

tim obrien interview

Tim O'Brien Interview: Insights from the Renowned Author on War, Storytelling, and Memory

tim obrien interview sessions often reveal more than just answers to questions—they open windows into the mind of one of America's most influential writers on war and human experience. Known primarily for his groundbreaking work, **The Things They Carried**, Tim O'Brien provides a unique perspective on storytelling, trauma, and the blurred lines between fact and fiction. Exploring his interviews offers readers and aspiring writers a deeper understanding of how narratives about war can transcend traditional boundaries and touch the core of human emotion.

Getting to Know Tim O'Brien: The Man Behind the Stories

Before diving into the nuances of any Tim O'Brien interview, it's helpful to understand who he is and why his voice resonates so powerfully. Born in 1946, O'Brien is a Vietnam War veteran whose firsthand experiences shaped much of his writing. His work often reflects the moral ambiguities and psychological burdens faced by soldiers, making his stories not just accounts of war, but explorations of truth and memory.

The Influence of Vietnam on O'Brien's Writing

In many interviews, O'Brien discusses how his service in Vietnam profoundly influenced his understanding of human nature and narrative form. He often emphasizes that his goal is not to provide a straightforward historical record but to capture the emotional and moral complexities of war. This approach challenges readers to question the nature of truth in storytelling.

Exploring Themes in a Tim O'Brien Interview

When Tim O'Brien speaks in interviews, several recurring themes emerge—truth, memory, storytelling, and the psychological aftermath of war. These themes are central not just to his novels but to his philosophy about writing and life.

Truth and Fiction: The Paradox of Storytelling

One of the most fascinating elements often highlighted in a Tim O'Brien interview is his treatment of truth. He famously blurs the lines between fact and fiction, suggesting that emotional truth can sometimes be more impactful than factual accuracy. O'Brien explains that stories don't have to be literally true to convey deeper truths about human experience.

This perspective encourages readers and writers alike to think critically about how stories are constructed and how they resonate emotionally. It's a powerful reminder that the purpose of narrative can extend beyond mere documentation.

Memory as a Narrative Tool

O'Brien's interviews frequently delve into the role of memory in storytelling. He acknowledges that memory is often unreliable and fragmented, especially when dealing with traumatic experiences like war. Yet, instead of viewing this as a limitation, he embraces it as a rich source of narrative complexity.

This theme resonates with many readers who have experienced trauma or loss, as it validates the sometimes disjointed way memories come to us. For writers, it's an invitation to use memory's imperfections to create multi-layered stories.

Tim O'Brien Interview Highlights: Advice for Writers and Readers

For those interested in writing or understanding literature on a deeper level, Tim O'Brien interviews provide invaluable insights. His thoughts on the craft of writing and the responsibility of the storyteller are particularly instructive.

Writing with Honesty and Compassion

O'Brien stresses the importance of honesty in storytelling—not necessarily literal honesty, but emotional honesty. He advises writers to be brave enough to confront difficult truths and compassionate enough to tell stories with empathy.

Embracing Ambiguity

Rather than seeking neat resolutions, O'Brien encourages embracing ambiguity. Life, especially in the context of war, is often uncertain and morally complex. His interviews reveal that effective storytelling mirrors this reality by resisting easy answers.

Tips for Aspiring Writers from Tim O'Brien

- Write from personal experience but be willing to explore beyond it.
- Focus on the emotional core of the story rather than just the facts.
- Don't shy away from difficult emotions; they add depth and authenticity.
- Experiment with narrative structure to reflect the complexity of memory.
- Listen carefully to the stories of others to enrich your own perspective.

The Impact of Tim O'Brien's Interviews on Readers and Educators

Tim O'Brien interview transcripts and recordings are widely used in classrooms and literary discussions. His candid reflections on war, storytelling, and human nature provide a rich resource for teaching empathy, critical thinking, and narrative craft.

Educators appreciate how O'Brien's interviews complement his written work by providing context and personal insight. For readers, these interviews deepen the experience of his books, revealing the layers behind his stories and encouraging ongoing reflection.

How Interviews Enhance Understanding of His Work

- Clarify the intentions behind complex narrative choices.
- Offer firsthand accounts of the emotional and psychological realities of war.
- Illuminate the writer's process and the challenges of representing trauma.
- Inspire discussions about the ethics and responsibilities of storytelling.

Where to Find and Enjoy Tim O'Brien Interviews

For anyone intrigued by Tim O'Brien interview content, there are numerous sources available:

- **Literary Journals and Magazines:** Many feature in-depth interviews exploring O'Brien's themes and methods.
- **Video and Audio Interviews:** Platforms like YouTube and podcast networks host conversations where O'Brien discusses his work in his own voice.
- **University Archives:** Lectures and Q&A sessions from O'Brien's teaching career can be invaluable for students and fans.
- **Book Supplementaries:** Some editions of his novels include interviews or author's notes that shed light on his creative process.

Engaging with these interviews can enhance one's appreciation of O'Brien's contributions to literature and deepen understanding of the complexities of war narratives.

Tim O'Brien interview sessions are more than just promotional events—they are thoughtful dialogues that challenge readers and writers alike to rethink how stories are told and why they matter. Through his reflections on memory, truth, and the human condition, O'Brien invites us all to engage with the past in a way that is honest, nuanced, and deeply human. Whether you're a longtime fan or just discovering his work, exploring his interviews opens a rich world of insight into the art of storytelling and the enduring impact of war on the human spirit.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Tim O'Brien and why is he being interviewed?

Tim O'Brien is a renowned author known for his works about the Vietnam War, such as 'The Things They Carried.' He is often interviewed to discuss his literary contributions and experiences as a Vietnam War veteran.

What are the main topics discussed in Tim O'Brien's recent interview?

In his recent interview, Tim O'Brien discusses his writing process, the impact of the Vietnam War on his life and work, the themes of memory and trauma in his books, and the relevance of war literature today.

Has Tim O'Brien shared any new projects or books in

his latest interview?

Yes, Tim O'Brien mentioned working on a new novel that explores themes of family and identity, though specific details about the plot or release date were not disclosed.

What insights does Tim O'Brien offer about his writing style during the interview?

Tim O'Brien explains that his writing style blends fiction and memoir, aiming to convey emotional truths rather than just factual accuracy, which helps readers connect deeply with his stories.

How does Tim O'Brien reflect on the Vietnam War in his interview?

Tim O'Brien reflects on the Vietnam War as a complex and traumatic experience that shaped his perspective on life and storytelling, emphasizing the importance of remembering the human side of war.

Did Tim O'Brien discuss any advice for aspiring writers in the interview?

Yes, Tim O'Brien advised aspiring writers to write honestly about their experiences and emotions, to read widely, and to be persistent in honing their craft.

Where can viewers watch or listen to Tim O'Brien's latest interview?

Tim O'Brien's latest interview is available on several platforms, including NPR's website, YouTube channels featuring author interviews, and literary podcasts focused on contemporary writers.

Additional Resources

Tim O'Brien Interview: Insights into the Mind of a Literary Giant

tim obrien interview sessions offer a rare glimpse into the creative process and thematic depth of one of America's most influential contemporary writers. Known primarily for his works on the Vietnam War and its lingering psychological impact, O'Brien's interviews shed light not only on his narrative techniques but also on his broader reflections about truth, memory, and storytelling. This article delves into the key takeaways from various tim obrien interview transcripts and recordings, analyzing how they enrich our understanding of his literary contributions.

Exploring Tim O'Brien's Narrative Philosophy

In numerous tim obrien interview appearances, the author consistently emphasizes the blurred lines between fact and fiction, particularly in war literature. His best-known book, **The Things They Carried**, is often discussed as a hybrid of memoir and novel, challenging traditional genre boundaries. O'Brien's interviews reveal his conviction that the emotional truth of a story can transcend factual accuracy, a perspective that has sparked considerable academic discussion.

The Interplay of Memory and Storytelling

A recurring theme in tim obrien interview dialogues is the role of memory in shaping narrative. O'Brien articulates how memory is inherently selective and subjective, influencing how stories are told and received. He suggests that the act of storytelling itself becomes a means of coping with trauma, especially in the context of war. This approach contrasts with conventional war narratives focused solely on chronological fact, highlighting why O'Brien's work resonates with readers seeking a deeper emotional connection.

Truth in Fiction: A Central Concern

O'Brien's reflections in interviews often revolve around the concept of "story-truth" versus "happening-truth." He argues that while factual truth is important, the emotional or thematic truth conveyed through fiction can be more impactful. This distinction is critical to understanding his narrative style and has influenced contemporary literary criticism. The tim obrien interview content frequently explores this philosophical stance, illustrating how it informs his storytelling choices.

Insights into Tim O'Brien's Writing Process

Beyond thematic concerns, tim obrien interview materials give valuable insights into his writing habits and methodology. O'Brien discusses the challenges of writing about war without glorifying violence or succumbing to clichés. He reveals his meticulous attention to detail and the importance of creating believable characters who embody the complexities of human experience during conflict.

Balancing Personal Experience with Fiction

Drawing from his own service in Vietnam, O'Brien shares in interviews how he

negotiates personal history with fictional elements. This balance allows him to universalize specific experiences while maintaining authenticity. The tim obrien interview discourse highlights his deliberate choice to fictionalize certain events to convey broader truths, a technique that has become a hallmark of his literary style.

Influence of Historical Context

Interviews with O'Brien also touch on how historical context shapes his work. He acknowledges the evolving public perception of the Vietnam War and how this influences both his writing and audience reception. By situating his stories within a particular historical moment, O'Brien invites readers to reconsider the complexities of war and its aftermath, rather than accepting simplified narratives.

The Impact of Tim O'Brien's Interviews on Literary Scholarship

Tim O'Brien interviews serve as primary resources for scholars examining postmodern approaches to war literature. His candid discussions provide context that enriches textual analysis, especially concerning his use of metafiction and narrative fragmentation. The interviews also contribute to understanding O'Brien's role in reshaping American literary canon to include more nuanced portrayals of conflict.

Contributions to War Literature Criticism

O'Brien's interviews have been frequently cited in academic papers exploring themes of trauma, memory, and narrative reliability. His articulation of the tension between truth and fiction challenges previous critical frameworks that favored strict adherence to historical accuracy. This has prompted a reevaluation of how war stories are told and interpreted in literary studies.

Influence on Emerging Writers

Beyond academia, tim obrien interview excerpts have inspired a new generation of writers grappling with complex subject matter. O'Brien's advice on authenticity, emotional resonance, and narrative risk-taking is often highlighted in writing workshops and creative writing programs. His willingness to discuss the vulnerabilities involved in recounting painful experiences adds a valuable dimension to conversations about storytelling ethics.

Common Themes Highlighted in Tim O'Brien Interviews

- **Trauma and Healing:** O'Brien stresses how storytelling can be an act of healing for veterans and civilians alike.
- **Subjectivity of Truth:** His interviews often explore how different perspectives shape what is considered "truth."
- **The Burden of Memory:** He reflects on the psychological weight carried by those who experience war firsthand.
- **Ethical Storytelling:** O'Brien discusses the responsibilities of writers when representing real-life suffering.
- **Literary Innovation:** He explains his use of non-linear narrative structures and metafictional elements.

Comparisons with Other War Writers

In several interviews, O'Brien contrasts his approach with that of other notable war authors such as Ernest Hemingway and Kurt Vonnegut. While Hemingway's work often focuses on stoicism and surface action, O'Brien delves into psychological complexity and ambiguity. Compared to Vonnegut's satirical tone, O'Brien's narratives carry a more somber and introspective quality. These distinctions illuminate his unique contribution to the genre.

Why Tim O'Brien Interviews Matter to Readers and Critics

Tim O'Brien interviews provide valuable context that enhances the reading experience of his books. For readers, his reflections demystify the creative process and deepen appreciation for the layered meanings within his stories. Critics benefit from access to the author's intentions and interpretations, which help clarify ambiguous or challenging passages.

Moreover, tim obrien interview content underscores the enduring relevance of his work in discussions about memory, trauma, and the ethics of representation. In a broader cultural sense, these interviews contribute to ongoing dialogues about the legacy of the Vietnam War and the role of literature in processing collective national trauma.

The wealth of insights gleaned from tim obrien interview archives continues to inform both literary scholarship and popular understanding, ensuring that O'Brien's voice remains a vital part of American letters. Through his candid and thoughtful engagement with interviewers, Tim O'Brien invites us not only to read his stories but to grapple with the profound human experiences they portray.

[Tim Obrien Interview](#)

tim obrien interview: *Conversations with Tim O'Brien* Patrick A. Smith, 2012-10-22 On the strength of a National Book Award for his novel *Going After Cacciato* and a widely acclaimed short-story cycle, *The Things They Carried*, Tim O'Brien (b. 1946) cemented his reputation as one of the most compelling chroniclers of Vietnam—and, in the process, was cast as a “Vietnam writer.” But to confine O'Brien to a single piece of ground or a particular style is to ignore the broad sweep of a career spanning nearly four decades. In addition to detailed discussions of all of O'Brien's work—a memoir, *If I Die in a Combat Zone*, and seven books of fiction—the sixteen interviews and profiles in *Conversations with Tim O'Brien* explore common themes, with subtle differences. Looming large is the experience of Vietnam and its influence as well as O'Brien's youth in Minnesota and the expectations of a midwestern upbringing. Interviews allowed the writer to fully examine the shifting boundaries of truth and identity, memory, and imagination in fiction; the role of war in society; gender issues; and the craft of writing. O'Brien approaches each of these topics and a host of others with a directness and an evident passion that will resonate with both readers and prospective writers.

tim obrien interview: *Imagination in Romanen von Tim O'Brien* Falco Pfalzgraf, 2009 Was versteht Tim O'Brien unter Imagination, und wo und auf welche Weise tritt sie in seinem Werk auf? Wodurch entsteht bei O'Brien diese Imagination, und welche sind ihre Wirkungen? Dies sind die Hauptfragen, mit denen sich diese Arbeit beschäftigt. Es soll dabei der Versuch unternommen werden, die Problematik werkübergreifend zu behandeln; eine Beschäftigung mit dem Gesamtwerk würde allerdings weit über den Rahmen dieser Arbeit hinausgehen. Deshalb wurden aus dem Oeuvre O'Briens folgende drei Texte ausgewählt, anhand derer sich dem von O'Brien als Imagination bezeichneten Themenkomplex genähert werden soll: *Going After Cacciato*, *The Things They Carried* und *In the Lake of the Woods*. Dazu wird gleichermaßen sowohl werkimmanent als auch biographisch vorgegangen. Bei der vorliegenden Arbeit handelt es sich um eine geringfügig abgeänderte Version der von Falco Pfalzgraf im Jahr 2000 am Fachbereich Anglistik / Amerikanistik der Universität Kassel eingereichten Staatsexamensarbeit.

tim obrien interview: *Tim O'Brien* Tobey C Herzog, 2018-04-17 This collection of seven essays, like the carefully linked collection of vignettes within Tim O'Brien's most popular book *The Things They Carried*, contains multiple critical and biographical angles with recurring threads of life events, themes, characters, creative techniques, and references to all of O'Brien's books. Grounded in thorough research, Herzog's work illustrates how O'Brien merges his life experiences with his creative production; he rarely misses an opportunity to introduce these critical life events into his writing.

tim obrien interview: Traveler Bobbie Malone, Bill C. Malone, 2022-09-15 For five decades, as a singer, musician, songwriter, and producer, Tim O'Brien has ceaselessly explored the vast American musical landscape. While Appalachia and Ireland eventually became facets of the defining myth surrounding him and his music, he has digested a broad array of roots styles, reshaping them to his own purposes. Award-winning biographer Bobbie Malone and premier country music historian Bill C. Malone have teamed again, this time to chronicle O'Brien's career and trace the ascent of Hot

Rize and its broadening and enrichment of musical traditions. At the beginning of that career, O'Brien moved from his native West Virginia to the Rocky Mountain West. In just a few years, he became the lead singer, mandolin and fiddle player, and principal songwriter of beloved 1980s bluegrass band Hot Rize. Seeking to move beyond bluegrass, he next went to Nashville. O'Brien's success in navigating the shoals of America's vast reservoir of folk musical expressions took him into the realm of what is now called Americana. The core of Tim O'Brien's virtuosity is his abiding and energetic pursuit of the next musical adventure. As a traveler, he has ranged widely in choosing the next instrument, song, style, fellow musicians, or venue. Written with O'Brien's full cooperation and the input of family, friends, colleagues, and critics, *Traveler* provides the first complete, behind-the-scenes picture of a thoroughly American self-made musical genius—the boy who grew up listening to country artists at the WWVA Wheeling Jamboree and ended up charting a new course through American music.

tim obrien interview: Fear and Courage in Tim O'Brien's If I Die in a Combat Zone, Going After Cacciato, and the Things They Carried James Parks Hughes, 1998 After serving a tour as an infantryman in Vietnam (1969-1970), Tim O'Brien returned to the United States and began a career as a writer. He has since published six books and numerous short stories and has distinguished himself as an accomplished author in the process. Three of his books, *If I Die in a Combat Zone* (1973), *Going After Cacciato* (1978), and *The Things They Carried* (1990), deal specifically with the Vietnam war. In these works O'Brien clearly establishes fear as both a dominant aspect of the experience and an essential component necessary for the display of courage, one of his most significant considerations. He portrays bravery as an individual's ability to perform acts and make decisions despite apprehension, and he reveals the difficulty of demonstrating fortitude in the morally ambiguous environment of Vietnam where the horror of death was often secondary to that of cowardice. Ultimately, however, although the arena of armed combat provides a unique setting in which to display human conduct and consciousness, the link between courage and fear that O'Brien illustrates is not a war issue but rather a universal one. The strength of his writing lies in his ability to depict this intricate relationship in a manner that is relevant to humanity as a whole. Furthermore, his vivid presentation of the Vietnam conflict, without anti-war protest or political agenda, makes its own case for the prevention of a similar sacrifice of human lives and innocence in the future.

tim obrien interview: A Study Guide for Tim O'Brien's Things They Carried Gale, Cengage Learning, 2015-09-15 A Study Guide for Tim O'Brien's *Things They Carried*, excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Short Stories for Students*. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Short Stories for Students* for all of your research needs.

tim obrien interview: Understanding Tim O'Brien Steven Kaplan, 1995 A comprehensive review of the most important writer to emerge from the Vietnam War.

tim obrien interview: Quicklet on The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien Macie Melendez, 2011-12-14 Quicklets: Learn More. Read Less. Tim O'Brien is an American author who is most known for writing on his experience serving in the Vietnam War. He was born in a small town called Austin in Minnesota in 1946. He currently resides in Austin, Texas where he teaches at Texas State University-San Marcos. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota and attended Harvard after his tour in Vietnam. He was drafted into the Army and served in the Vietnam war from 1968 to 1970. Other notable titles O'Brien has published include *If I Die in a Combat Zone: Box Me Up and Ship Me Home*, *Northern Lights*, *The Nuclear Age*, and *Going After Cacciato*. *The Things They Carried* is a collection of related short stories about the Vietnam war. Although based upon the real-life experiences of author Tim O'Brien's time served in the war, the title page of the novel refers to the book as a work of fiction. Additionally, a few of the book's characters show similarities to characters from O'Brien's autobiography *If I Die in a Combat Zone: Box Me Up and Ship Me Home*. Quicklets: Learn More. Read Less.

tim obrien interview: Mojo Hand Timothy J. O'Brien, David Ensminger, 2013-04-01 Presents the life of the acclaimed blues musician, known for songs whose topics ranged from his African American roots to space exploration, and focuses on his eccentric style of guitar playing and his lasting influences in music.

tim obrien interview: How White Men Won the Culture Wars Joseph Darda, 2021-05-25 CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title, 2022 A cultural history of how white men exploited the image of the Vietnam veteran to roll back civil rights and restake their claim on the nation "If war among the whites brought peace and liberty to the blacks," Frederick Douglass asked in 1875, peering into the nation's future, "what will peace among the whites bring?" The answer then and now, after civil war and civil rights: a white reunion disguised as a veterans' reunion. *How White Men Won the Culture Wars* shows how a broad contingent of white men--conservative and liberal, hawk and dove, vet and nonvet--transformed the Vietnam War into a staging ground for a post-civil rights white racial reconciliation. Conservatives could celebrate white vets as raceless embodiments of the nation. Liberals could treat them as minoritized heroes whose voices must be heard. Erasing Americans of color, Southeast Asians, and women from the war, white men with stories of vets on their mind could agree, after civil rights and feminism, that they had suffered and deserved more. From the POW/MIA and veterans' mental health movements to *Rambo* and "Born in the U.S.A.," they remade their racial identities for an age of color blindness and multiculturalism in the image of the Vietnam vet. No one wins in a culture war--except, Joseph Darda argues, white men dressed in army green.

tim obrien interview: Tim O'Brien in the Classroom Barry Gilmore, Alexander Kaplan, 2007 Many students, even those who claim to dislike stories of war and violence, are drawn to the writing of Tim O'Brien, especially *The Things They Carried*. The mysteries and 'gray areas' in his work make it a perfect addition to units on fiction of the Vietnam War, first-person narratives, modern stories and novels, and war stories, among others. *Tim O'Brien in the Classroom* focuses on opportunities for classroom discussion and writing assignments, including lessons, open-ended prompts, and student writing samples. --

tim obrien interview: Writing Vietnam, Writing Life Tobey C. Herzog, 2009-05 Phillip Caputo, Larry Heinemann, Tim O'Brien, and Robert Olen Butler: four young midwestern Americans coming of age during the 1960s who faced a difficult personal decision--whether or not to fight in Vietnam. Each chose to participate. After coming home, these four veterans became prizewinning authors telling the war stories and life stories of soldiers and civilians. The four extended conversations included in *Writing Vietnam, Writing Life* feature revealing personal stories alongside candid assessments of each author's distinct roles as son, soldier, writer, and teacher of creative writing. As Tobey Herzog's thoughtful interviews reveal, these soldier-authors have diverse upbringings, values, interests, writing careers, life experiences, and literary voices. They hold wide-ranging views on, among other things, fatherhood, war, the military, religion, the creative process, the current state of the world, and the nature of both physical and moral courage. For each author, the conversation and richly annotated chronology provide an overview of the writer's life, the intersection of memory and imagination in his writing, and the path of his literary career. Together, these four life stories also offer mini-tableaux of the fascinating and troubling time of 1960s and 1970s America. Above all, the conversations reveal that each author is linked forever to the Vietnam War, the country of Vietnam, and its people.

tim obrien interview: The United States and the Legacy of the Vietnam War J. Roper, 2007-10-17 Vietnam precipitated a crisis in national self-confidence and a breakdown in political consensus out of which new ideological perspectives emerged. This book offers fresh perspectives on a defining event in 'the American Century', examining its historical and political significance and also its continuing cultural relevance.

tim obrien interview: Remote Warfare Rebecca A. Adelman, David Kieran, 2020-10-27 Considers how people have confronted, challenged, and resisted remote warfare Drone warfare is now a routine, if not predominant, aspect of military engagement. Although this method of delivering

violence at a distance has been a part of military arsenals for two decades, scholarly debate on remote warfare writ large has remained stuck in tired debates about practicality, efficacy, and ethics. Remote Warfare broadens the conversation, interrogating the cultural and political dimensions of distant warfare and examining how various stakeholders have responded to the reality of state-sponsored remote violence. The essays here represent a panoply of viewpoints, revealing overlooked histories of remoteness, novel methodologies, and new intellectual challenges. From the story arc of Homeland to redefining the idea of a "warrior," these thirteen pieces consider the new nature of surveillance, similarities between killing with drones and gaming, literature written by veterans, and much more. Timely and provocative, Remote Warfare makes significant and lasting contributions to our understanding of drones and the cultural forces that shape and sustain them. Contributors: Syed Irfan Ashraf, U of Peshawar, Pakistan; Jens Borrebye Bjerling, U of Southern Denmark; Annika Brunck, U of Tübingen; David A. Buchanan, U.S. Air Force Academy; Owen Coggins, Open U; Andreas Immanuel Graae, U of Southern Denmark; Brittany Hirth, Dickinson State U; Tim Jelfs, U of Groningen; Ann-Katrine S. Nielsen, Aarhus U; Nike Nivar Ortiz, U of Southern California; Michael Richardson, U of New South Wales; Kristin Shamas, U of Oklahoma; Sajdeep Soomal; Michael Zeitlin, U of British Columbia.

tim obrien interview: The Undergraduate's Companion to American Writers and Their Web Sites Larry G. Hinman, 2000-12-15 An outstanding research guide for undergraduate students of American literature, this best-selling book is essential when it comes to researching American authors. Bracken and Hinman identify and describe the best and most current sources, both in print and online, for nearly 300 American writers whose works are included in the most frequently used literary anthologies. Students will know exactly what information is available and where to find it.

tim obrien interview: Conversations with Tim O'Brien Patrick A. Smith, 2012-10-22 Interviews with the author of *Going After Cacciato* and *The Things They Carried*

tim obrien interview: Tim O'Brien Patrick A. Smith, 2005-06-30 After growing up in Minnesota and graduating from college, Tim O'Brien received a draft notice and joined the war effort in Vietnam. He chronicled his combat experiences in his memoir *If I Die in a Combat Zone, Box Me Up and Ship Me Home*, and then went on to write the eight novels that are discussed in this volume. The novels reflect their characters' struggle with the effects of place, namely small-town America, in the Vietnam Era.

tim obrien interview: American Writers Elizabeth H. Oakes, 2004 *American Writers* focuses on the rich diversity of American novelists

tim obrien interview: Sean Lemass: The Enigmatic Patriot John Horgan, 1997-10-01 The definitive biography of Seán Lemass, the finest Taoiseach in the history of the Irish State There are few facets of Irish life which do not owe something to the genius, effectiveness or determination of Lemass. Horgan's biography explores that contribution quite brilliantly. Bertie Ahern, *The Irish Times* As a boy Seán Lemass fought in the 1916 rising. He was a member of de Valera's first cabinet, Minister for Industry and Commerce in every Fianna Fáil government between 1932 and 1959, and as Taoiseach from 1959 to 1966 was the pivotal figure in the modernisation of Ireland. The Lemass that emerges from this fine book is an enigma and a passionate patriot; a protectionist who later became an apostle of free trade; a moderniser in what was often a party of traditionalists. John Horgan's excellent biography is the work of a critical admirer who sees his subject as one of the most outstanding Irish political figures of the century. The only biographer to have had complete access to all the government papers for the full period of Lemass's political career, Horgan provides us with a rounded, sympathetic yet critical examination of the life of one of twentieth-century Ireland's most distinguished figures.... a comprehensive and thoughtful work worthy of the subject, [it] lives up to its billing as a major biography of the Fianna Fáil leader. Stephen Collins, *The Sunday Tribune* Seán Lemass was not only one of the most formidable, but, for all his apparently bluff straightforwardness, one of the most elusive personalities in the history of twentieth-century Ireland. John Horgan's study, skilfully crafted and elegantly expressed, is a major biography of a major figure, greatly enhancing our understanding of the making of modern Ireland. J.J. Lee, author of *The*

Modernisation of Irish Society, 1848-19

tim obrien interview: The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Literature Jay Parini, 2004 The Encyclopedia of American Literature gathers together 350 essays from over 190 leading scholars on the whole of American literature, from European discovery to the present. At the core of the Encyclopedia lie 250 essays on poets, playwrights, essayists, and novelists. Figures such as Whitman, Melville, Faulkner, Frost, and Morrison are discussed in detail with each examined in the context of his or her times, an assessment of the writer's current reputation, a bibliography of major works, and a list of major critical and biographical works about the writer. Fifty entries on major works such as Moby Dick, Song of Myself, Walden, The Great Gatsby, The Waste Land, Their Eyes Were Watching God, Death of a Salesman, and Beloved place the work in its historical context and offer a range of possibilities with regard to critical approach. The Encyclopedia also contains essays on literary movements, periods, and themes, pulling together a broad range of information and making connections between them. Each entry has its own primary and annotated secondary bibliography, and a system of cross-references helps readers locate information with ease. The Encyclopedia of American Literature is an outstanding reference source for students studying authors, or particular pieces of literature; libraries looking for one comprehensive source; and readers interested in American literature, its authors, and its connection with various areas of study.

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