

Norris, Frank (1870-1903) Encyclopedia Article

Norris, Frank (1870-1903)

The following sections of this BookRags Literature Study Guide is offprint from Gale's For Students Series: Presenting Analysis, Context, and Criticism on Commonly Studied Works: Introduction, Author Biography, Plot Summary, Characters, Themes, Style, Historical Context, Critical Overview, Criticism and Critical Essays, Media Adaptations, Topics for Further Study, Compare & Contrast, What Do I Read Next?, For Further Study, and Sources.

(c)1998-2002; (c)2002 by Gale. Gale is an imprint of The Gale Group, Inc., a division of Thomson Learning, Inc. Gale and Design and Thomson Learning are trademarks used herein under license.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Encyclopedia of Popular Fiction: "Social Concerns", "Thematic Overview", "Techniques", "Literary Precedents", "Key Questions", "Related Titles", "Adaptations", "Related Web Sites". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Guide to Literature for Young Adults: "About the Author", "Overview", "Setting", "Literary Qualities", "Social Sensitivity", "Topics for Discussion", "Ideas for Reports and Papers". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

All other sections in this Literature Study Guide are owned and copyrighted by BookRags, Inc.

Contents

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Norris, Frank (1870-1903) Encyclopedia Article..... | 1 |
| Contents..... | 2 |
| Norris, Frank (1870-1903)..... | 3 |

Norris, Frank (1870-1903)

Born in Chicago on March 5, 1870, Frank Norris is best known as one of the leading lights of American literary naturalism. Having studied art in Paris for a year before attending the University of California in Berkeley and then Harvard, Norris worked as a reporter and critic for a number of newspapers and magazines in San Francisco and New York. After moving to New York in 1898, Norris published seven novels and two short story collections in quick succession. *Moran the Lady Letty*, *Blix*, and *A Man's Woman* were standard "New Woman" adventure novels, largely forgotten during the twentieth century. *Vandover and the Brute* and *McTeague*, on the other hand, were Norris's classic Zolaesque studies of human degeneration. *The Octopus* and *The Pit*, his last two novels before his untimely death from peritonitis in 1903, were both contributions to his ambitious *Epic of the Wheat* trilogy.

Further Reading:

Hochman, Barbara. *The Art of Frank Norris, Storyteller*. Columbia, University of Missouri Press, 1986.

Hussman, Lawrence E. *Harbingers of a Century: The Novels of Frank Norris*. New York, Peter Lang, 1998.

McElrath, Joseph R. *Frank Norris Revisited*. Boston, Twayne, 1992.

McElrath, Joseph R., and Douglas K. Burgess. *The Apprenticeship Writings of Frank Norris: 1896-1898*. Philadelphia, American Philosophical Society, 1996.