

**THE BEDFORD ANTHOLOGY OF AMERICAN  
LITERATURE, VOLUME ONE BEGINNINGS TO THE CIVIL  
WAR 1ST EDITION Free Download**



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When she abandoned herself a little whispered word escaped her slightly parted lips. She said it over and over under the breath: "free, free, free!" They stayed keen and bright. Her pulses beat fast, and the coursing blood warmed and relaxed every inch of her body. She did not stop to ask if it were or were not a monstrous joy that held her. A clear and exalted perception enabled her to dismiss the suggestion as trivial. She knew that she would weep again when she saw the kind, tender hands folded in death; the face that had never looked save with love upon her, fixed and gray and dead. But she saw beyond that bitter moment a long procession of years to come that would belong to her absolutely. And she opened and spread her arms out to them in welcome.

There would be no one to live for during those coming years; she would live for herself. There would be no powerful will bending hers in that blind persistence with which men and women believe they have a right to impose a private will upon a fellow-creature. A kind intention or a cruel intention made the act seem no less a crime as she looked upon it in that brief moment of illumination. And yet she had loved him--sometimes. Often she had not. What did it matter! What could love, the unsolved mystery, count for in the face of this possession of self-assertion which she suddenly recognized as the strongest impulse of her being! Josephine was kneeling before the closed door with her lips to the keyhole, imploring for admission. I beg, open the door--you will make yourself ill. What are you doing, Louise? For heaven's sake open the door. The editors provide a great selection from which to teach--making it almost impossible to cram everything I'd like to into a semester.

Supplementary materials are excellent too. Oct 02, Photina rated it really liked it Shelves: english-classes , history , school. I actually enjoyed most of the selections in the book. The earlier ones were harder to get through simply because of how early Americans wrote and the lack of structured spelling. But it was interesting going through the different eras and seeing how the writing changed. Nov 30, Jessica rated it liked it. Didn't read the entire thing but most of it. Not nearly as horrid as I thought, had some good things in it. Nov 27, Charles rated it it was amazing. Getting ready to teach a course, using this book. It looks like a terrific new anthology. Jeffrey Redden rated it liked it Jul 14, Mike Keil rated it liked it Dec 11, Seth Powers rated it liked it Dec 31, Ethan rated it liked it Dec 27, Stephane rated it really liked it May 07, Sydney rated it really liked it Aug 17, Dan Leak rated it really liked it Mar 10, Taylor rated it really liked it Sep 12, Sarah rated it liked it Dec 03, John Schreurs rated it really liked it Jul 02, Delgermaa Munkhgerel rated it it was amazing Apr 04, Jenn Kilgallon rated it really liked it Sep 22, Michelle Burgard rated it really liked it Dec 26, Arthur Richards rated it it was amazing Apr 07, Tara rated it it was amazing May 08, Laura rated it liked it Sep 03, Any Thurm rated it liked it Jul 26,

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