

# Willa Cather and the politics of criticism

**University of Nebraska Press - Willa Cather and the Politics of Criticism by Joan Acocella, Paperback**

A good deal of our intellectual life in the past half century has been ruled by the following pattern: First, a French person, with great brilliance and little regard for standards of evidence, promulgates a theory overturning dearly held beliefs. Second, many academics, especially the young, seize on the theory and run with it, in the process loading it with far more emotional and political freight than the French thinker—who, after all, was just “doing theory”—had in mind. Meanwhile, other scholars indignantly reaffirm the pre-revisionist view, and everyone calls for more research, to decide the question. In the third stage, the research is produced, and it confuses everybody, because it is too particular, too respectful of variation and complexity, to support either the nice old theory or the naughty new one.

Description: -

- Criticism -- Political aspects -- United States
- Criticism -- United States -- History -- 20th century
- Politics and literature -- United States -- History -- 20th century
- Cather, Willa, -- 1873-1947 -- Political and social views
- Cather, Willa, -- 1873-1947 -- Criticism and interpretation -- History
- Willa Cather and the politics of criticism
- Willa Cather and the politics of criticism

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## Willa Cather and the politics of criticism

**Editorial Reviews** A first-class book, a landmark of sorts. Anyone interested in a fuller, richer insight into Willa Cather's style, read Joan Acocella's keen critique. She is a sure witted judge of books.

## Willa Cather and the politics of criticism

Willa Cather's New York: New Essays on Cather in the City. This beautifully written book makes a significant contribution to Cather studies and, at the same time, points out the follies of political criticism in the study of all literature. With her assertion that Cather 'is deeply suspicious about any communal identity that might overwhelm her individuality', Williams demonstrates how Cather could distil the essence of the city without being consumed by it.

## Holdings: Willa Cather and the politics of criticism /

I'm personally quite happy that Cather has been claimed as a lesbian.

## Holdings: Willa Cather and the politics of criticism /

## 9780803210462: Willa Cather and the Politics of Criticism

Rosowski, Resources for American Literary Study University of Nebraska Press, 9780803210462, 127pp. At the time, I had little support from my committee for a revision argument about traditional Cather criticism

## Willa Cather and the Politics of Criticism by Joan Acocella

And so she was patronized, given faint praise, and occasionally condemned.

### **Willa Cather and the Politics of Criticism : Nebraska Press**

Hence the inexpressible sadness of Cather's work. This beautifully written book makes a significant contribution to Cather studies and, at the same time, points out the follies of political criticism in the study of all literature.

### **Willa Cather and the politics of criticism in SearchWorks catalog**

But Acocella, though she has assembled quite a nifty little chamber of critical horrors, is not your ordinary outrage-collecting cultural conservative. Within the first page, Acocella quickly changed my reticence about groping for meaning from literary critics into a determined and engrossing discovery about the world s of literary criticism, while learning more about Cather as a person and an author - and painlessly.

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