

# Exposition

## Further Reading

**Antosa, Silvia, Mariaconcetta Constantini, Emanuela Ettorre, eds.**

*Transgressive Appetites: Deviant Food Practices in Victorian Literature and Culture.*

**Mimesis Edizioni, 2021.**

**ISBN: 978-8857568973**

Drawing together established and emerging scholars, this collection seeks to address some of the most recent developments in the fields of food studies and Victorian culture. Contributors explore national and inter/intranational representations of food, by examining multiple texts ranging from “canonical” literature to popular culture and marginal sub-cultures. Focusing on the underside of Victorian society’s optimistic belief in progress, this volume suggests that the nineteenth century was not only marked by the dining etiquette and the culinary innovations promoted by manuals such as Isabella Beeton’s *Book of Household Management*. It was also a century of deviant food practices which gave voice to multifarious anxieties about ingestion and consumption. In line with the latest publications of the field, this collection investigates the

transgressive facets of food in the representation of racial and gendered identities, in questions of taste and commodification, and more broadly, in the political, social and economic arena of the Victorian era.

**Carruth, Allison.**

*Global Appetites: American Power and the Literature of Food.*

**Cambridge UP, 2013.**

**ISBN: 978-1107032828**

*Global Appetites* explores how industrial agriculture and countercultural food movements underpin U.S. conceptions of global power in the century since the First World War. Allison Carruth's study centers on what she terms the "literature of food" - a body of work that comprises literary realism, late modernism, and magical realism along with culinary writing, food memoir, and advertising. Through analysis of American texts ranging from Willa Cather's novel *O Pioneers!* (1913) to Novella Carpenter's nonfiction work *Farm City* (2009), Carruth argues that stories about how the United States cultivates, distributes, and consumes food imbue it with the power to transform social and ecological systems around the world. Lively and accessible, this interdisciplinary study will appeal to scholars of American literature and culture as well as those working in the fields of food studies, food policy, agriculture history, social justice, and the environmental humanities.

**Fitzpatrick, Joan.**

*Food in Shakespeare: Early Modern Dietaries and the Plays.*

**Routledge, 2016.**

**ISBN: 978-1315582672**

A study of common and exotic food in Shakespeare's plays, this is the first book to explore early modern English dietary literature to understand better the significance of food in Shakespearean drama. Food in Shakespeare provides for modern readers and audiences an historically accurate account of the range of, and conflicts between, contemporary ideas that informed the representations of food in the plays. It also focuses on the social and moral implications of familiar and strange foodstuff in Shakespeare's works. This new approach provides

substantial fresh readings of *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *As you Like It*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Henry IV* Parts 1 and 2, *Henry V*, *Titus Andronicus*, *Coriolanus*, *Pericles*, *Timon of Athens*, and the co-authored *Sir Thomas More*. Among the dietaries explored are Andrew Boorde's *A Compendyous Regyment or a Dyetary of Healthe* (1547), William Bullein's *The Gouvernement of Healthe* (1595), Thomas Elyot's *The Castle of Helthe* (1595) and Thomas Cogan's *The Hauen of Health* (1636). These dieteries were republished several times in the early modern period; together they typify the genre's condemnation of surfeit and the tendency to blame human disease on feeding practices. This study directs scholarly attention to the importance of early modern dietaries, analyzing their role in wider culture as well as their intersection with dramatic art. In the dietaries food and drink are indices of one's position in relation to complex ideas about rank, nationality, and spiritual well-being; careful consumption might correct moral as well as physical shortcomings. The dietaries are an eclectic genre: some contain recipes for the reader to try, others give tips on more general lifestyle choices, but all offer advice on how to maintain good health via diet. Although some are more stern and humourless than others, the overwhelming impression is that of food as an ally in the battle against disease and ill-health as well as a potential enemy.

**Geis, Deborah R.**

*Read My Plate: The Literature of Food.*

**Lexington Books, 2021.**

**ISBN: 978-1498574433**

Whether perusing a recipe or learning what a literary character eats, readers approach a text differently when reading about food. *Read My Plate: The Literature of Food* explores what narrators and characters (in fiction, in performance, and in the popular genre of the “food memoir”) cook and eat. Beat poet Allen Ginsberg, the inmates of the Terezin concentration camp, performance artist Karen Finley, novelist Jhumpa Lahiri, playwright Suzan-Lori Parks, and the celebrated chef-turned-travel-journalist Anthony Bourdain are just a few examples of the writers whose works are discussed. Close readings of the literal and figurative “plates” in these texts allow a unique form of intimate access

to the speakers' feelings and memories and helps readers to understand more about how the dynamics of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, and social class affect what the narrators/characters eat, from tourtière to collard greens to a school lunch bento box.

**Keeling, Kara K. and Scott T. Pollard.**

*Table Lands: Food in Children's Literature.*

**UP of Mississippi, 2020.**

**ISBN: 978-1496828354**

Food is a signifier of power for both adults and children, a sign of both inclusion and exclusion and of conformity and resistance. Many academic disciplines—from sociology to literary studies—have studied food and its function as a complex social discourse, and the wide variety of approaches to the topic provides multidisciplinary frames for understanding the construction and uses of food in all types of media, including children's literature.

*Table Lands: Food in Children's Literature* is a survey of food's function in children's texts, showing how the sociocultural contexts of food reveal children's agency. Authors Kara K. Keeling and Scott T. Pollard examine texts that vary from historical to contemporary, noncanonical to classics, and Anglo-American to multicultural traditions, including a variety of genres, formats, and audiences: realism, fantasy, cookbooks, picture books, chapter books, YA novels, and film. *Table Lands* offers a unified approach to studying food in a wide variety of texts for children.

Spanning nearly 150 years of children's literature, Keeling and Pollard's analysis covers a selection of texts that show the omnipresence of food in children's literature and culture and how they vary in representations of race, region, and class, due to the impact of these issues on food. Furthermore, they include not only classic children's books, such as Winnie-the-Pooh, but recent award-winning multicultural novels as well as cookbooks and even one film, Pixar's *Ratatouille*.

**König, Jason.**

*Saints and Symposiasts: The Literature of Food and the Symposium in Greco-Roman and Early Christian Culture.*

**Cambridge UP, 2012.**

**ISBN: 978-1108820196**

Greek traditions of writing about food and the symposium had a long and rich afterlife in the first to fifth centuries CE, in both Greco-Roman and early Christian culture. This book provides an account of the history of the table-talk tradition, derived from Plato's *Symposium* and other classical texts, focusing among other writers on Plutarch, Athenaeus, Methodius and Macrobius. It also deals with the representation of transgressive, degraded, eccentric types of eating and drinking in Greco-Roman and early Christian prose narrative texts, focusing especially on the *Letters of Alciphron*, the Greek and Roman novels, especially Apuleius, the *Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles* and the early saints' lives. It argues that writing about consumption and conversation continued to matter: these works communicated distinctive ideas about how to talk and how to think, distinctive models of the relationship between past and present, distinctive and often destabilising visions of identity and holiness.

**Martell, Jessica, Adam Fajardo, and Philip Keel Geheber, eds.**

*Modernism and Food Studies: Politics, Aesthetics, and the Avant-Garde.*

**UP of Florida, 2019.**

**ISBN: 978-0813056159**

Transnational in scope, this much-needed volume explores how modernist writers and artists address and critique the dramatic changes to food systems that took place in the early twentieth century. During this period, small farms were being replaced with industrial agriculture, political upheavals exacerbated food scarcity in many countries, and globalization opened up new modes of distributing culinary commodities.

Looking at a unique variety of art forms by authors, painters, filmmakers, and chefs from Ireland, Italy, France, the United States, India, the former Soviet Union, and New Zealand, contributors draw attention to modernist representations of food, from production to distribution

and consumption. They consider Oscar Wilde's aestheticization of food, Katherine Mansfield's use of eggs as a feminist symbol, Langston Hughes's use of chocolate as a redemptive metaphor for blackness, hospitality in William Faulkner's *Sanctuary*, Ernest Hemingway's struggles with gender and sexuality as expressed through food and culinary objects, Futurist cuisine, avant-garde cookbooks, and the impact of national famines on the work of James Joyce, Viktor Shklovsky, and Tarashankar Bandyopadhyay. Less celebrated topics of putrefaction and waste are analyzed in discussions of food as both a technology of control and a tool for resistance.

The diverse themes and methodologies assembled here underscore the importance of food studies not only for the literary and visual arts but also for social transformation. The cultural work around food, the editors argue, determines what is produced, who has access to it, and what can or will change. A milestone volume, this collection uncovers new links between seemingly disparate spaces, cultures, and artistic media and demystifies the connection between modernist aesthetics and the emerging food cultures of a globalizing world.

**Pascual, Nieves and Meredith E. Abarca, eds.**

*Rethinking Chicana/o Literature through Food: Postnational Appetites.*

**Palgrave MacMillan, 2013.**

**ISBN: 978-1137378590**

As Food Studies has grown into a well-established field, literary scholars have not fully addressed the prevalent themes of food, eating, and consumption in Chicana/o literature. Here, contributors propose food consciousness as a paradigm to examine the literary discourses of Chicana/o authors as they shift from the nation to the postnation.

**Probyn, Elspeth.***Carnal Appetites: FoodSexIdentities.***Routledge, 2000.****ISBN: 978-0415223058**

In *Carnal Appetites*, Elspeth Probyn charts the explosion of interest in food - from the cults that spring up around celebrity chefs, to our love/hate relationship with fast food, our fetishization of food and sex, and the impact of our modes of consumption on our identities. ‘You are what you eat’ the saying goes, but is the tenet truer than ever? As the range of food options proliferates in the West, our food choices become inextricably linked with our lives and lifestyles. Probyn also tackles issues that trouble society, asking questions about the nature of appetite, desire, greed and pleasure, and shedding light on subjects including: fast food, vegetarianism, food sex, cannibalism, forced feeding, and fat politics.

**Wright, Laura.***The Routledge Handbook of Vegan Studies.***Taylor and Francis, 2021.****ISBN: 978-1003020875**

This wide-ranging volume explores the tension between the dietary practice of veganism and the manifestation, construction, and representation of a vegan identity in today’s society. Emerging in the early 21st century, vegan studies is distinct from more familiar conceptions of “animal studies,” an umbrella term for a three-pronged field that gained prominence in the late 1990s and early 2000s, consisting of critical animal studies, human animal studies, and posthumanism. While veganism is a consideration of these modes of inquiry, it is a decidedly different entity, an ethical delineator that for many scholars marks a complicated boundary between theoretical pursuit and lived experience. *The Routledge Handbook of Vegan Studies* is the must-have reference for the important topics, problems, and key debates in the subject area and is the first of its kind. Comprising over 30 chapters by a team of international contributors, this handbook is divided into five parts:

## Recent publications

- History of vegan studies
- Vegan studies in the disciplines
- Theoretical intersections
- Contemporary media entanglements
- Veganism around the world

These sections contextualize veganism beyond its status as a dietary choice, situating veganism within broader social, ethical, legal, theoretical, and artistic discourses. This book will be essential reading for students and researchers of vegan studies, animal studies, and environmental ethics.