetics of intertextual borrowing from 'other' cultures. An important intervention in literary studies, this volume will interest scholars and researchers of postcolonial studies, especially South Asian and Caribbean literature, Global South studies, transnational studies and cultural studies.

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"Palms require translation": Derek Walcott's Poetry in German - Sarah Pfeffer - 2016-01-01
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Modernism, Empire, World Literature - Joe Cleary - 2021-06-17
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In the Shadows of Divine Perfection - Lance Callahan  - 2004-11-23
In the Shadows of Divine Perfection provides an examination of Derek Walcott's Omeros (1990) - the St. Lucian poet's longest work, and the piece that secured his Nobel Laureate - that reveals the deep-seated bond between the root narratives of ancient Greece to the cultural products and practices of the contemporary Caribbean. This book presents the first detailed reading of Walcott's highly controversial attempt to craft a Caribbean master narrative. This book also presents an overview of the poet's ideological orientation and a far-reaching critique of current postcolonial theory. Lance Callahan engages some of the most vexing problems of authenticity by reading Walcott's work alongside ancient Greek literature and culture.

Hidden Mutualities - Michael Mitchell  - 2006
Hidden mutualities link the work of major postcolonial writers with Christopher Marlowe's drama of the Faustian pact - the manipulation of the material world in exchange for the soul - written as the 'scientific' world-view was emerging which accompanied the imperial expansion of Europe and has determined the economic and social structures of the colonial and postcolonial world. This fascinating study brings together researchers in widely different fields to show how Doctor Faustus reflects a Gnostic / Hermetic tradition marginalized within the dominant European power structures. Rediscovered in the Renaissance, and combined with occult arts such as alchemy and magic, this living tradition informs the work of 'Magus' figures such as Pico della Mirandola, Marcilio Ficino, Trithemius, Johannes Reuchlin, Agrippa of Nettesheim, Paracelsus and John Dee, who are reflected in the Faust tradition and in Prospero in Shakespeare's The Tempest. The second part investigates the dual legacy of the Magus. A counterpoint between a law-governed objective material world and an occult visionary pursuit of the divine potential of the human imagination is traced through the examples of Johan Kepler, Robert Fludd, Isaac Newton, William Blake, Rudyard Kipling, Aleister Crowley, W.B. Yeats, Wolfgang Pauli and C.G. Jung. In the third part, textual analysis reveals how attention to these Faustian themes opens new and exciting critical perspectives in appreciating the works of postcolonial writers, in particular Dibyendu by Athol Fugard, Disappearance by David Dabydeen, Omeros by Derek Walcott, and the novels of Wilson Harris.

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The Encyclopedia of American Poetry: The Twentieth Century contains over 400 entries that treat a broad range of individual poets and poems, along with many articles devoted to topics, schools, or periods of American verse in the century. Entries fall into three main categories: poet entries, which provide biographical and cultural contexts for the author's career; entries on individual works, which offer closer explication of the most resonant poems in the 20th-century canon; and topical entries, which offer analyses of a given period of literary production, school, thematically constructed category, or other verse tradition that historically has been in dialogue with the poetry of the United States.

Caribbean-English Passages - Tobias Döring  - 2003-08-29
Tobias Döring uses Postcolonialism as a backdrop to examine and question the traditional genres of travel writing, nature poetry, adventure tales, autobiography and the epic, assessing their relevance to, and modification by, the Caribbean experience. Caribbean-English Passages opens an innovative and cross-cultural perspective, in which familiar oppositions of colonial/white versus postcolonial/black writing are deconstructed. English identity is thereby questioned by this colonial contact, and Caribbean-English writing radically redraws the map of world literature. This book is essential reading for students of Postcolonial Literature at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.

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Alchemical Studies for the Twenty-First Century - Hager Ben Drisse  - 2003-05-09
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Postcolonial Odysseys - Maeve Tynan - 2011-05-25
Postcolonial Odysseys: Derek Walcott’s Voyages of Homecoming highlights the importance of the trope of voyaging in Derek Walcott’s poetics, primarily as it pertains to the poet’s engagement with classical verse. Focusing specifically on the engagement with Homeric myth, and The Odyssey in particular, it articulates the manner in which Walcott’s postcolonial reconfigurations of epic verse both highlights the endurance of the classics as well as demonstrating how cultural practices can remake and transform ancient texts. Concomitant with the poet’s presentation of self as divided, this study traces opposing forces in operation within this trope: a centrifugal force that corresponds to the outward journey away from his island home in search of greater publishing opportunities and broader readerships, and a centripetal force corresponding to the return journey, or homecoming. The enabling potential of Greek myth is marked by a similar to-ing and fro-ing in Walcott’s verse as he repeatedly engages with, and simultaneously disavows, Homeric configurations. Insisting on the reciprocal nature of poetic appropriation, the act of rewriting also signalling new ways of rereading, Walcott’s appropriations effectively enter into a critical dialogue with Homeric verse. Further depth to Walcott’s rewriting of Homer is provided by an analysis of the mediating influence of Euro-American modernism. Through an examination of the postcolonial aftermath of modernism, it challenges the perceived exclusivity of each, illustrating this premise through case studies of Walcott’s relation to both Romare Bearden and James Joyce. This study is therefore interdisciplinary and inter-artistic in nature, transgressing the borderline between poetry and prose, and that of literary and artistic disciplines. Highlighting the permeability of such boundaries, it investigates the journey of Odysseus, as prototypical wanderer, through time and space, from oral to print culture, from word to image.

Cultural Translation and Postcolonial Poetry - A. Bery - 2007-11-21
This book uses the framework of cultural translation to explore the work of six significant modern writers from Ireland, India, Australia and the Caribbean. Written in an accessible and approachable style, it will be of interest not only to specialists in postcolonial literatures, but also readers of modern and contemporary poetry more generally.

Post-Colonial Literatures in English, together with English Literature and American Literature, form one of the three major groupings of literature in English, and, as such, are widely studied around the world. Their significance derives from the richness and variety of experience which they reflect. In three volumes, this Encyclopedia documents the history and development of this body of work and includes original research relating to the literatures of some 50 countries and territories. In more than 1,600 entries written by more than 600 internationally recognized scholars, it explores the effect of the colonial and post-colonial experience on literatures in English worldwide.

Art and the Artist in Society - José Jiménez-Justiziano - 2013-07-16
Art and Artist in Society is a compilation of essays that examine the nexus between artists, the art they create and society. These essays consider how art has changed its form and role both to accommodate newer trends and to fully participate in society. Divided into six thematic sections, the book examines the works of a diverse group of artists working in a range of art forms, such as writers Milan Kundera and Judith Ortiz Cofer, filmmakers Humberto Solás and Walter Salles, performers/photographer Daniel Joseph Martinez and feminist-activists Suzanne Lacy and Leslie Labowitz. The analyses of the work of these artists and other artists offer readers an opportunity to explore a number of important issues in art today, such as the representation of the Other, the exploration of alternative sources of knowledge and the construction of the self. For the array of works it analyzes, this book offers fascinating insights into the art and the artists of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Multicultural Writers Since 1945 - Alba della Fazia Amoia - 2004
The end of World War II led to increased interest in multicultural concerns and a flourishing of literary and artistic endeavors. It was also a time of decolonization and the emergence of new nations and cultures clamoring for recognition and respect. The political circumstances following World War II exposed many people to other artistic endeavors. It was also a time of decolonization and the emergence of new nations and cultures clamoring for recognition and respect. The political circumstances following World War II exposed many people to other cultures. This reference discusses the experiences of writers active since 1945 who were shaped by cultures other than their own. Included are alphabetically arranged entries for more than 100 writers, including Chinua Achebe, W.H. Auden, Mircea Eliade, Jamaica Kincaid, Salman Rushdie, and Elie Wiesel. The profiles authors either lived in another culture voluntarily or were wrenched from one culture into another. Each entry includes a brief biography, a discussion of multicultural themes in the writer's works, a review of criticism, and primary and secondary bibliographies. The volume closes with a selected, general bibliography. The reference demonstrates the value of multicultural experiences in the lives of writers around the world and fosters a greater appreciation of cultural diversity.
human development. This book argues that inclusiveness is not a sufficient response to postcolonial and multiculturalist challenges because it leaves the basis of equivalence unquestioned. The point is not simply to bring more objects under comparison, but rather to examine the process of comparison. The book offers a new approach to the either/or of relativism and universalism, in which comparison is either impossible or assimilatory, by focusing instead on various forms of "incommensurability"—comparisons in which there is a ground for comparison but no basis for equivalence. Each chapter develops a particular form of such cultural comparison from readings of important novelists (Joseph Conrad, Simone Schwartz-Bart), poets (Aimé Césaire, Derek Walcott), and theorists (Edouard Glissant, Jean-Luc Nancy).

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ST. LUCIAN CREATIVE WRITING - John Robert Lee - 2013-11-13

Bibliography of St. Lucian Creative Writing: Poetry, Prose, Drama by St. Lucian writers is an invaluable reference tool for those researching St. Lucian literature, including the work of internationally recognised St. Lucian-born Nobel laureate Derek Walcott. It lists published and unpublished literary works by St. Lucians writing poetry, prose, and drama. Reviews and articles on St. Lucian literature are also cited in a substantial section. Also included are a listing of background readings that throw light on the literature. While the book was several years in the making, its completion was commissioned by the Cultural Development Foundation of St. Lucia.

All the Difference in the World - Natalie Melas - 2007
This book is about culture and comparison. Starting with the history of the discipline of comparative literature and its forgotten relation to the positivist comparative method, it inquires into the idea of comparison in a postcolonial world. Comparison was Eurocentric by exclusion when it applied only to European literature, and Eurocentric by discrimination when it adapted evolutionary models to place European literature at the forefront of multiculturalist challenges because it leaves the basis of equivalence unquestioned. The point is not simply to bring more objects under comparison, but rather to examine the process of comparison. The book offers a new approach to the either/or of relativism and universalism, in which comparison is either impossible or assimilatory, by focusing instead on various forms of "incommensurability"—comparisons in which there is a ground for comparison but no basis for equivalence. Each chapter develops a particular form of such cultural comparison from readings of important novelists (Joseph Conrad, Simone Schwartz-Bart), poets (Aimé Césaire, Derek Walcott), and theorists (Edouard Glissant, Jean-Luc Nancy).

The Bloomsbury Introduction to Postcolonial Writing - Jenni Ramone - 2017-11-16
Covering a wide range of textual forms and geographical locations, The Bloomsbury Introduction to Postcolonial Writing introduces the reader to the key debates and issues of postcolonial studies through the work of prominent critics and theorists (Edouard Glissant, Jean-Luc Nancy). The introduction is comprehensive and authoritative, providing an essential guide to the field of postcolonial studies.

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Contemporary Caribbean Writing and Deleuze - Lorna Burns - 2012-07-19
Contemporary Caribbean Writing and Deleuze maps a new intellectual and literary history of postcolonial Caribbean writing and thought spanning from the 1930s surrealism movement to the present, crossing the region's language blocks, and focused on the interconnected principles of creativity and commemoration. Exploring the
Robert Antoni and Nalo Hopkinson, this study reveals the explicit and implicit engagement with Deleuzian thought at work in contemporary Caribbean writing. Untitling for the first time two major schools of contemporary thought - postcolonialism and post-continental philosophy - this study establishes a new and innovative critical discourse for Caribbean studies and postcolonial theory beyond the oppositional dialectic of colonizer and colonized. Drawing from Deleuze’s writings on Bergson, Nietzsche and Spinoza, this study interrogates the postcolonial tropes of newness, becoming, relationality and a philosophical concept of immanence that lie at the heart of a little-observed dialogue between contemporary Caribbean writers and Deleuze.

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**Literary Drowning** - Stephanie Pocock Boeninger - 2020-10-23
Literary depictions of drowning or burial at sea provide fascinating glimpses into the often-conflicted human relationship with memory. For many cultures and religious traditions, properly remembering the dead involves burial, a funeral, and some kind of grave marker. Traditional rituals of memorialization are disturbed by the drowned body, which may remain lost at sea or be washed up unrecognized on a distant shore. The first book of its kind, Literary Drowning explores depictions of the drowned body in twentieth-century Irish and Caribbean postcolonial literature, uncovering a complex transatlantic conversation that reconsider memory, forgetfulness, and the role that each plays in the making of the postcolonial subject and nation. Faced with fissions in cultural memory, postcolonial writers often identify their situation—and their nation’s—with that of the drowned body. Floating aimlessly without a grave, unmemorialized and perhaps unremembered, the drowned corpse embodies the troubled memory of the postcolonial nation or individual. Boeninger follows a trail of drowned bodies and literary influence from the turn-of-the-century Irish playwright J. M. Synge, through the poems and plays of St. Lucian Nobel laureate Derek Walcott, to the lesser-known work of Guyanese British novelist and poet David Dabydeen, and finally to the contemporary Irish plays of Marina Carr. Each author, while borrowing from those who came before, changes the image of the drowned body to reflect different facets of the project of remembering postcolonially.

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**Critical Perspectives on Derek Walcott** - Robert D. Hamner - 1993
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**Afro-Greeks** - Emily Greenwood - 2010-01-28
Afro-Greeks examines the reception of Classics in the English-speaking Caribbean, from about 1920 to the beginning of the 21st century. Emily Greenwood focuses on the ways in which Greco-Roman antiquity has been put to creative use in Anglophone Caribbean literature, and relates this regional classical tradition to the educational context, specifically the way in which Classics was taught in the colonial school curriculum. Discussions of Caribbean literature tend to assume an antagonistic relationship between Classics, which is treated as a legacy of empire, and Caribbean literature. While acknowledging the importance of this imperial context, Greenwood argues that Caribbean appropriations of Classics played an important role in formulating original, anti-colonial and anti-imperial criticism in Anglophone Caribbean fiction. Afro-Greeks reveals how, in the twentieth century, two generations of Caribbean writers, including Kamau Brathwaite, Austin Clarke, John Figueroa, C. L. R. James, V. S. Naipaul, Derek Walcott and Eric Williams, created a distinctive, regional counter-tradition of reading Greco-Roman Classics.

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**Postcolonial Romanticisms** - Roy Osaamu Kamada - 2010
Postcolonial Romanticisms: Landscape and the Possibilities of Inheritance describes the production of a new and particular kind of postcolonial text and resituates the notion of literary influence in the context of postcolonial literatures. This book addresses the ways in which Derek Walcott, Garrett Hongo, and Jamaica Kincaid have appropriated aspects of «colonial» culture and how they deploy the tropes of British Romanticism in their own texts. Postcolonial Romanticisms argues that Walcott, Hongo, and Kincaid radically reimagine and rewrite the various traditions that have figured their island landscapes as unhisotoricized, unoccupied, and marginal. The landscapes that they write about are necessarily politicized; their own subjectivities are intimately implicated in both the natural beauty as well as the traumatic history of place; they confront and engage to varying degrees the history of their postcolonial geographies, the history of diaspora, of slavery, of the capitalist commodification of the landscape, and the devastating consequences this history has on the individual. These postcolonial writers confront what tools the «shards of an ancient pastoral», the literal and literary remnants of «a colonial cultural authority that clutters their landscapes. Postcolonial Romanticisms is ideally suited for courses in cultural, literary, and postcolonial studies, specifically courses in world literature, global literature, postcolonial literature,
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History, Trauma, and Healing in Postcolonial Narratives - O. Ifowodo - 2013-11-18
What would it mean to read postcolonial writings under the prism of trauma? Ogaga Ifowodo tackles these questions through a psycho-social examination of the lingering impact of imperialist domination, resulting in a refreshing complement to the cultural-materialist studies that dominate the field.

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Helen of Troy - Laurie Maguire - 2009-04-06
Helen of Troy: From Homer to Hollywood is a comprehensive literary biography of Helen of Troy, which explores the ways in which her story has been told and retold in almost every century from the ancient world to the modern day. Takes readers on an epic voyage into the literary representations of a woman who has wielded a great influence on Western cultural consciousness for more than three millennia Features a wide and diverse variety of literary sources, including epic, drama, novels, poems, film, comedy, and opera, and works by Homer, Euripides, Chaucer; Shakespeare Includes an analysis of a radio play by the prize-winning author of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time and a Faust play by a contemporary Scottish playwright Explores themes such as narrative difficulties in portraying Helen, how legal history relates to her story, and how writers apportion blame or exculpate her Considers the aesthetic and narrative difficulties that ensue when literature translates myth

Black Odysseys - Justine McConnell - 2013-06-20
This book explores works from Africa and the African diaspora which respond to the Homeric Odyssey. As a founding text of the Western canon, and as a homecoming trope and quest for identity, the Odyssey has inspired them.

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