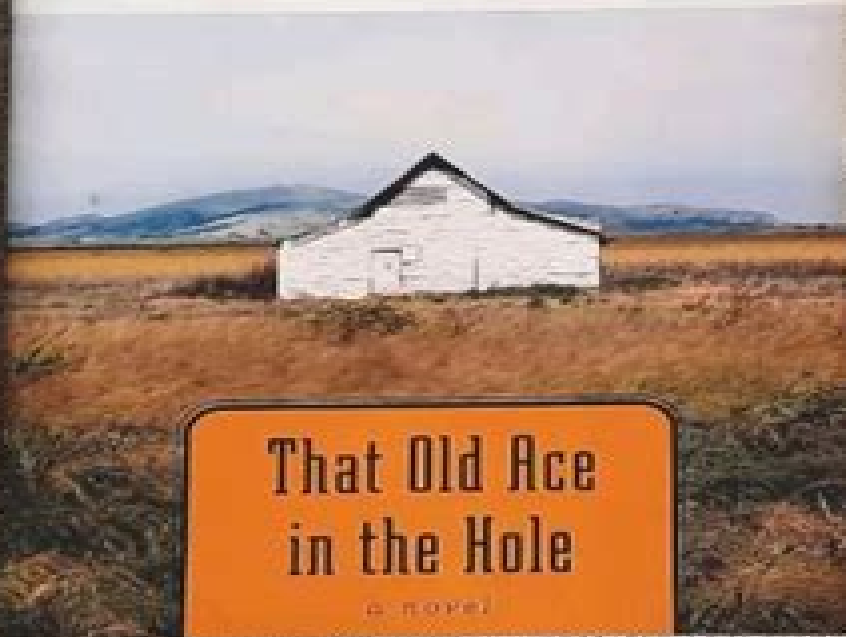


ANNIE PROULX

WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE AND
THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR THE SHIPWRECK NEWS



That Old Ace In The Hole A Novel

Padhraic Smyth



That Old Ace In The Hole A Novel:

That Old Ace in the Hole Annie Proulx, 2007-12-01 From Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winner Annie Proulx comes an exhilarating story brimming with language history landscape music and love Bob Dollar is a young man from Denver trying to make good in a bad world Out of college and aimless Dollar takes a job with Global Pork Rind scouting out big spreads of land that can be converted to hog farms Soon he s holed up in a two bit Texas town called Woolybucket where he settles into LaVon Fronk s old bunkhouse for fifty dollars a month helps out at Cy Frease s Old Dog Caf and learns the hard way how vigorously the old Texas ranch owners will hold on to their land even when their children want no part of it Robust often bawdy strikingly original *That Old Ace in the Hole* traces the waves of change that have shaped the American West over the past century and in Bob Dollar Proulx has created one of the most irrepressible characters in contemporary fiction

That Old Ace in the Hole Annie Proulx, 2002 The eagerly awaited new novel from Pulitzer Prize winner Annie Proulx author of *THE SHIPPING NEWS* A richly textured story of one man s struggle to make good in the inhospitable ranch country of the Texas panhandle told with razor wit and a masterly sense of place Some folks in the Texas panhandle do not like hog farms But Bob Dollar the newly hired hog site scout for Global Pork Rind intends to do his job He is also determined not to turn out like his parents who left him on his Uncle Tam s doorstep as a child and afflicted by the tendency to believe his own daydreams to the point of forgetting that he made them up in the first place Bob ends up in Woolybucket a town whose idiosyncratic inhabitants have ridden out all manner of booms and busts in panhandle country cattle ranching tornadoes dust storms gas and oil days feedlot proliferation These tough men and women seem to grow stronger with age seasoned by the rigours of their life from ancient Freda Beautyrooms who controls a ranch Bob covets to Ace Crouch the windmill who defies the hog farms They aren t the only obstacles in Bob s path As he settles in at La Von Fronk s bunkhouse and lends a hand at Cy

That Old Ace in the Hole Annie Proulx, 2010 Bob Dollar is in need of a break Raised by his uncle Tam Bapp after being abandoned by his feckless parents he s drifted without purpose through a couple of jobs until landing a post as a hog site scout for a meat company in Texas In order to succeed Bob needs to win over the hard bitten men and women of the area like Freda Beautyrooms slow frail but shrewd as they come and Ace Crouch bonded to the land at all costs Bob is determined to make something of his life and his attempts at befriending the locals have comic results Strong language 2002

The Geographical Imagination of Annie Proulx Alex Hunt, 2010-11-23 This edited collection focuses on Annie Proulx s striking attention to geography place landscape and local environments Contributors consider Proulx s particular landscapes _particularly those of Wyoming New England Texas and Newfoundland_ and the issues surrounding the significance of these regions and regionalism in contemporary culture and literature

That Old Ace in the Hole by Annie Proulx Llewellyn Johns, 2004 **Storying the Ecocatastrophe** Helena Duffy, Katarina Leppänen, 2024-05-31 How do writers and artists represent the climate catastrophe so that their works stir audiences to political action or at least raise

their environmental awareness without however appearing didactic Storying the Ecocatastrophe attempts to answer this question while interrogating the potential of narrative to become a viable political force The collection of essays achieves this by examining the representational strategies and ideological goals of contemporary cultural productions about climate change These productions have been created across different genres such as the traditional novel dance performance solarpunk economic report collage and space opera as well as across different languages and cultures The volume s twelve chapters demonstrate that rising temperatures erratic weather extinction of species depletion of resources and coastal erosion and flooding are an effect of our abusive relationship with nature They also show that our use of nuclear power extraction of natural resources and extensive farming including heavy reliance on pesticides intersect with intrahuman violence as fleshed out by heteropatriarchy racism neo colonialism and capitalism They finally argue that human activity has indirectly contributed to other contemporary crises namely the migrant crisis and the spread of contagious diseases such as Covid 19 Chapter 8 of this book is freely available as a downloadable Open Access PDF at <http://www.taylorfrancis.com> under a Creative Commons Attribution Non Commercial No Derivatives CC BY NC ND 4 0 license

Popular Contemporary Writers, 2006 Ninety six alphabetically arranged author profiles include biographical information critical commentary and illustrations

The Readers' Advisory Guide to Historical Fiction Jennifer S. Baker, 2015 Whether set in ancient Egypt Feudal Japan the Victorian Age or Civil War era America historical fiction places readers squarely at the center of fascinating times and places making it one of the most popular genres in contemporary publishing The definitive resource for librarians and other book professionals this guide Provides an overview of historical fiction s roots highlighting foundational classics and explores the genre in terms of its scope and style Covers the latest and most popular authors and titles Discusses appeal characteristics and shows how librarians can use a reader s favorite qualities to make suggestions Includes lists of recommendations with a compendium of print and web based resources Offers marketing tips for getting the word out to readers Emphasizing an appreciation of historical fiction in its many forms and focusing on what fans enjoy this guide provides a fresh take on a durable genre

Regionalism and the Reading Class Wendy Griswold, 2008-09-15

Globalization and the Internet are smothering cultural regionalism that sense of place that flourished in simpler times These two villains are also prime suspects in the death of reading Or so alarming reports about our homogenous and dumbed down culture would have it but as Regionalism and the Reading Class shows neither of these claims stands up under scrutiny quite the contrary Wendy Griswold draws on cases from Italy Norway and the United States to show that fans of books form their own reading class with a distinctive demographic profile separate from the general public This reading class is modest in size but intense in its literary practices Paradoxically these educated and mobile elites work hard to put down local roots by among other strategies exploring regional writing Ultimately due to the technological economic and political advantages they wield cosmopolitan readers are able to celebrate perpetuate and reinvigorate local culture Griswold s study will appeal to

students of cultural sociology and the history of the book and her findings will be welcome news to anyone worried about the future of reading or the eclipse of place **Where the Wild Books Are** Jim Dwyer,2010-04-01 As interest in environmental issues grows many writers of fiction have embraced themes that explore the connections between humans and the natural world Ecologically themed fiction ranges from profound philosophical meditations to action packed entertainments Where the Wild Books Are offers an overview of nearly 2 000 works of nature oriented fiction The author includes a discussion of the precursors and history of the genre and of its expansion since the 1970s He also considers its forms and themes as well as the subgenres into which it has evolved such as speculative fiction ecodefense animal stories mysteries ecofeminist novels cautionary tales and others A brief summary and critical commentary of each title is included Dwyer s scope is broad and covers fiction by Native American writers as well as ecofiction from writers around the world Far more than a mere listing of books Where the Wild Books Are is a lively introduction to a vast universe of engaging provocative writing It can be used to develop book collections or curricula It also serves as an introduction to one of the most fertile areas of contemporary fiction presenting books that will offer enjoyable reading and new insights into the vexing environmental questions of our time

New York ,2003 Science Fiction and Speculative Fiction P. L. Thomas,2013-09-03 Why did Kurt Vonnegut shun being labeled a writer of science fiction SF How did Margaret Atwood and Ursula K Le Guin find themselves in a public argument about the nature of SF This volume explores the broad category of SF as a genre as one that challenges readers viewers teachers and scholars and then as one that is often itself challenged as the authors in the collection do SF this volume acknowledges is an enduring argument The collected chapters include work from teachers scholars artists and a wide range of SF fans offering a powerful and unique blend of voices to scholarship about SF as well as examinations of the place for SF in the classroom Among the chapters discussions focus on SF within debates for and against SF the history of SF the tensions related to SF and other genres the relationship between SF and science SF novels SF short fiction SF film and visual forms including TV SF young adult fiction SF comic books and graphic novels and the place of SF in contemporary public discourse The unifying thread running through the volume as with the series is the role of critical literacy and pedagogy and how SF informs both as essential elements of liberatory and democratic education *A History of British, Irish and American Literature* Hans-Peter Wagner,2021-10-04 The third revised and enlarged edition contains discussions of British Irish and American literary works up to 2020 Focussing on outstanding writings in prose poetry drama and non fiction the book covers the time from the Anglo Saxon period to the 21st century The feature that makes this literary history unique among its rivals is the coverage of television web series as a particular form of postmodern drama The chapters on recent drama now contain detailed analyses of the development of TV and web series from Britain Ireland and America with extensive discussions of those series now considered classics In addition there are several major innovative features To begin with each century is introduced by a survey of the socio political and cultural backgrounds in which the literary works are embedded Furthermore

extensive visual material more than 160 engravings cartoons and paintings has been integrated This visual aspect as well as the introductory sections on art for each century give the reader an excellent idea of the symbiosis between visual and literary representations Further innovative aspects include discussions of non fictional works from literary criticism and theory travel writing historiography and the social sciences analyses of such popular genres as crime fiction science fiction fantasy the Western horror fiction and children s literature footnotes explaining technical and historical terms and events a detailed glossary of literary terms chronological tables for British Anglo Irish and American literatures an updated cut off date 2020 extensive bibliography containing suggestions for further reading

The Modern Library Carmen Callil, Colm Toibin, 2011-06-30 For Colm Toibin and Carmen Callil there is no difference between literary and commercial writing there is only the good novel engrossing inspirational compelling In their selection of the best 200 novels written since 1950 the editors make a case for the best and the best loved works and argue why each should be considered a modern classic Enlightening often unexpected and always engaging this tour through the world of fiction is full of surprises forgotten masterpieces and a valuable guide to what to read next Authors in the collection include Agatha Christie Georgette Heyer Daphne du Maurier Patrick Hamilton Carson McCullers J D Salinger Bernard Malamud Flannery O Connor Mulk Raj Anand Raymond Chandler L P Hartley Amos Tutuola Sylvia Townsend Warner Samuel Beckett Patricia Highsmith Chinua Achebe Isak Dineson Alan Sillitoe Ivy Compton Burnett Grace Paley Harper Lee Olivia Manning and Mordecai Richler

Contesting Environmental Imaginaries Steven Hartman, 2017-03-13 Contesting Environmental Imaginaries foregrounds a question central to humanistic environmental studies How is nature to be perceived and understood in a time of global environmental crisis A challenge was issued to imagine counter natures past or present casting nature as a normative concept into productive relief One ambition was to highlight shifting perspectives on nature and the environment that may help account for the rise of the environmental humanities another was to invite challenges to orthodoxies including those that animate this burgeoning field Contributions emerged from the study areas of Environmental History Ecocriticism Cultural Studies American Studies Caribbean Studies Scandinavian Studies Media Studies and the History of Ideas This volume draws together the fruits of this thought experiment

The Oxford Book of American Short Stories Joyce Carol Oates, 2013 Joyce Carol Oates has performed a full review of her acclaimed 1992 anthology The Oxford Book of American Short Stories and in this second edition embraces those authors who have come to define turn of the century American literature Jhumpa Lahiri Junot Diaz Richard Ford and David Foster Wallace are just a few of the authors whose stories are now represented Each story is accompanied by a brief introduction and there is also a fascinating introductory essay by Joyce Carol Oates that explains why these stories form the foundation of the American literary canon and the trends and innovations that have taken place in the last twenty years

Bad Land Pastoralism in Great Plains Fiction Matthew J. C. Cella, 2010-04-15 At the core of this nuanced book is the question that ecocritics have been debating for decades what is the relationship between aesthetics

and activism between art and community By using a pastoral lens to examine ten fictional narratives that chronicle the dialogue between human culture and nonhuman nature on the Great Plains Matthew Cella explores literary treatments of a succession of abrupt cultural transitions from the Euroamerican conquest of the Indian wilderness in the nineteenth century to the Buffalo Commons phenomenon in the twentieth By charting the shifting meaning of land use and biocultural change in the region he posits this bad land the arid West as a crucible for the development of the human imagination Each chapter deals closely with two novels that chronicle the same crisis within the Plains community Cella highlights for example how Willa Cather reconciles her persistent romanticism with a growing disillusionment about the future of rural Nebraska how Tillie Olsen and Frederick Manfred approach the tragedy of the Dust Bowl with strikingly similar visions and how Annie Proulx and Thomas King use the return of the buffalo as the centerpiece of a revised mythology of the Plains as a palimpsest defined by layers of change and response By illuminating these fictional quests for wholeness on the Great Plains Cella leads us to understand the intricate interdependency of people and the places they inhabit Cella uses the term pastoralism in its broadest sense to mean a mode of thinking that probes the relationship between nature and culture a discourse concerned with human engagement material and nonmaterial with the nonhuman community In all ten novels discussed in this book pastoral experience the encounter with the Beautiful leads to a renewed understanding of the integral connection between human and nonhuman communities Propelling this tradition of bad land pastoralism are an underlying faith in the beauty of wholeness that comes from inhabiting a continuously changing biocultural landscape and a recognition of the inevitability of change The power of story and language to shape the direction of that change gives literary pastoralism the potential to support an alternative series of ideals based not on escape but on stewardship community continuity and commitment

Books and Beyond Kenneth Womack, 2008-10-30 There is a strong interest in reading for pleasure or self improvement in America as shown by the popularity of Harry Potter and book clubs including Oprah Winfrey's Although recent government reports show a decline in recreational reading the same reports show a strong correlation between interest in reading and academic achievement This set provides a snapshot of the current state of popular American literature including various types and genres The volume presents alphabetically arranged entries on more than 70 diverse literary categories such as cyberpunk fantasy literature flash fiction LGBTQ literature graphic novels manga and anime and zines Each entry is written by an expert contributor and provides a definition of the genre an overview of its history a look at trends and themes a discussion of how the literary form engages contemporary issues a review of the genre's reception a discussion of authors and works and suggestions for further reading Sidebars provide fascinating details and the set closes with a selected general bibliography Reading in America for pleasure and knowledge continues to be popular even while other media compete for attention While students continue to read many of the standard classics new genres have emerged These have captured the attention of general readers and are also playing a critical role in the language arts classroom This book maps the state of

popular literature and reading in America today including the growth of new genres such as cyberpunk zines flash fiction GLBTQ literature and other topics Each entry is written by an expert contributor and provides a definition of the genre an overview of its history a look at trends and themes a discussion of how the literary form engages contemporary issues a review of the genre's critical reception a discussion of authors and works and suggestions for further reading Sidebars provide fascinating details and the set closes with a selected general bibliography Students will find this book a valuable guide to what they're reading today and will appreciate its illumination of popular culture and contemporary social issues

The Cambridge Guide to Literature in English Dominic Head, 2006-01-26 This illustrated and fully updated Third Edition of The Cambridge Guide to Literature in English is the most authoritative and international survey of world literature in English available The Guide covers everything from Old English to contemporary writing from all over the English speaking world There are entries on writers from Britain and Ireland the USA Canada India Africa South Africa New Zealand the South Pacific and Australia as well as on many important poems novels literary journals and plays This new edition has been brought completely up to date with more than 280 new author entries most of them for living authors The general reader will find it fascinating to browse and to discover many new writers and works while students will find it an invaluable resource for daily use This is a unique work of reference for the twenty first century that no reader or library should be without

Write Great Fiction Revision And Self-Editing James Scott Bell, 2008-04-21 Don't let the revision process intimidate you any longer Discover how to successfully transform your first draft into a polished final draft readers won't be able to forget In Write Great Fiction Revision Self Editing James Scott Bell draws on his experience as a novelist and instructor to provide specific revision tips geared toward the first read through as well as targeted self editing instruction focusing on the individual elements of a novel like plot structure characters theme voice style setting and endings You'll learn how to Write a cleaner first draft right out of the gate using Bell's plotting principles Get the most out of revision and self editing techniques by honing your skills with detailed exercises Systematically revise a completed draft using the ultimate revision checklist that talks you through the core story elements Whether you're in the process of writing a novel have a finished draft you don't know what to do with or have a rejected manuscript you don't know how to fix Revision Self Editing gives you the guidance you need to write and revise like a pro

Reviewing **That Old Ace In The Hole A Novel**: Unlocking the Spellbinding Force of Linguistics

In a fast-paced world fueled by information and interconnectivity, the spellbinding force of linguistics has acquired newfound prominence. Its capacity to evoke emotions, stimulate contemplation, and stimulate metamorphosis is truly astonishing. Within the pages of "**That Old Ace In The Hole A Novel**," an enthralling opus penned by a highly acclaimed wordsmith, readers embark on an immersive expedition to unravel the intricate significance of language and its indelible imprint on our lives. Throughout this assessment, we shall delve into the book's central motifs, appraise its distinctive narrative style, and gauge its overarching influence on the minds of its readers.

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