Growing Up Ethnic In America Contemporary Fiction About Learning To Be American

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in this very short introduction robert eaglestone provides a clear and engaging exploration of the major themes patterns and debates of contemporary fiction

metafiction begins by surveying the state of contemporary fiction in britain and america and explores the complex political social and economic factors which influence critical judgment of fiction the author shows how as the novel has been eclipsed by the mass media novelists have sought to retain and regain a wide readership by drawing on the themes and preoccupations of these forms making use of contemporary fiction by such writers as fowles borges spark barthelme brautigan vonnegut and barth and drawing on russian formalist theories of literary evolution the book argues that metafiction uses parody along with popular genres and non literary forms as a way not only of exposing the inadequate and obsolescent conventions of the classic novel but of stuggesting the lines along which fiction might develop in the future

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by richard powers namesake by jhumpa lahiri and middlesex by jeffrey eugenides the authors sharing the common cultural space share also similar experiences and face similar problems coming from quite different backgrounds they might have more in common than it could seem at a first glance

this volume records and describes bibliographical accounts of contemporary american fiction writers with emphasis on single author studies it s purposes are several to trace the historical development of the bibliography of indivdual writers to indicate the depth of bibliographical treatment of those writers currently available to scholars and librarians and finally to highlight the need for additional bibliographic research in the field

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