



LitFinder Content Update – Spring 2009

Current Content

- ▶ 150,000+ full-text poems, over 30,000 of which are copyrighted (contemporary) and 1,250 of which are in Spanish with English translations
- ▶ 800,000+ additional poem citations and excerpts, including indexed poems from 5,500 book anthologies, 6,500 single-author books, and 100 journals
- ▶ 7,100 full-text short stories and novels, including both classic and contemporary
- ▶ 3,700 full-text essays published in the 16th-20th centuries and focusing on humanities, social science, biography, and literary criticism
- ▶ 1,300 full-text plays, including one-act plays, puppet plays, tragedies, comedies, religious plays, and more
- ▶ 2,400 full-text speeches that include the best-known speeches from antiquity to the present times
- ▶ Glossary of poetry terms
- ▶ Exploring Poetry essays covering such topics as African-American poetry, British poetry, War poetry, Nature poetry and more
- ▶ Subject navigator that organizes over 10,000 specific subject headings
- ▶ 1,100 work explanations for the most-studied poems and stories
- ▶ 2,300 author biographies
- ▶ 1,800 photographs and illustrations

Content Updates since June, 2008

- ▶ More than 15,700 full-text poems, short stories, and essays, including Civil War and Revolutionary War poetry, works of Old English poetry (including the complete *Beowulf*), and selections from literature icons like Edgar Allan Poe, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and Walt Whitman
- ▶ More than 19,400 poetry citations
- ▶ 1,400 new authors (bringing the total to over 80,000!)
- ▶ 1,498 female authors (bringing the total to well over 28,000!)
- ▶ Selections of 2008 - 2009 issues from highly acclaimed sources such as *Poetry*, *Southern Review*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Spire*, *Antioch Review*, *Appalachian Heritage*, *Shenandoah*, *Rattle*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Iowa Review*, and *War, Literature, and the Arts*.
- ▶ New works from Copper Canyon Press
- ▶ Novels from Primary Source Microfilm's American Literature Archive –Including classic works of American fiction, including *Last of the Mohicans* and *Hyperion* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.
- ▶ Major historical works, including the complete *Beowulf*, *The Inspector General* by Nikolai Gogol, *Grimm's Fairy Tales*, *Hobomok* by Lydia Maria Child, *The Spy* by James Fenimore Cooper and *Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane.
- ▶ In our Essay module, you can now find historical documents such as “*Petition of an African Slave*” by Belinda (first text by an African-American woman), delivered to the US Senate in 1782
- ▶ Major Speeches by historical and contemporary figures, including William Jennings Bryan’s “Imperialism” (1900), Ann Richards 1998 Democratic National Convention keynote address, “Women’s rights are Human Rights” from Hillary Clinton

Additionally, we have deleted invalid subject terms to make searching easier and more intuitive. We have also resolved a few other issues such as fixing truncated ISBNs and incorrect death dates.



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Sample Special Collections

Black History Month: LitFinder contains thousands of African and African-American authors from the 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries, including notable authors like:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gwendolyn Brooks | <input type="checkbox"/> Amiri Baraka |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frances Harper | <input type="checkbox"/> Alice Dunbar-Nelson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audre Lorde | <input type="checkbox"/> Langston Hughes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> June Jordan | <input type="checkbox"/> Phillis Wheatley |
| <input type="checkbox"/> W.E.B. Du Bois | <input type="checkbox"/> Frederick Douglass, and many more |

Doing a search for “African American” in basic search yields more than 25,000 citations and 2,830 full-text poems as well as short stories, essays, speeches, and plays by African American authors. LitFinder includes hundreds of nationalities to choose from, so African writers from many countries are also included.

Women’s History Month: LitFinder contains more than 28,000 women writers and figures from all time periods, including:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Susan B. Anthony | <input type="checkbox"/> Harriet Beecher Stowe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sappho | <input type="checkbox"/> Louisa May Alcott |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anne Bradstreet | <input type="checkbox"/> Jane Austen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Fuller Adams | <input type="checkbox"/> Emily Dickinson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charlotte Perkins Gilman | <input type="checkbox"/> Virginia Woolf |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anne Sexton | <input type="checkbox"/> Sylvia Plath, and many more |

Doing a search on “women’s history” yields more than 800 full-text results; a search on “women’s rights” yields more than 1600 full-text results. Users also receive numerous hits on “feminism,” “suffrage,” “motherhood,” and more.

National Poetry Week: LitFinder contains more than 850,000 poetry citations and 150,000+ full-text poems

- Exploring Poetry essays cover such topics as African-American Poetry, War Poetry, Nature Poetry, What is Poetry?, and more
- Glossary contains over 160 poetic terms, including allusion, spondee, cliché, stanza, tetrameter, etc.
- Users can search by various poetic forms, including ballads, epigrams, odes, prose poems, and more.
- Includes poem explanations of the most-studied poems, including
 - “A Red, Red Rose” by Robert Burns
 - “FAME is a Fickle Food” by Emily Dickinson
 - “She Walks In Beauty” by Lord Byron
 - “Day Dreams” by Dorothy Parker
 - “Israfel” by Edgar Allan Poe
 - “In Memory of Radio” by Amiri Baraka
 - “Knoxville, Tennessee” by Nikki Giovanni
 - “The Killers” by Ernest Hemingway
 - “Salut au Monde” by Walt Whitman
 - “Daddy” by Sylvia Plath
 - “Fog” by Carl Sandburg
 - “The Odyssey” by Homer
 - “Still I Rise” by Maya Angelou
 - “The Heathen” by Jack London
 - “Winter Trees” by William Carlos Williams
 - “Youth” by Joseph Conrad