

A Journey Through Literary America

Thomas R. Hummel

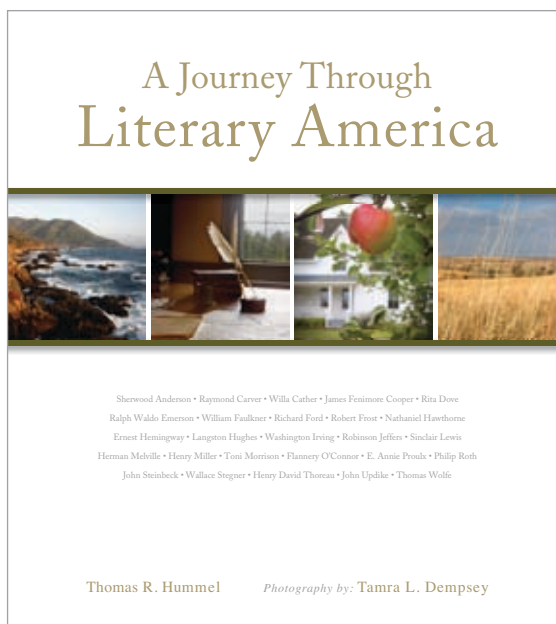
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RAGS TO RICHES. FORBIDDEN LOVES. Supernatural experiences. Narrow escapes. Some of the greatest stories of American literature are the stories of the authors themselves and the places that sparked their imaginations. In 2007, writer Thomas Hummel and photographer Tamra Dempsey set out in search of the sources of inspiration for 26 of this country's greatest authors. Two years and twenty thousand miles later, the result is *A Journey Through Literary America* — a literary pilgrimage in photography and prose.

"The land was ours before we were the land's," Robert Frost wrote. In the centuries after the founding of the United States, American writers painted the vast blank continent in colors from their own experience. Their experience became our experience. In seven sections, ranging from "New England's Early Leafs" to "The Inner Migration," from "America's Main Streets" to "Twentieth Century Excursions," this book examines the facets of the American literary experience through captivating biographies, over 140 vivid photographs, hand drawn maps by Sinclair Lewis and William Faulkner, and in the words of the authors themselves.

This is a volume for the literary enthusiast, the armchair traveler or the intrepid reader. It is a handsome and lavishly illustrated companion for those who seek to learn more about authors they have read and those who wish to discover new writers. It is also, simply and beautifully, a picture book of the United States. *A Journey Through Literary America* also has the potential to stimulate sales of dozens of other titles that are favorably mentioned within its 304 pages.



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