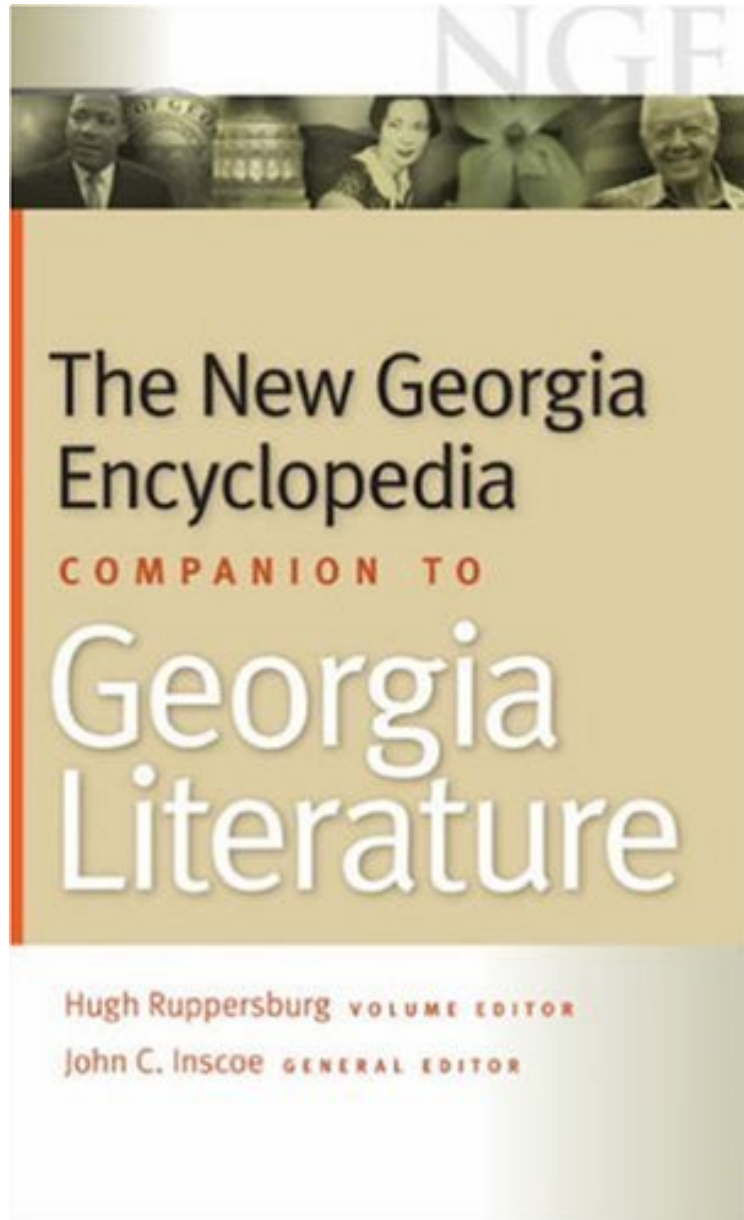


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## The New Georgia Encyclopedia Companion to Georgia Literature

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Georgia has played a formative role in the writing of America. Few states have produced a more impressive array of literary figures, among them Conrad Aiken, Erskine Caldwell, James Dickey, Joel Chandler Harris, Carson McCullers, Flannery O'Connor, Jean Toomer, and Alice Walker. This volume contains biographical and critical discussions of Georgia writers from the nineteenth century to the present as well as other information pertinent to Georgia literature. Organized in alphabetical order by author, the entries discuss each author's life and work, contributions to Georgia history and culture, and relevance to wider currents in regional and national literature. Lists of recommended readings supplement most entries. Especially important Georgia books have their own entries: works of social significance such as Lillian Smith's *Strange Fruit*, international publishing sensations like Margaret Mitchell's *Gone With the Wind*, and crowning artistic achievements including Jean Toomer's *Cane*. The literary culture of the state is also covered, with information on the *Georgia Review* and other journals; the Georgia Center for the Book, which promotes authors and reading; and the Townsend Prize, given in recognition of the year's best fiction. This is an essential volume for readers who want both to celebrate and learn more about Georgia's literary heritage.

A literary Godsend . . . Once in a blue moon a book comes across my desk that I can really use. I mean 'use' as opposed to 'read'; a book that will become part of my reference collection and will serve me well in my literary work. The most recent of such books [is] *The New Georgia Encyclopedia Companion to Georgia Literature* . . . A tremendous resource . . . A fine new volume. As a literary professional, let me say a very big 'thank you' to those who made this volume possible. You have made my job an awful lot easier . . . and I'm very grateful. (St. John Flynn Cover to Cover, Georgia Public Broadcasting) About the Author Hugh Ruppensburg is a professor of English and Senior Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences at the University of Georgia. He is the author or editor of many books, including *After O'Connor* and *Georgia Voices*, a three-volume anthology of Georgia's fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. John C. Inscoe is the editor of the *New Georgia Encyclopedia* and a professor of history at the University of Georgia. He has written or edited eight books including *Enemies of the Country*. Currently the secretary-treasurer of the Southern Historical Association, Inscoe also served for fifteen years as editor of the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*.