

Contents

Acknowledgements	viii
1. Introduction: Approaches to the Psychology of Nature Writing	3
2. The Inner Life and the Outer World: Thoreau's "Habit of Attention" in His Private Journal	21
3. Sudden Feelings: Annie Dillard's Psychology	61
4. "Rudolf the Red knows rain, dear": The Aestheticism of Edward Abbey	93
5. Coming Home to "the Camp": Wendell Berry's Watchfulness	115
6. "A More Particularized Understanding": Seeking Qualitative Awareness in Barry Lopez's <i>Artic Dreams</i>	137
7. Coda: Excurisons and Incursions	167
Works Cited	187
Index	197

Index

- Abbey, Edward, 3, 150; aesthetics and morality in works of, 11, 18, 101; as anti-ideological, 138, 140; and the automobile, 177; correspondence, disjunction, and unpredictability in works of, 5, 8, 11-12, 39, 84, 96, 116-17, 118, 124, 125, 130, 135, 152, 183; death of, 93; as environmental advocate, 107, 113, 138; goal of, 101, 113, 152; journal of, 18; humor of, 11, 103; language of, 10-11, 18, 116, 118-19; metaphors of, 116; and separation of man and nature, 84, 177-78; and Thoreau, 6, 12, 97; on wilderness, 113-14, 147, 180. *See also* similar subheadings under *Desert Solitaire*; *The Monkey Wrench Gang*
- Abbey's Road (Abbey), 106-7
- Abzug, Bonnie (*The Monkey Wrench Gang*), 102, 108, 109-10, 111
- Agee, James, 117
- Alcott, Bronson, 22
- Allen, Francis H., 53
- American Childhood*, An (Dillard), 67; awareness in, 9-10, 61-62, 65, 92; awareness as process in, 89-91
- Anderson, Chris, 183
- Anhorn, Judy Schaaf, 25
- "Annie Dillard: The Woman in Nature and the Subject of Nonfiction" (Clark), 65-66
- "Annie Dillard's Way of Seeing" (Ward), 77
- Anscombe, G. E. M., 69
- Ansichten der Natur* (Humboldt), 148
- Antaeus*, 86
- Arctic Dreams* (Lopez), 18, 37, 148, 182; anecdote in, 16, 156-58, 159, 161; attentiveness in, 141-42, 148, 159, 164; compared to Matthiessen's *Snow Leopard*, 154, 159; compared to works of other nature writers, 156, 164; and genre, 150, 151; geographical precision in, 156, 157; goals of, 137, 140, 146, 152, 155, 163-64; imagination and desire in, 88, 162-63, 164-65; and intimacy with the landscape, 15, 17, 88, 152, 155, 164, 165; language of, 15, 139-40, 161; and man's estrangement from nature, 16, 137, 138-39; metaphors in, 17, 159, 161; participation of feeling self in, 156, 159; particularized understanding in, 15, 141-42, 149, 151, 153, 156, 158, 162; and the reader, 139-40, 157, 159, 162; scientific information in, 15, 16, 158, 160; sensory detail in, 152, 156, 158, 159; subtitle of, 162. *See also* similar subheadings under Lopez, Barry
- Arguedas, José Maria, 182
- Aristotle, 151
- "Artist as Nun: Theme, Tone and Vision in the Writings of Annie Dillard" (Dunn), 63
- Asturias, Miguel, 182
- Aton, James, 84, 94, 153
- Augustine, Saint, 151
- Baca, Jimmy Santiago, 172-73
- Bacon, Francis, 34, 141
- Barrio, Raymond, 104
- Bass, Rick, 183
- Berry, Wendell, 3, 150; on Abbey, 100; awareness gradually deepening in works of, 11-12; belonging/understanding in works of, 99, 121, 128, 183; compared to other nature writers, 9, 11-12, 121, 130,

- 132, 140, 141, 145; disjunction used by, 5, 13; and environmental awareness, 138; exile and return in works of, 18; primary investigatory genre of, 18; and Thoreau, 6, 11-12, 118, 121; and watchfulness, 3, 14, 132. *See also* similar subheadings under "Long-Legged House, The"
- "Betrothed, The" (Kipling), 107
- Black Mesa Poems* (Baca), 173
- Blake, Harrison, 22
- Bloom, Harold, 37
- Bloomsbury Review, The*, 106, 113
- Boffey, Phillip, 169-70
- Bonetti, Kay, 15, 18, 142, 150
- Bradstreet, Anne, 66
- Brown, John, 58
- Bryant, Paul T., 107, 174, 176
- Buell, Lawrence, 50
- Buffon, George Louis Leclerc, 35
- Burgess, Cheryll, 14, 170-71
- Cameron, Sharon, 3, 21
- Carruth, Hayden, 8-9
- Carson, Rachel, 9, 69, 175
- Catton, William R., 8
- Channing, William Ellery, 22
- Children: and nature, 175-76
- Clark, Suzanne, 65-66
- Cohen, Michael, 14
- Coleridge, Samuel Taylor, 21, 25, 43
- Confessions* (Saint Augustine), 151
- Continuous Harmony, A* (Berry), 124
- "Country of Edges, A" (Berry), 116, 120-21
- Crossing Open Ground* (Lopez), 142
- Crow and Weasel* (Lopez), 142-45
- "Cult of Experience in American Writing" (Rahv), 152-53
- Daniel, John, 174-176
- Darwin, Charles, 33
- Deemer, Charles, 66-67
- DeQuincey, Thomas, 30
- Desert Solitaire* (Abbey), 110, 164, 180; connection with Thoreau, 94, 96, 100; desert in, 93-94, 96-97; Dillard-esque emotion in, 98-99; disjunction and unpredictability in, 93-94, 95-96, 97, 98-100, 112, 131; and environmental awareness of public, 11, 102, 107, 170; language in, 18, 98, 117; unreliability of narrator in, 97-98. *See also* similar subheadings under Abbey, Edward
- Dickens, Charles, 30
- Dillard, Annie, 18, 138, 150, 162, 183; compared to Berry, 9, 116, 130; compared to James, 9, 76-77, 80; correspondence and otherness of in works of, 5, 9, 10, 85, 96, 121, 183; disjunction and unpredictability in works of, 8, 9, 10, 11-12, 39, 47, 85, 88-89, 116-18, 124, 125, 130, 132, 135, 152, 183; and environmental awareness, 9, 138; goal of, 65; language of, 116, 118-19; metaphors of, 3, 70-76, 116, 118, 159; mysticism in works of, 61-63, 64, 77; on seeing and verbalization, 4, 6-7, 10, 172; self-consciousness in works of, 63, 65-66, 67-70, 77, 83, 85; and Thoreau, 6, 9, 12, 34-35, 47, 62, 63, 66, 69, 77-78, 79, 96. *See also* similar subheadings under *Holy the Firm*; *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*; *Writing Life, The*
- Doak, Annie, 90
- Dunn, Robert Paul, 63
- Earth First!, 11, 102, 103, 139
- Ecocriticism, 170-71
- "Ecocriticism: The Greening of Literary Studies" (Burgess), 170-71
- Einstein, Albert, 88
- Eiseley, Loren, 34, 147, 154-55, 180, 183
- Elder, John, 19, 62, 67
- Emerson, Ralph Waldo, 87, 88, 117; journal of, 50-51; and Thoreau's *Journal*, 22, 24, 27, 29, 35, 50-51; and viewer's fusion with nature, 39, 165
- Emerson and the Art of the Diary* (Rosenwald), 50-51

- Encounters with the Archdruid* (McPhee), 182
- Eskimos: acceptance of nature by, 139, 141; as *hibakusha* (explosion-affected people), 138, 140
- Experience of Nature: A Psychological Perspective* (Kaplan), 181
- Fabre, Henri, 35, 134
- Far Tortuga* (Matthiessen), 183
- Fences, 177; and nature writing, 180
- "Few Words in Favor of Edward Abbey, A" (Berry), 100
- Finch, Robert, 67, 183
- "First Person, The" (Anscombe), 69
- "Force of Public Awareness, The" (Nader), 170
- Freud, Sigmund, 117, 118
- Friend, The* (Coleridge), 43-44
- Fritzell, Peter A., 112, 150-51, 183
- "Function of Paradox in Mystical Discourse, The" (Keller), 63
- "Getting Along with Nature" (Berry), 119-20
- Gonzalez, Ray, 18, 166
- Grapes of Wrath* (Steinbeck), 107
- Greenpeace, 139
- Gunn, Giles, 4, 43
- Hablador, El (The Storyteller)* (Vargas-Llosa), 182
- Harrison, Jim, 103, 108
- Hartman, Geoffrey, 5
- Hawkes, John, 107
- Hayduke, George Washington (*The Monkey Wrench Gang*), 101-2, 108, 109-10, 111, 113
- Hayduke Lives!* (Abbey), 107
- Hildebidle, John, 182
- Historia Animalium* (Aristotle), 151
- Hoagland, Edward, 140, 183
- Holy the Firm* (Dillard), 9, 63, 65, 72, 77; baptismal scene in, 68-69; mysticism in, 80
- Hombres de Maiz (Men of Maize)* (Asturias), 182
- Howarth, William, 25, 40-41, 52
- Humanscape: Environments for People* (Kaplan), 7-8
- Humbert, Humbert (*Lolita*), 106
- Humbolt, Alexander von, 50, 147, 148
- Imagining the Earth* (Elder), 19, 62
- Imagist poetry, 184
- "Impoverishment of Sightseeing, The" (Daniel), 175
- "'Into the Bladelike Arms of God': The Quest for Meaning through Symbolic Language in Thoreau and Annie Dillard" (McConahay), 63
- James, William, 8, 47, 52, 80, 181; on the mystical, 76-77; theory of perception of, 7, 116
- Johnson, Hildegard Binder, 174
- Journal of Henry D. Thoreau, The*. See *Thoreau's Journal*
- Journal Home, The* (Abbey), 177
- Kakutani, Michiko, 166
- Kaplan, Stephen and Rachel, 7-8, 181, 182
- Keller, Joseph, 63
- Killing Mister Watson* (Matthiessen), 183
- Kolodny, Annette, 170-71
- Koestler, Arthur, 79
- Landow, George P., 150, 151
- "Landscape and Narrative" (Lopez), 142, 149, 152, 155
- "Landscapes of the Interior: The Literature of Hope" (Gonzalez), 18
- Lavery, David L., 62, 63, 84
- Lay of the Land, The* (Kolodny), 170-71
- Lensink, Judy Nolte, 99-100
- Let Us Now Praise Famous Men* (Agee), 117
- Lichtenstein, Grace, 102, 103
- Linnaeus, 24, 35
- Literary Nonfiction: Theory, Criticism, Pedagogy* (Anderson), 183
- Living by Fiction* (Dillard), 9

- Locke, John, 69
- Lolita* (*Lolita*), 106
- Lolita* (Nabokov), 11, 106
- "Long-Legged House, The" (Berry), 3, 122, 164, 182; awareness increased through repetition and reassurance in, 118; compared to works of Dillard, Abbey, and Lopez, 116, 124; bonding to land as result of participation in, 127, 128, 131, 133; bonding to land as result of watchfulness in, 12-13, 14, 99, 116, 128-30, 132, 133-36; evolution of author's understanding of nature in, 119, 120; feeling of being at home in, 116, 118, 130, 134, 135; homecoming in, 124, 126, 127, 132-33; ideology of humility and limited impact in, 13, 116, 127, 135; and journal, 13, 133, 134; language in, 116, 127, 131, 132; reality of nature in, 115-16. See also similar subheadings under Berry, Wendell
- Lopez, Barry, 3, 18, 150, 171; anecdotes used by, 152, 155-56, 160; compared to Abbey, 140; compared to Berry, 11, 12, 121, 140, 141, 145; compared to Thoreau, 34-35, 37, 166; correspondence in works of, 5, 11-12, 121, 183; disjunction in works of, 5; and environmental awareness of public, 138; goal of, 15-17, 166; and intimacy with landscapes, 15, 16, 17, 99, 123, 124, 145, 146, 149, 183; and language, 148-49, 155; and metaphor, 142; on nature writers, 145; and particularized understanding of landscape, 3, 5, 15, 141, 149, 153-54; and prejudice, 98, 122, 147; and the reader, 148-50, 155, 160, 166; and serving the community, 16, 145, 146-47; and solutions to environmental problems, 140-41; and storytelling, 142-45, 146, 149; and Thoreau, 6, 11-12, 17; and tolerance, 99, 147-48; travel to exotic places by, 15, 17, 124, 142, 144, 145-46, 147, 150, 166; two ways of seeing of, 13, 162-63; and writing, 151-52. See also similar subheadings under *Arctic Dreams*
- Los Rios Profundos* (*Deep Rivers*) (Arguedas), 182
- Love, Bishop (*The Monkey Wrench Gang*), 102, 109
- Love, Glen A., 171
- Lyon, Thomas J., 151, 162
- McConahay, Mary Davidson, 62, 63
- McFadden-Gerber, Margaret, 62
- McPhee, John, 182
- Maine Woods, The* (Anhorn), 25
- Maitland, Sara, 67-68
- Major, Mike, 75
- "Making of a Marginal Farm, The" (Berry), 13-14, 121-24, 126
- Man and Nature: Or, Physical Geography as Modified by Human Action* (Marsh), 38
- Margolis, Kenneth, 16, 145
- Marine Mammal Protection Act, 140
- Marsh, George Perkins, 38
- Marvell, Andrew, 12, 134
- Mather, Cotton, 171
- Mathews, Curran, 128
- Matthiessen, Peter, 62, 154, 159, 183-84
- Memory of Old Jack, The* (Berry), 123, 128
- Miller, James E., 79
- Miller, Perry, 39-40, 45
- Mitchell, Don, 35, 128
- Monkey Wrench Gang, The* (Abbey), 10, 114, 182; characters as caricatures in, 108; compared to Barrio's *Plum Plum Pickers*, 104; compared to Nabokov's *Lolita*, 11, 106; disjunction creating awareness in, 101-2, 103, 104, 107, 112-13; as ecological message, 11, 102-3, 104, 107, 109; goal of, 101, 103-4, 112; ideology of, 101, 102, 112; language in, 101, 104-5, 109-11, 112; and reader's awareness of fictionality of, 107, 109; references

- to author in, 111; tension between aesthetics and morality in, 11, 103, 112. *See also* similar subheadings under Abbey, Edward
- Muir, John, 120, 156, 159
- Nabokov, Vladimir, 11, 106
- Nader, Ralph, 170
- Nash, Roderick, 170
- Nature* (Emerson), 21, 24, 29
- "Nature as Picture/Nature as Milieu" (Bryant), 174
- Nature writing: and appreciation for "humble landscapes," 180; and awareness, 3, 4, 7, 172-74; effects on readers of, 14-15, 139, 169, 181; encounters with nature aided or obstructed by, 178-79; and environmental awareness of public, 15, 170-71; and environmental psychology, 181, 182; in a journal, 6-7; as obstacle or pathway, 180; and personal anecdotes, 152-53, 154; and picturesque, 174-75; as prescriptive, 137-38; and relationship of self to nature in, 153, 182; as surrogate for nature experience, 180; Thoreau's *Journal* as prototype of, 5
- Nature Writing and America: Essays upon a Cultural Type* (Fritzell), 112
- Nelson, Richard, 148
- New West of Edward Abbey, The* (Ronald), 11, 102-3
- New York Times*, 113, 169; *Arctic Dreams* reviewed in, 140, 166; *Monkey Wrench Gang* reviewed in, 102, 103
- Nichols, John, 183
- Niebuhr, Reinhold, 76
- "Notebook" (Dillard), 87
- "Notes from an Absence and a Return" (Berry), 13, 122, 124-27
- "Noticer: The Visionary Art of Annie Dillard" (Lavery), 62
- O'Connell, Nicholas, 140, 148
- Olney, James, 75
- "On the Need for a Wilderness to Get Lost In" (Abbey), 113
- Origin of Species* (Darwin), 33
- Paul, Sherman, 34, 148, 155-56, 159, 164
- Peck, H. Daniel, 38, 44
- Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* (Dillard), 63, 131, 164, 182; anthropocentrism in, 66; attunement to nature in, 64-65, 80, 85; critics of, 8-9, 62, 66-67; awareness provoked by unexpected in, 9-10, 72, 85-86; and environmental awareness of public, 170; and James, 76-77, 80; language in, 78-79, 81, 91, 117; mysticism in, 61-62, 66, 76, 77, 78, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85-86, 91; "seeing" in, 78, 79-80, 82, 91; self-consciousness in, 61-62, 66-67, 77-78, 81, 82, 83, 90; study of visionary process in, 80-82, 85
- Plum Plum Pickers, The* (Barrio), 104
- Polanyi, Michael, 56, 112-13
- Pohrt, Tom, 142
- Pound, Ezra, 184
- Powers, Ron, 117, 119
- Prelude, The* (Wordsworth), 57
- Proust, Marcel, 179
- Psychology: Briefer Course* (James), 80
- Rahv, Philip, 152-53
- Rahm, Dave, 70-76, 88
- Raine, Kathleen, 64, 88, 153
- "Revaluing Nature: Toward an Ecological Criticism" (Love), 170
- Rexroth, Kenneth, 134
- Robbe-Grillet, Alain, 4-5
- Ronald, Ann, 11, 102-3, 107, 179
- Rosenwald, Lawrence, 50-51
- Rossi, William, 25, 39, 43-44, 56
- Rousseau, Jean Jacques, 106
- Ruskin, John, 159
- St. Armand, Barton, 34
- Sanders, Scott Russell, 119, 183
- Sarvis, A. K. (*The Monkey Wrench Gang*), 102, 108, 109, 110
- Saussure, Ferdinand de, 174

- Scheese, Don, 142, 180
Sense of Wonder, The (Carson), 175-76
Silent Spring (Carson), 115, 169-70
 Sildo, Leslie Marmon, 146
 Smith, Gibbs, 14
 Smith, John, 137
 Smith, Seldom Seen (*The Monkey Wrench Gang*), 102, 108, 110
Snow Leopard, The (Matthiessen), 154, 159
Space and Sight (von Senden), 80
 "Speaking a Word for Nature" (Sanders), 183
 Stegner, Wallace, 120
 "Structure of Consciousness, The" (Polanyi), 112-13
Swann's Way (Proust), 179
 Swedenborg, Emanuel, 24, 27

 "Tables Turned, The" (Wordsworth), 56
 Tallmadge, John, 183
 Taylor, Edward, 150
Teaching a Stone to Talk (Dillard), 61
 Teale, Edwin Way, 102
 Thoreau, Henry David, 18, 66, 118, 150, 153, 156, 166; and anecdotes, 152; approach to nature of, 6, 182; and awakening or awareness, 3, 15, 62, 115, 129, 134, 135; correspondence and otherness in works of, 4-5, 11-12, 96, 121, 165; death of, 22; disjunction and conjunction in works of, 6, 124; and environmental awareness, 138; journal of (see *Thoreau's Journal*); and science, 63, 77, 158; on writing, 134, 151. See also similar subheadings under *Thoreau's Journal*
Thoreau, the Poet-Naturalist (Channing), 22
Thoreau's Journal, 11, 182; approach to nature in, 51-54; author as scientist, 34, 35-36, 56-57; author's intentions for, 22-23, 30, 40, 48, 57, 58-59; author's personal development in, 57-58; compared to Emerson's journal, 50-51; compression into one year of, 22; correspondence and otherness in, 9, 17-18, 21, 32-33, 34, 37, 38, 43-44, 48, 78, 183; emotional intensity in, 54-56; essayists criticized in, 30-31, 56; on journal writing, 54, 151; language in, 29-30, 41-43, 48; nature benefiting man in, 38-39; nature corresponding to moods in, 25-27, 28-29, 31, 37; patterns of observation in, 45-46; perspectives in, 40, 41, 43, 49-50; as prototype, 5-6; science criticized in, 35, 36, 49, 52, 56; seasons observed in, 6, 22, 23-28, 47, 48, 50, 51, 52; wildness discussed in, 37-38. See also similar subheadings under
 Thoreau, Henry David
 "To Fashion a Text" (Dillard), 67
 Torrey, Bradford, 53
 "Total Eclipse" (Dillard), 61, 86, 88
 "Toward an Ecological Literary Criticism" (Burgess), 14
 Trimble, Stephen, 14, 98, 144
 "20 Years After 'Silent Spring': Still a Troubled Landscape" (Boffey), 169-70

 "Uncanny, The" (Freud), 117
Unsettling of America, The (Berry), 13

 Vargas-Llosa, Mario, 182
Varieties of Religious Experience (James), 76-77
 von Senden, Marius, 80

 Wakoski, Diane, 100
Walden (Thoreau), 9, 17, 22, 56, 59, 164; awareness in, 3, 40, 53, 115; and environmental awareness of public, 169; reworking of, 41; seasonal progression in, 5, 94
 "Walking" (Thoreau), 39
 Ward, Patricia, 77
Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers, A (Thoreau), 5, 38
 Welty, Eudora, 84
 White, Gilbert, 134
 White, Stewart Edward, 80

Williams, William Carlos, 134, 184

Wilson, E. O., 16, 146, 163

Winterowd, W. Ross, 152, 183

*Word, Self, Reality: The Rhetoric of
Imagination* (Miller), 79

*Words for the Wild: The Sierra Club
Trailside Reader* (Ronald), 179

Wordsworth, William, 5, 56, 57

Writing Life, The (Dillard); con-
sciousness in, 62, 63-64, 65, 92;

contradicting ideas in, 87-88;

metaphor in, 70-76, 88;

retrospection in, 67-68, 71; self-

consciousness in, 67-68, 70-76, 88;

writing discussed in, 88-89. *See also*
similar subheadings under Dillard,
Annie

*Writing Nature: Henry Thoreau's
Journal* (Cameron), 3

Wymard, Eleanor B., 62