

WALT WHITMAN: A CURRENT BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Anzai, Yoshimi. *Whitman no Shoso* [*Aspects of Whitman*]. Tokyo: Hakuho-Sha, 1999. [Discusses Whitman's view of literature, the origins of his poetry, mythological elements in his work, the relationship of *Leaves of Grass* and the *Bhagavad-Gita*, Whitman's attitudes toward war and religion, Whitman and Lin Yutang, Whitman and Hajime Matsuura; in Japanese; also includes two of the author's essays in English: "On Walt Whitman's Views of Life and Death" and "On the Symbolism of *Leaves of Grass*."]
- Aspiz, Harold. *So Long!: Walt Whitman's Poetry of Death*. University, AL: University of Alabama Press, 2004. [Examines Whitman's "treatment of death by considering the entire range of his poetry and the way his attitudes toward death define his career as an intellectual, a poet, and a person" and relates "his developing views of death and his literary treatment of death to his social and intellectual milieu and to the wide-ranging contemporary debate about the meaning of death."]
- Benton, Paul. "Elbert Hubbard's Manuscript Muddle: Restoring Whitman's 'Sunday Evening Lectures' on Metaphysics." *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 21 (Fall 2003), 65-79. [Reviews Gary Wihl's edition of Whitman's "Sunday Evening Lectures," examines Elbert Hubbard's bound volume containing the manuscripts, and offers a revised and more coherent arrangement of the manuscript fragments.]
- Boser, Ulrich. "A Poet and a President." *U.S. News & World Report* (February 9, 2004), 62. [Brief comments on Daniel Mark Epstein's *Lincoln and Whitman* (2004).]
- Bromwich, David. "Lincoln and Whitman as Representative Americans." *Yale Review* 90 (April 2002), 1-21. [Compares Whitman and Abraham Lincoln, emphasizing their "ordinariness" and their ability to "express the morality of true democracy."]
- Cain, William E., ed. *American Literature*, vol. 1. New York: Pearson Longman, 2004. [Anthology, with "Walt Whitman" section (1221-1303), including introductory note (1221-1225) and the 1855 version of "Song of Myself" along with six other poems and a brief excerpt from *Democratic Vistas*.]
- Campion, Dan. "Out of Range." *Shenandoah* 53 (Fall 2003), 13. [Poem evoking the Civil War; Whitman appears, "scanning the chilly rooms / Again for some connection he can save / But finding just-snapped twigs and broken limbs / Beneath the vague and barren shade outside."]
- Cessac, Christopher. "Letter of Resignation to Whitman." *Kenyon Review* 25 (Spring 2003), 146. [Poem.]
- Creeley, Robert. "Old Men's Poems: Walt Whitman and Robert Creeley." *Speakeasy* no. 10 (March/April 2004), 20-23. [Gathers a few of Whitman's old-age poems and juxtaposes them with some of Creeley's old-age poems;

with introductory note by Creeley on Whitman's late poems, celebrating "the feel, the detail of the verse, the texture, I want to say, the toughness, the range and character of recollection."]

Elmer, Jonathan. Review of Daneen Wardrop, *Word, Birth, and Culture: The Poetry of Poe, Whitman, and Dickinson*. *American Literature* 75 (June 2003), 454-456.

Epstein, Daniel Mark. *Lincoln and Whitman: Parallel Lives in Civil War Washington*. New York: Ballantine, 2004. [Tracks the "parallel lives" of Lincoln and Whitman from the day that Lincoln first read *Leaves of Grass* to Whitman's delivering his Lincoln lecture, with a focus on their intersecting lives in Washington, D.C., during the Civil War.]

Fenton, James. *The Strength of Poetry*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2001. [Chapter 9, "Men, Women, and Beasts" (165-186), examines D. H. Lawrence's poetry, emphasizing Lawrence's love/hate relationship with Whitman's poetry: "Lawrence begins in exasperation, and he will only allow himself to admire when he sees how and where Whitman fails."]

Fletcher, Angus. *A New Theory for American Poetry: Democracy, the Environment, and the Future of Imagination*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2004. [Develops "a dynamic theory of poetry as environmental form," tracking a tradition from John Clare through Whitman to John Ashbery; deals with Whitman throughout the book, but focuses on him especially in Chapter 6, "The Whitman Phrase" (94-116); Chapter 7, "The Environment-Poem" (117-142); Chapter 8, "Waves and the Troping of Poetic Form" (143-164); and Chapter 9, "Middle Voice" (165-174); Chapter 14, "Precious Idiosyncrasy" (246-255), reads "Sparkles from the Wheel" to demonstrate "how a description without place . . . is able to express the life of an environing space, a self-organizing chorography."]

Folsom, Ed. "Leaves in Class: Recent Text Editions of Whitman's Work." *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 21 (Fall 2003), 80-89. [Reviews Whitman, *Leaves of Grass and Other Writings*, ed. Michael Moon (Norton Critical Edition, 2002); Whitman, *Selected Poems*, ed. Harold Bloom (American Poets Project, 2003); and Whitman, *Poetry and Prose*, ed. Shira Wolosky (2003).]

Folsom, Ed. "Trying to Do Fair: Walt Whitman and the Good Life." *Speak-easy* no. 10 (March/April 2004), 14-18. [Examines Whitman's idea of "the good life" by looking closely at an 1881 letter the poet wrote to his young friend Harry Stafford and suggesting ways that the letter echoes Whitman's lifelong belief that the good life was the result of what he called "a sweet, tolerant liberal disposition."]

Folsom, Ed. "Walt Whitman: A Current Bibliography." *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 21 (Fall 2003), 98-104.

Fredericksen, Grant A. Review of Daniel Mark Epstein, *Lincoln and Whitman*. *Library Journal* 129 (February 1, 2004), 85-86.

Genoways, Ted. "Jesse Whitman in 1861: A New Letter." *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 21 (Fall 2003), 96-97. [Prints a facsimile and transcription of a draft fragment of a Whitman letter to Samuel Livingston Breese concerning the firing of the poet's brother Jesse from the Brooklyn shipyard.]

Greenspan, Ezra. "Whitman in China." *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 21 (Fall 2003), 90-95. [Review of Ed Folsom, ed., *Whitman East and West* (2002).]

Hoch, James. *A Parade of Hands*. Eugene, OR: Silverfish Review Press, 2003. ["Shift" (52) is a poem ruminating on what Whitman's last word ("Shift") might have meant.]

Hourihan, Paul. *Mysticism in American Literature: Thoreau's Quest and Whitman's Self*. Redding, CA: Vedantic Shores Press, 2004. [Examines mysticism in Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* and Thoreau's *Walden* and compares the two writers' mystical leanings; the second part of the book, "Whitman's Self," consists of two chapters: "Walt Whitman" (77-95), examining Whitman's life to determine "the onset of mystical experience" and the waning of that mystical insight after 1855; and "The 'Self' in 'Song of Myself'" (96-124), proposing that "the 'self' celebrated here is not the ordinary, phenomenal self of Whitman but the transcendental 'I' consciousness, the Mystical Self, the Cosmic Mind"; with a foreword (iii-iv) by V. K. Chari.]

Jeffs, William Patrick. *Feminism, Manhood and Homosexuality: Intersections in Psychoanalysis and American Poetry*. New York: Peter Lang, 2003. [Chapter 2, "Walt Whitman: Man's Words and Manly Comradeship" (27-45), examines the ways "Whitman sexualizes language" and looks at his "grand triad" of "rhetorical potency, sexual equality, and political ideals," all built on "his idea of 'manly friendship'" and his "masculine words" that point "toward the establishment of a better, freer, American democracy."]

Jenkins, Paul. "Walt Whitman in Chile." *Massachusetts Review* 44 (Spring/Summer 2003), 348-349. [Poem imagining a meeting in Chile between Whitman and Pablo Neruda.]

Kaplan, Justin. *Walt Whitman: A Life*. New York: Perennial, 2003. [Reprint of 1980 Simon and Schuster edition.]

Katz, Jonathan Ned. *Love Stories: Sex between Men before Homosexuality*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2001. [Offers a detailed historical and anecdotal examination of "men's lust and love for men in the nineteenth-century United States," and uses Whitman as the major case study; Whitman appears in most chapters and is the focus of Chapter 3, "A Gentle Angel Entered" (33-41), analyzing Whitman's 1841 story "The Child's Champion"; Chapter 7, "Voices of Sexes and Lusts" (95-122), tracking Whitman's efforts to "give words to his ardent intimacies" in the 1855, 1856, and 1860 editions of *Leaves of Grass* (especially *Calamus*), and analyzing critical responses to those editions; Chapter 8, "Sincere Friends" (123-132), summarizing Whitman's relationship with Fred Vaughan; Chapter 10, "I Got the Boys" (147-163), examining Whitman's relationships with Civil War soldiers; Chapter 11, "Yes, I Will Talk of Walt" (164-177), tracing Whitman's relationship with Peter Doyle; Chapter 12, "In the Name of CALAMUS Listen to Me!" (178-187), looking into Whitman's influence on and encouragement of the writer Charles Warren Stoddard; Chapter 15, "I Wish You Would Put the Ring on My Finger Again" (220-231), summarizing Whitman's relationships with Harry Stafford and Edward Cattell; three chap-

ters—Chapter 16, “He Cannot Be Oblivious of Its Plainer Meanings” (235-245), Chapter 18, “I Cannot Get Quite to the Bottom of Calamus” (257-271), and Chapter 19, “Ardent and *Physical* Intimacies” (272-287)—all tracking John Addington Symonds’ life, his correspondence with Whitman, Whitman’s tortured responses to him, and Symonds’ writings about Whitman; Chapter 24, “A Much More Intimate Communion” (321-329), discussing Edward Carpenter’s, Gavin Arthur’s, and Allen Ginsberg’s attitudes toward Whitman and their sexual interrelationships; and the Conclusion, “Sex and Affection between Men—Then and Now” (331-343), proposing that Edward Cattell’s expressed love for Whitman is one of the most revealing relationships about nineteenth-century male-male affection: “Cattell and Whitman, I believe, consciously used their time’s language of spiritual true love to speak safely and freely of a relationship that was actively affectionate and erotic.”]

Kellar, E. Levitt. “Whitman Garden Restoration.” *“Conversations”* (Fall/Winter 2003), 1-2, 5. [Reports on the efforts to restore the back garden at Whitman’s Mickle Street home “to the way it appeared when Walt lived at the house”; with photos of the garden in 1887 and as it is at present.]

Merrill, Christopher. “After Great Pain: Writing September 11th.” *Nineteenth-Century Literature* [Korea University, Seoul, Korea] (2003), 139-160. [Contrasts the impressive ways Lincoln, Dickinson, and Whitman wrote about the Civil War to the “failure of the American political class and its writers to frame the terrorist attacks of September 11th in their largest historical context.”]

Miller, Matthew. “Selection from the Talbot Wilson Notebook of Walt Whitman: An Introduction.” *Double Room* no. 3 (Fall/Winter 2003), http://www.webdelosol.com/Double_Room/issue_three/Matthew_Miller_1.html. [Introduces a partial transcription of Whitman’s “Talbot Wilson” notebook and describes the circumstances under which the author examined the notebook at the Library of Congress.]

Nicholson, Karen, ed. *“Conversations”* (Fall/Winter 2003). [Newsletter of the Walt Whitman Association (Camden, NJ), with news of Association events.]

Ono, Kazuto. “Amerika runesansuki no bunka/bungaku ni okeru uchu ishiki: Gaikan” [“An Overview of the Cosmos in the Literature and Culture of the American Renaissance”]. *Eigo Eibungaku Ronso* [*Studies in English Language and Literature*] 52 (2002), 25-54. [Examines the development of astronomy in the nineteenth century and discusses the mid-nineteenth-century scientific view of what the cosmos was like; traces the effects of astronomy on the writings of Emerson, Thoreau, Poe, and Whitman; investigates the “astromonomical dynamics” in *Leaves of Grass*; in Japanese.]

Pannapacker, William. *Revised Lives: Walt Whitman and Nineteenth-Century Authorship*. New York: Routledge, 2004. [Examines self-representation in the U.S. from the American Revolution through the nineteenth century, discussing how authors create *personae* and how those *personae* are appropriated by interpretive communities; the introduction (xiii-xix) and three chapters focus on Whitman: Chapter 2, “Politics, Poetics, and Self-Promotion: Whitman and Lincoln” (19-47); Chapter 3, “He Not Only Objected to My

Book, He Objected to Me': Walt Whitman, James Russell Lowell, and the Rhetoric of Exclusion" (49-104); and Chapter 4, "'What Is a Man Anyhow?': Whitmanites, Wildeans, and Working-Class Comradeship" (105-127).]

Plumly, Stanley. "Reading Autumn." In Sharon Bryan and William Olsen, eds., *Planet on the Table: Poets on the Reading Life* (Louisville, KY: Sarabande Books, 2003), 107-131. [Section 10 of the essay (124-126) reads "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry" as "a crucial act of the imagination, whose substance draws its sustenance from the time of the year and the angle of the early December light on the East River. . . ."]

Price, Kenneth M. *To Walt Whitman, America*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004. [Examines Whitman as "a foundational figure in American culture . . . so central to practices and formulations of American culture, past and present, that we may use his life, work, ideas, and influence to examine major patterns in our culture over the last 150 years"; chapters include "Whitman in Blackface" (9-36), dealing with Whitman and race; "Edith Wharton and the Problem of Whitmanian Comradeship" (37-55); "Transatlantic Homoerotic Whitman" (56-69), dealing with John Addington Symonds, Edward Carpenter, D. H. Lawrence, E.M. Forster, and Gilbert Adair's *Love and Death on Long Island*; "Xenophobia, Religious Intolerance, and Whitman's Storybook Democracy" (70-89), examining John Dos Passos, Ben Shahn, and Bernard Malamud; "Passing, Fluidity, and American Identities" (90-107), dealing with William Least Heat-Moon, Gloria Naylor, and Ishmael Reed; and "Whitman at the Movies" (108-138), examining the use of Whitman in films from 1913 to the present.]

Roberts, Kim. "Whitman in Washington (1863-1873)." *Beltway: A Poetry Quarterly* 4 (Fall 2003), <http://washingtonart.com/beltway/whitman.html>. [Examines Whitman's ten years in Washington, D.C., and describes the various places he lived and worked; offers a map of Washington that locates Whitman's residences and places of employment.]

Robertson, Michael. "Worshiping Walt: Lancashire's Whitman Disciples." *History Today* (April 2004), 46-52. [Discusses the Bolton, England, group of Whitman enthusiasts known as the Eagle Street College and analyzes how this group "eagerly embraced Whitman's idealized vision of male friendship," which offered them "a cultural safe space where they could freely express their love for one another" and helped them to develop a "gospel of Whitman."]

Rogers, Michael. Brief review of Justin Kaplan, *Walt Whitman: A Life* [reprinted edition]. *Library Journal* 128 (September 15, 2003), 97.

Rowe, David. "Walt Whitman Izibongo." *North American Review* 288 (March/April 2003), 48. ["Praise poem" about Whitman, "Himself the giver of geological blow jobs!"]

Thomas, M. Wynn. Review of Vivian R. Pollak, *The Erotic Whitman*. *Journal of American Studies* 36 (December 2002), 551.

Thomas, M. Wynn, and John Turner. "'Whitman, the great poet, has meant so much to me': Lawrence's *Studies in Classic American Literature*, 1919-

1923." *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 21 (Fall 2003), 41-64. [Reviews D. H. Lawrence's *Studies in Classic American Literature*, edited by Ezra Greenspan, Lindeth Vasey, and John Worthen (2003), and examines Lawrence's changing views on Whitman as expressed in the various versions of his essay on Whitman.]

Whitman, Walt. "Selections from Walt Whitman's Talbot Wilson Notebook." *Double Room* no. 3 (Fall/Winter 2003), http://www.webdelsol.com/DoubleRoom/issue_three/Walt_Whitman.html. [Transcription, by Matthew Miller, of part of Whitman's "Talbot Wilson" notebook, containing notes toward the first edition of *Leaves of Grass*; now located in the Library of Congress.]

Yoshizaki, Kuniko. *Whitman jidai o Ikiru*. [Whitman—Lives in Timeless Eras]. Tokyo: Kaibunsha, 1992. [Chapters include "Whitman's Early Poems Prior to *Leaves of Grass*," "The Theme of Love in Whitman's Early Fiction," "The Journalistic Aspects of Whitman's Fiction," "Whitman's Notebooks Prior to *Leaves of Grass*," "Oriental Sources of Whitman's Work," "Whitman's Soul in the Light of Zen," "The Theme of Death in *Leaves of Grass*," "Whitman's 'Passage to India': Completion of the Circumnavigation," "Whitman's Americanism," "Whitman and the Frontier," "The Image of Women in Whitman's Work"; in Japanese.]

Unsigned. Review of Ed Folsom, ed., *Whitman East and West*. *American Literature* 75 (December 2003), 916.

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"Walt Whitman: A Current Bibliography" now appears in a fully searchable format on the *WWQR* website (www.uiowa.edu/~wwqr) and on the *Whitman Archive* (www.whitmanarchive.org). This online research tool allows users to search the "Current Bibliography" from 1975 to the present.