

## Resources Available at the Library: *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver and Other Great Literary Works by Great Authors



<http://tinyurl.com/6bk7c>

**Literature Resource Center** is the first place to go to online to find authoritative biographies and literary criticisms on authors. For this assignment, we recommend you begin with author. An online tutorial in PowerPoint on LRC is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/5w2phc>.

Search Tips: NOTE: unlike any other database, please do NOT select peer-reviewed below. It actually will remove key peer-reviewed articles that way. Instead, look at the Literary Criticisms on the Search Result screen.

### Name of Work Search

To find criticisms of a work, click on Name of Work below the **Basic Search** screen. Enter the name of the work.

**Basic Search**  
Find :     
Search for words in:  Person - By or About  Name of Work  Keywords  All Text

### Persons-By or About Search

To find biographical and bio-critical works on an author, enter the author's name, and then select Person-By or About in the **Basic Search** screen.

Currently searching *Literature Resource Center* with 1,078,026 documents.

**Basic Search**  
Find :     
Search for words in:  Person - By or About  Name of Work  Keywords  All Text

### Intertextual Search

To find works LIKE your author or work, you often need to look at criticisms first to see what critics have compared the work to. Simply select **All Text** for either author or the name of the work. You can also search more indirectly with search terms that describe the work at hand. Enter your search terms with AND in between each search term, and then select "All Text" in the **Basic Search** screen. For example,

**Basic Search**  
Find :     
Search for words in:  Person - By or About  Name of Work  Keywords  All Text

## OTHER INTERTEXTUAL SEARCHES

Another option is to find other authors is to search by **genre**, **Subject/Theme**, **Gender**, **Nationality**, or **Ethnicity**.

To do so, go to **Person Search**. Leave the top blank and instead select one or more of the following options:

**Person Search**

If you know the name of the person you're looking for, enter it here

OR use any combination of the options below to create a list of people who match you

Gender:

Nationality:   
Afghan  
Albanian  
Alexandrian

Ethnicity:   
African American  
Arab American  
Asian American

Occupation:

Literary Movement:

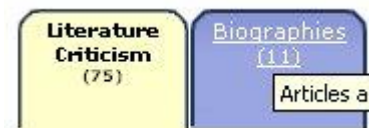
Genre:

Subject/Theme:

Click on **Browse** to see the official index terms for literary movements, genres, and subject/theme, because if the term you use does NOT match the index, you will go to no results.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SEARCHES

For **Biographical searches**, after you get to your results, be sure to click on the **Biographies** tab, to just view the biographies and bio-critical essays.



## GALE LITERARY INDEX

Since there's a lot of great material that is NOT online, be sure to also look at **The Gale Literary Index**.



<http://www.galenet.com/servlet/LitIndex>

Then ask for help from the reference desk to locate the books you find in the database! We list SOME of them below in this handout, but there are quite a number of different reference books we have that contain excerpts to many renowned literary criticisms!

## MULTI-SUBJECT DATABASES

You will also find additional literary criticisms in the following three databases. We strongly recommend you search at LEAST two databases, as Literature Resource Center certainly does NOT contain everything, and you may have great finds in these resources.



EBSCOhost Academic Search Elite

<http://tinyurl.com/34jgeg>

ProQuest

ProQuest Diversity Databases:  
Alt-PressWatch, Ethnic NewsWatch,  
GenderWatch

<http://tinyurl.com/2ahju9>



Project MUSE

<http://tinyurl.com/33ovwe>

NOTE: Be sure that the article you are selecting is NOT a book review. Often, the citation will have the words "Review" or "Book Review" listed in parenthesis after the article title, though sometimes you may have to look at the **Subject Terms** or the **abstract** (brief summary of the article) to determine if it is a review vs. a critical essay.

<b>Title:</b>	<a href="#">Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life.</a>
<b>Source:</b>	<a href="#">Booklist</a> ; 3/1/2008, Vol. 104 Issue 13, p4-4, 1p
<b>Document Type:</b>	Book Review
<b>Subject Terms:</b>	<a href="#">*BOOKS -- Reviews</a> <a href="#">*NONFICTION</a> <a href="#">FOOD in literature</a>
<b>Reviews &amp; Products:</b>	<a href="#">ANIMAL, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life (Book)</a>
<b>People:</b>	<a href="#">KINGSOLVER, Barbara</a>
<b>Abstract:</b>	The article reviews the book "Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life," by <i>Barbara Kingsolver</i> .

### Intertextual Search Recommendations in Other Databases

The best recommendation to discover stories, novels, and poems, like the ones you are currently reading is to begin with the work or author in a full text search, first. We recommend you use, especially, **Project MUSE**, as that database contains LOTS of criticisms that compare and contrast texts that are similar in some type of aspect.

Search for:

AND

[Add a Row](#)

### Additional Search Options

Type of Content:

- All Articles and Reviews
- Articles Only (No Reviews)

## SPECIAL NOTE FOR STUDENTS WRITING ON *THE BEAN TREES*

For students searching resources on *The Bean Trees*, in addition to finding at least **ONE** article from our databases, we also recommend you come to the right side of the main desk (**Check Out Desk and Instructors' Materials**). There are additional articles and a book (**Barbara Kingsolver: A Critical Companion**) you can use to find more criticisms, but you **MUST** find at least ONE article from the databases.

**LITERARY BIOGRAPHIES AND CRITICISMS** Also a good place to find similar texts, if pursuing the intertextual assignment.

Title	Location
<i>Dictionary of Literary Biography</i>	Reference: Filed in PS, with Call Number DLB
<i>Contemporary Literary Criticism</i>	Reference: PN771 .C59
<i>Twentieth Century Literary Criticism</i>	Reference: PN771 .T85
<i>Poetry Criticism</i>	Reference: PN1010 .P6
<i>Short Story Criticism</i>	Reference: PS3373 S56
<i>Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature</i>	Reference: PS153.M56 G74 2005
<i>Black Literature Criticism</i>	Reference: PS153.N5 B556 1992
<i>Asian American Literature</i>	Reference: PS153.A84 A82 1999
<i>American Women Writers</i>	Reference: PS147 .A42 2000
<i>Reference Guide to Short Fiction</i>	Reference: PN 3373 R36 1994
<i>A Reader's Companion to the Short Story in English</i>	Reference: PS 374.S5 R43 2001
<i>The Columbia Companion to the Twentieth-Century American Short Story</i>	Reference: PS 374.S5 C57 2000

## DICTIONARIES AND PLOT SUMMARIES

Be clear on common literary terms and for the intertextual assignment, look up plot summaries to novels or find similar themed poems

Title	Location
<i>A Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory</i>	Reference: PN 41 C83 1998
<i>A Glossary of Contemporary Literary Theory</i>	Reference: PN44.5 .H37 2000
<i>Dictionary of Literary Themes and Motifs</i>	Reference: PN43 .D48 1988
<i>Dictionary of Poetic Terms</i>	Reference: PN1042 .M93 2003
<i>Encyclopedia of Feminist Literary Theory</i>	Reference: PN98.W64 E53 1997
<i>Columbia Granger's Index to Poetry</i>	Reference: PN1022 .C63 2004
<i>Masterplots</i>	Reference: PN44 .M32
<i>Magill's Literary Annual</i>	Reference: PN44 .M33
<a href="#">Literature Resource Center</a>	Click on "Topic and Work Overviews" in search results

## BACKGROUND REFERENCE SOURCES

Title	Location
<i>Dictionary of American History</i>	Reference: E 174.D52 2003
<i>American Decades (twentieth century)</i>	Reference: E 169.1 A4199
<i>American Eras (Colonialism to 19<sup>th</sup> century)</i>	Reference: E169.1 .A471979
<i>Encyclopedia of the United States in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century</i>	Reference: E169.1 .E626 2001
<i>St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture</i>	Reference: E 169.1.S764 2000
<i>Greenwood Encyclopedia of World Culture</i>	Reference: HM621 .G74 2007
<i>Gale Encyclopedia of Religion</i>	Reference: BL31 .E46 2005
<i>Man, Myth, and Magic</i>	Reference: BF1407 .M34 1995
<i>Countries and Their Cultures</i>	Reference: GN307 .C68 2001
<i>International Encyclopedia of Marriage and Family</i>	Reference: HQ9 .E52 2003
<i>Greenwood Encyclopedia of Daily Life</i>	Reference: GT31 .G74 2004
<i>Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America</i>	Reference: E184.A1 G14 1995
<i>Encyclopedia of Race, Ethnicity and Society</i>	Reference: HT1521 .E63 2008
<i>Reference Library of Asian America</i>	Reference: E184.O6 R45 1995
<i>Reference Library of Black America</i>	Reference: E 185 R44 1997
<i>Reference Library of European America</i>	Reference: E 184 E95 R45 1998
<i>Reference Library of Native North America</i>	Reference: E 77 N37 1994

## Web Resources

Use Web search engines (such as Google) last for your research, and if you do, be prepared to evaluate web sites with a very skeptical eye. Anybody can put anything on the web, and if you do not pay attention, you could be referring to very questionable or misinformed sites.

For example, a student created [an otherwise decent page on the literary author, Toni Morrison](#), but she linked to a web page that purported to be a research site on Martin Luther King that turned out to be a racist web site from a white supremacy group! The Library has an effective web evaluation checklist available at: <http://www.chabotcollege.edu/Library/abby/evaluation.html>

In general, the Library does NOT recommend New Media sources such as Wikipedia—you should focus more on a more traditional screening and evaluative process for the sources you select from the Web (general laymen and volunteer editors that have no expertise with regards to the content at hand cannot substitute).

Here are places to start on the Web:

### [Public WWW Sites Selected by Librarians](#)

<http://tinyurl.com/35nps8>

Chabot College Library has found reliable web sites that you can search at once with our custom Google search engine. Note: When you get to search results, click on Journals to find more journal articles!

### [Resources by Subject](#)

<http://www.chabotcollege.edu/Library/subjectindex/>

Select a discipline and then select one of the search tools listed under “Public World Wide Web”

### [INFOMINE](#)

<http://infomine.ucr.edu/>

When searching, keep in mind that sites listed with a dollar sign after it (\$) are premium subscriptions Chabot College is NOT subscribed to, but all other sites are available for you to use.

## Library Research Tips and Citing Responsibly

### [Searchpath: Chabot Library Tutorial](#)

<http://www.chabotcollege.edu/library/searchpathclassic/>

### [You Quote It, You Note It: How to Avoid Plagiarism](#)

<http://tinyurl.com/oaxmc>

### [MLA Works Cited Handout](#)

<http://www.chabotcollege.edu/Library/onlineref/cited.html>

### [Citation Builder](#)

<http://www.sourceaid.com/citationbuilder/>

Have the Citation Builder create your citation by typing in author, titles, and other relevant publication information.