



The malcontents : the best bitter, cynical, and satirical writing in the world /

Queenan, Joe

Running Press Book Publishers,
2002

Satire satire (artistic device) Satire. Satirical literature. Satire. Satirical literature. Satires (Littérature)

Monografía

It's no surprise that, as he claims in his thoughtful and witty introduction, humorist Queenan (Balsamic Dreams) relished the opportunity to pore over and select the hilarious and sometimes disturbing works in this anthology. As he points out, "One of the great pleasures in reading books that are hundreds and even thousands of years old is in discovering how little the targets of the satirist have changed over the centuries." The buffoonery and sometimes depravity of such targets are on full display in this volume, which features 30 works by 19 authors and includes such classics as "A Modest Proposal," Candide, and shorter pieces by Mark Twain and Flann O'Brien. Gargantua and Pantagruel and Don Quixote rollick through brief selections as well. Queenan makes a good case for the less obvious choices rounding out the collection, notably Machiavelli's The Prince and de Sade's Justine, but he fails to link the ancient with the contemporary: the last half-century of bitter and cynical writing goes disappointingly ignored. And yet, though heavily weighted toward "classic satire," this anthology is likely the best of its kind to date. Recommended for all libraries

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Título: The malcontents the best bitter, cynical, and satirical writing in the world edited, with commentary, by Joe Queenan

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Contenido: The birds / Aristophanes -- Satire I / Juvenal -- The prince / Niccolò Machiavelli -- Selections from Gargantua and Pantagruel / François Rabelais -- Selections from Don Quixote / Miguel de Cervantes -- Volpone / Ben Jonson -- The bourgeois gentleman / Molière -- A modest proposal / Jonathan Swift -- The rape of the lock / Alexander Pope -- Candide / Voltaire -- An excerpt from Justine: or the misfortunes of Virtue / Marquis de Sade -- Lady Susan / Jane Austen -- The nose / Nikolai Vasilievich Gogol -- English as she is taught ; Fenimore Cooper's literary offenses ; Marjorie Fleming, the wonder child ; In defense of Harriet Shelley ; A medieval romance ; The story of the good little boy ; The grateful poodle and sequel / Mark Twain -- Killed at Resaca ; Oil of dog ; An imperfect conflagration ; My favorite murder ; The boarded window ; The lion and the thorn ; A revolt of the gods /

Ambrose Bierce -- The picture of Dorian Gray / Oscar Wilde -- Mrs. Warren's profession / George Bernard Shaw --
The reticence of Lady Anne ; The quest ; Shock tactics ; Hyacinth ; Tobermory / Saki -- Selections from the Irish
Times / Flann O'Brien

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