

Biography and Criticism

Welty's *One Writer's Beginnings* is a remarkably useful account of her origins and development as a writer, and her essays on her own reading or on the art of writing, collected in some of the volumes listed above, are excellent testaments to her sources, her Masters, and her practice and standards as a writer. More biographical detail about her can be found in Ruth Vande Kieft's *Eudora Welty*, rev. ed. (Twayne, 1987), Albert Devlin's *Eudora Welty's Chronicle: A Story of Mississippi Life* (1983), and Michael Kreyling's *Author and Agent: Eudora Welty and Diarmuid Russell* (1991).

Vande Kieft's book remains an extremely useful general introduction to the analysis of Welty's fiction, and Michael Kreyling's *Eudora Welty's Achievement of Order*, a more modern perspective, has been well received. Several useful collections of individual essays on Welty's writing are available:

Eudora Welty: A Form of Thanks, ed. Louis Dollarhide and Ann J. Abadie (UP of Miss, 1979), *Eudora Welty: Critical Essays*, ed. Peggy Whitman Prenshaw (Jackson: U Press of Mississippi, 1979), *Eudora Welty: Thirteen Essays*, ed. Prenshaw (UP of Miss, 1983; a selection from the previous volume, published in paperback); *Welty: A Life in Literature*, ed. Albert J. Devlin (Jackson: UP of Miss, 1987; a reprinting of the 1986 special number of *Mississippi Quarterly*); *Critical Essays on Eudora Welty*, ed. W. Craig Turner and Lee Emling Harding (Boston: G. K. Hall, 1989), *Eudora Welty: Eye of the Storyteller*, ed. Dawn Trouard (Kent, OH; KentState UP, 1989). *The Mississippi Quarterly* has devoted two special issues to essays on Welty (1973, 1986, with another planned soon).

Welty scholarship in this country and abroad is growing in quantity and in sophistication and is too voluminous to summarize here. Readers seeking titles of articles on specific Welty works and books on Welty's writing should consult the checklists of scholarship and criticism about Welty that have appeared in the special issues of *Mississippi Quarterly* (Checklists for 1936-1972 and 1973-1986, which also include reference to Welty's own published works, appear in *Welty: A Life in Literature*). New checklists appear annually in the *Eudora Welty Review* and in the *Southern Bibliography* published by *Mississippi Quarterly*. Summaries, with critical judgments, of much Welty scholarship appear in the on-going series of volumes *American Literary Scholarship: An Annual* (Duke University Press).