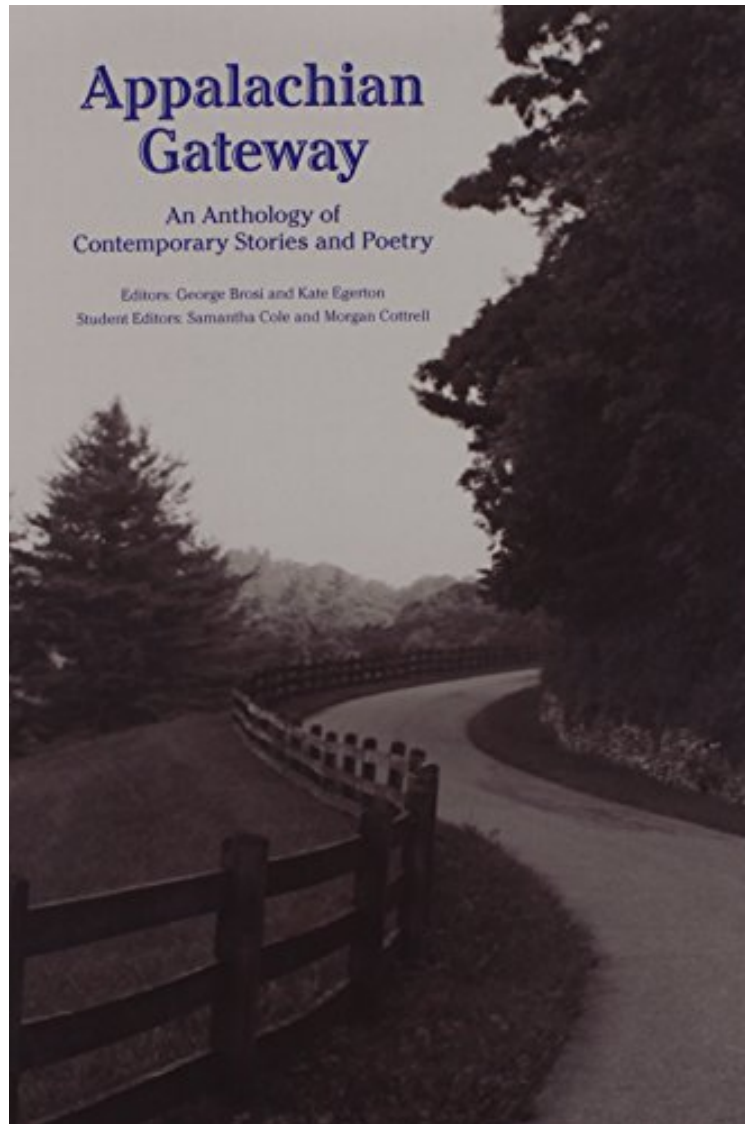


(Ebook pdf) Appalachian Gateway: An Anthology of Contemporary Stories and Poetry

Appalachian Gateway: An Anthology of Contemporary Stories and Poetry

From Univ Tennessee Press

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From Univ Tennessee Press : **Appalachian Gateway: An Anthology of Contemporary Stories and Poetry** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Appalachian Gateway: An Anthology of Contemporary Stories and Poetry:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Diverse VoicesBy Phyllis J. MooreThis fresh anthology includes a sample of work from 25 fiction writers and poets, all living. It serves as a enjoyable and informative "gateway" to the

region's current literature. The criteria for inclusion in the anthology was not intended to encompass the work of authors of the past: Louise McNeill, Muriel Miller Dressler, Jim Wayne Miller, Mary Lee Settle. At first read, this seemed odd. But it is a fresh approach and works well. The anthology does include work by Lee Smith, Jayne Anne Phillips, Pinckney Benedict, Meredith Sue Willis, Chris Offutt, Ann Pancake, Robert Morgan, Barbara Kingsolver, and a host of names familiar to me. Several new-to-me authors have work included: Robert Conley, Mark Powell, Darnell Arnault, Elizabeth Cox. They are now, so to speak, in my .com shopping cart. Readers will benefit from the anthology's list of 15 reference works as well as the interesting biographical sketches of authors included in the anthology. The Afterword, "On Teaching with This Book as a Text," will prove valuable. I especially like the fact the editors involved students in the process of compiling the anthology and give credit to Samantha Cole and Morgan Cottrells. It will come as no surprise if editors and readers in Appalachia say more authors from their state should have been included. If so, we just need more anthologies. The anthology is all around good reading and should find its way into classroom and libraries.

Featuring the work of twenty-five fiction writers and poets, this anthology is a captivating introduction to the finest of contemporary Appalachian literature. Here are short stories and poems by some of the region's most dynamic and best-loved authors: Barbara Kingsolver, Ron Rash, Nikki Giovanni, Robert Morgan, Lisa Alther, and Lee Smith among others. In addition to compelling selections from each writer's work, the book includes illuminating biographical sketches and bibliographies for each author. These works encompass a variety of themes that, collectively, capture the essence of Appalachia: love of the land, family ties, and the struggle to blend progress with heritage. Readers will enjoy this book not just for the innate value of good literature but also for the insights it provides into this fascinating area. This book of fiction is an enlightening companion to non-fiction overviews of the region, including the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia* and *A Handbook to Appalachia: An Introduction to the Region*, both published by the University of Tennessee Press in 2006. In fact the five sections of this book are the same as those of the *Encyclopedia*. Educators and students will find this book especially appropriate for courses in creative writing, Appalachian studies and Appalachian literature. Editor George Brosis' foreword presents an historical overview of Appalachian literature, while Kate Egerton and Morgan Cottrells' afterword offers a helpful guide for studying Appalachian literature in a classroom setting. George Brosi is the editor of *Appalachian Heritage*, a literary quarterly, and, along with his wife, Connie, runs a retail book business specializing in books from and about the Appalachian region. He has taught creative writing, Appalachian studies and Appalachian literature. Kate Egerton is an associate professor of English at Berea College. She has taught Appalachian literature and published scholarship in that field as well as in modern drama. Samantha Cole majored in Appalachian Studies and worked for *Appalachian Heritage* while a student at Berea College. Morgan Cottrell is a West Virginia native who took Kate Egerton's Appalachian literature class at Berea College.

About the Author George Brosi is the editor of *Appalachian Heritage*, a literary quarterly, and, along with his wife, Connie, runs a retail book business specializing in books from and about the Appalachian region. He has taught creative writing, Appalachian studies and Appalachian literature. Kate Egerton is an associate professor of English at Berea College. She has taught Appalachian literature and published scholarship in that field as well as in modern drama. Samantha Cole majored in Appalachian Studies and worked for *Appalachian Heritage* while a student at Berea College. Morgan Cottrell is a West Virginia native who took Kate Egerton's Appalachian literature class at Berea College.