

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page ix</i>
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xi
Chapter 1 Life	1
Chapter 2 Contexts	12
The existential context	12
The historical context	13
The urban context	14
The visual context	16
The psychological context	19
The American context	20
The context of labor	21
The context of slavery	22
The world context	23
The imaginative context	23
Chapter 3 Writings	25
The faces of <i>Typee</i>	27
<i>Omoo</i> : the rover as flaneur	33
Becoming a great writer: <i>Mardi</i> , <i>Redburn</i> , <i>White-Jacket</i>	39
Confronting <i>Moby-Dick</i>	46
<i>Pierre</i> : the making of a tragic hero	60
Private letters	67
Rewriting history: <i>Israel Potter</i> and “Benito Cereno”	74
Modern man: “The Lightning-Rod Man,” <i>The Confidence-Man</i> , “Bartleby, the Scrivener”	81

<i>Battle-Pieces</i> : the voices of war	87
<i>Clarel</i> , an American epic	92
The return to prose: Burgundy Club sketches, <i>John Marr</i>	99
<i>Billy Budd</i> : visions and revisions	105

Chapter 4 Reception 112

<i>Notes</i>	124
<i>Guide to further reading</i>	130
<i>Index</i>	135