

THE HISTORY OF THE ESSAY

A Reading List by Alison Hawthorne Deming

Michel de Montaigne, tr. Donald Frame, from THE COMPLETE ESSAYS
Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Tr. M.S. Peden, from POEMS, PROTEST, AND A DREAM
Yoshida Kenko, ESSAYS IN IDLENESS
Charles Lamb, THE ESSAYS OF ELIA
Ralph Waldo Emerson, ESSAYS
Henry David Thoreau, WALDEN and “On the Duty of Civil Disobedience”
George Orwell, SELECTED ESSAYS
Virginia Woolf, COLLECTED ESSAYS
Natalia Ginzburg, THE LITTLE VIRTUES
Doris Lessing, PRISONS WE CHOOSE TO LIVE INSIDE
William Carlos Williams, IN THE AMERICAN GRAIN
James Baldwin, NOTES OF A NATIVE SON
Roland Barthes, MYTHOLOGIES
Joan Didion, SLOUCHING TOWARDS BETHLEHEM
Lewis Thomas, THE FRAGILE SPECIES
Annie Dillard, TEACHING A STONE TO TALK
Richard Rodriguez, BROWN
Scott Russell Sanders, HUNTING FOR HOPE
Dave Hickey, AIR GUITAR
Albert Goldbarth, MANY CIRCLES
David Foster Wallace, CONSIDER THE LOBSTER
Lia Purpura, ON LOOKING