Biography. (New York: Dial, 1976; 186 pp.), which is
frank about Shawn's problems in handling knowledge of
his homosexuality.

1855. SISLEY, EMILY L. "Notes on Lesbian Theatre," Drama
While the definition of lesbian theatre is contested, it
is clear that it is tied to the great surge of feminism in
the 1960s and 1970s. Women's theatre groups that have
specifically identified themselves as lesbian are few.

1856. SOLOMON, ALISA. "The WOW Cafe," The Drama Review,
Account of a woman's performance space and its companies
in New York's East Village. This issue contains several
other short articles on current happenings in the off-off-
Broadway scene.

1857. STEWART, PAMELA D. "A Play on Doubles: La Calan-
On the 1513 work of Bernardo Dovizi da Bibbiena, the
prototype of the titillating Renaissance gender confu-
sion comedy, in which a male (or female) character is
disguised as a female (or male), attracts the amorous
attentions of a person of the "wrong" sex, but ultimate-
ly reveals himself (herself), so that heterosexual nor-
mality is restored.

1858. SUMMERS, MONTAGUE. The Playhouse of Pepsy.
Provides considerable information on homosexuality in the
Restoration stage. Summers goes so far as to speak of
"the prevalence of uranianism in the theatre" during
this period (p. 295).

1859. TAUBMAN, HOWARD. "The Subtle Persuasion in the
American Theater," Cosmopolitan, 155 (November
1963), 88-91.
A characteristic specimen of homophobia in the theater
criticism of the period. Taubman claims that "homosexual-
ity is nearly everywhere," and "it often poisons what you
see and hear." This insidious critical trend was effec-
tively anatomized by Benjamin DeMott, "But He's a Homosexual...," in Irving Buchen (ed.), The Perverse Imagination

1860. TOUCHET, GENE RAY. American Drama and the Emer-
gence of Social Homophobia. Tallahassee: University
Detects a surprisingly sunny pattern in the 20 plays
examined.

1861. WANDOR, MICHELENE. Understudies: Theatre and
The author, who has worked with feminist and gay theater
companies in Britain, provides an account of this activity
in the 1970s.

1862. WEINER, BERNARD. "The Romans in Britain Controver-
On the brouhaha occasioned by the London staging (with a
simulated act of sodomy) of Howard Brenton's play.

1863. WILLIAMS, GWYN. Person and Persons in Shake-
141 pp.
Contains an essay "The Loneliness of the Homosexual in
Shakespeare." It may be noted that despite the enormous
production of scholarship on the greatest playwright in
English, the homosexual aspects of his work have been
surprisingly obscured. See, however, Seymour Kleinberg,
"The Merchant of Venice: The Homosexual as Antisemite in
Nascent Capitalism," JH 9:3/4 (Spring-Summer 1983), 113-
26); Philip J. Traci, "As You Like It: Homosexuality
in Shakespeare's Play," CLA Journal, 25 (September 1981),
91-105; and C. van Emde Boas (1821), above. A strong case
for the bard's personal bisexuality is made in: Joseph
Pequigney, Such Is My Love: A Study of Shakespeare's

H. LITERARY STUDIES: GENERAL

Although countless literary figures are now known to have
been homosexual, in many instances their orientation is
not emphasized in the work; indeed, to the ordinary reader
it may be imperceptible, occasioning astonishment and
disbelief when well-known writers of the past are revealed
to be homosexual or lesbian. At a higher level of gener-
ality, it has proved difficult to define a specific "aes-
thetic" or sensibility of either gay male or lesbian
writing. However this may be, our growing knowledge
of these figures guarantees that, rightly or wrongly, they
will be taken as representative of key aspects of the
homosexual experience. In keeping with the character of
the present Guide, primary works of fiction and poetry are
not listed in this and the following two sections, though
the items cited, especially bibliographies, may be used to
locate them.

1864. BEACH, SYLVIA. Shakespeare and Company: The Story
of an American Bookshop in Paris. New York: Har-
Beach recalls her days as proprietor of the famous book-
shop in Paris where expatriate American and British
writers met—many of them gay or lesbian. Noel Riley
Fitch, Sylvia Beach and the Lost Generation: A History
of Literary Paris in the 20s and 30s (New York: Norton,
1983; 417 pp.).
In this general survey, see pp. 56, 117, 140-41, 184, 216, 229, 272, 307, 312, 374, 386, 471, 476.

Essays by various hands, including some discussions of the literary underground.

Listing arranged by author, with annotations describing the nature of the treatment of the myth. See index for such figures as Antinous, Ganymede, Hylas, etc. Replaces Helen Law, *Bibliography of Greek Myth in English Poetry*. Revised ed. (Folcroft: Folcroft Press, 1955; 39 pp.).


Examines issues posed by leading works of (chiefly heterosexual) erotic fiction, from Sade to Erica Jong (but see pp. 74, 91, 96-98, 164).

The title notwithstanding, this book does discuss same-sex relations in English fiction: "The Male Homosexual" (pp. 161-85) and "The Lesbian Theme" (pp. 186-208).

Special issue of 14 articles, mainly by gay and lesbian teachers reflecting on their pedagogical experiences and expectations.

Contributions by several gay and lesbian scholars on such writers as Comiso, Lezama Lima, Pasolini, Penna, Testori, and Woolf—as well as on American literature from Whitman to Ginsberg.

Wide-ranging survey of considerable indirect relevance, from the middle ages to the present, of the hidden world of meaning in fantasy—marred by occasional Freudian overinterpretation.

Readable and well-informed account of the celebrated group of British intellectuals and aesthetes—including Duncan Grant, John Maynard Keynes, Lytton Strachey, Virginia Woolf, and others. The secondary literature on the Bloomsbury group is very extensive; it is perhaps best approached through critical works on the individual figures.


Influence of the turn-of-the-century theorists, chiefly on V. Sackville-West and Lytton Strachey.

Eight papers, chiefly on British literature, including discussions of Walter Pater and Oscar Wilde.

In this standard work on the (often nonconformist) expatriates, see Chapter 21 (Robert McAlmon, pp. 34-94); Chapter 6 (Gertrude Stein, pp. 231-52); and references in index to Djuna Barnes, Charles Henri Ford, Radclyffe Hall, and others.
Homosexual motifs in Norwegian literature.

In this monograph on the role of sexuality in surrealist imagery, see esp. pp. 230-45.

Study of the development of the androgyne theme in the literature of early romanticism.

Critical of some current trends in this genre.

Writers of the hardboiled detective genre have included homosexuals as part of their vision of the modern city as dominated by corruption and alienation. See also: Vern Bullough, "'Deviant Sex' and the Detective Story," Mystery and Detection Annual, 2 (1973), 326-30; and Jim Levin, "Pervo Killers and Gay Dicks: Gays in American Mystery Novels," New York Native (May 10, 1982), 26-27+.

Twelve essays, mainly on Anglo-American literature. In the Introduction (pp. 1-12) the editor explores the variety of uses of homosexuality in literature. This book is a reissue of JH, 8:3/4 (Spring-Summer 1983), which also appeared in 1983 as Literary Visions of Homosexuality.

Reprint of 1949 Freudian diatribe on literary manifestations of American sexual malaise, including homosexuality as a symptom of immaturity.

A pioneering survey of sexuality in literature and the arts.

Advances criteria for the evaluative discussion of homosexuality in literature.

A threefold study by a German Marxist critic of the literary image of women, Jews, and homosexuals. The treatment of the latter has been criticized as external and incomplete.


Somewhat ponderous study (originating in a doctoral dissertation) of selected works of fiction and drama in German, English, and French.

Sensitive essay on three of Edmund Spenser's Amazons.

A classic work on the origins and vogue for decadence in European fiction; see esp. the Chapter 5, "Byzantium," pp. 287-411.

Essays, sometimes dated but still worth consulting, on Oscar Wilde, John Addington Symonds, Walt Whitman, Radclyffe Hall, Denis de Saint-Pavain, Arthur Rimbaud, Andre Gide, Marcel Proust, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and Emile Zola.

Collection of essays (note esp. Jonathan Dollimore, "The Challenge of Sexuality") with considerable discussion of literary homophobia (e.g., in the Angry Young Men writers of the 1950s).

Homosexuality in literature has been the occasion of much evasiveness and hypocrisy on the part of both authors and critics. The former employed the "language of Aesop" to sneak their writings past the informal but pervasive censorship of publishers and to escape the disapproval of a heterosexual reading public, while the latter often chose to ignore or conceal the homoerotic elements which they perceived beneath the surface of the works they were analyzing. This was particularly true in critical writings destined for college courses in which such a corrupting theme as same-sex relations would have been intolerable. So it is only in recent decades that the truth about many homosexual or bisexual authors has been frankly treated in biographical or critical studies. The insightful analysis of prose and poetry with homoerotic themes enables us to appreciate aspects of the homosexual sensibility of periods in which such feelings had to be carefully hidden from the vindictive scrutiny of an intolerant heterosexual society.


1899. AUSTEN, ROGER. Playing the Game: The Homosexual Novel in America. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1977. 260 pp. Sure-footed selective account, which is highly readable, charting the constraints and conventions of the American gay novel as the genre developed until ca. 1965. See also J. Levin, below.

1900. BERRY, FAITH. Langston Hughes: Before and After
Although the author of the this critical biography of the noted Black poet (1902-67) was denied access to some documents, the homophobic (though perhaps necessarily highly closeted) sensibility of Hughes is evident.

Comprehensive account of homosexual characters and themes in the work of the most encyclopedic of all French novelists. See also his, "Portrait de Stendhal en Evêque de Clohger," Stendhal Club, no. 98 (January 15, 1983), 244-54.


Biography of the fin-de-siècle writer and adventurer (1850-1923), whose sometimes exotic works conjured up ambivalent images.

Attempts to create a Marxist methodology for a realm relying on the border between sociolinguistics and literary criticism.

A collection of writings on male same-sex friendship from classic times through the 19th century, interspersed with comment by Carpenter. This collection was inspired by what appears to be the first example of the genre, Ellasar von Kupffer, Lieblingsinime und Freundslove in der Weltliteratur (Berlin: Adolf Brand, 1900; 220 pp.). The 1917 edition of Carpenter's work was reprinted by Pagan Press, New York, 1982. An offshoot, unacknowledged as such, of Carpenter's anthology is Byrne Fone (ed.), Hidden Heritage: History and the Gay Imagination (New York: Avocation, 1980; 323 pp.).

In the burgeoning secondary literature on the poet (1907-1973), this biography is outstanding: detailed, well-bal-
