



# Autobiographical Writing Across the Disciplines: A Reader

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*Autobiographical Writing Across the Disciplines* reveals the extraordinary breadth of the intellectual movement toward self-inclusive scholarship. Presenting exemplary works of criticism incorporating personal narratives, this volume brings together twenty-seven essays from scholars in literary studies and history, mathematics and medicine, philosophy, music, film, ethnic studies, law, education, anthropology, religion, and biology. Pioneers in the development of the hybrid genre of personal scholarship, the writers whose work is presented here challenge traditional modes of inquiry and ways of knowing. In assembling their work, editors Diane P. Freedman and Olivia Frey have provided a rich source of reasons for and models of autobiographical criticism.

The editors' introduction presents a condensed history of academic writing, chronicles the origins of autobiographical criticism, and emphasizes the role of feminism in championing the value of personal narrative to disciplinary discourse. The essays are all explicitly informed by the identities of their authors, among whom are a feminist scientist, a Jewish filmmaker living in Germany, a potential carrier of Huntington's disease, and a doctor pregnant while in medical school. Whether describing how being a professor of ethnic literature necessarily entails being an activist, how music and cooking are related, or how a theology is shaped by cultural identity, the contributors illuminate the relationship between their scholarly pursuits and personal lives and, in the process, expand the boundaries of their disciplines.

Contributors:

Kwame Anthony Appiah  
Ruth Behar  
Merrill Black  
David Bleich  
James Cone  
Brenda Daly  
Laura B. DeLind  
Carlos L. Dews  
Michael Dorris  
Diane P. Freedman  
Olivia Frey  
Peter Hamlin  
Laura Duhan Kaplan  
Perri Klass  
Muriel Lederman  
Deborah Lefkowitz  
Eunice Lipton  
Robert D. Marcus  
Donald Murray  
Seymour Papert  
Carla T. Peterson  
David Richman  
Sara Ruddick  
Julie Tharp

Bonnie TuSmith  
Alex Wexler  
Naomi Weisstein  
Patricia Williams

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