

More Literature of Mines and Miners

Baber, Bob Henry, George Ella Lyon, and Gurney Norman, eds. *Old Wounds, New Words:*

Poems from the Appalachian Poetry Project. Ashland, KY: Jesse Stuart Foundation, 1994.

Print. PS554 .O43 1994

Some of the poems related to coal in this volume are: "3:00 A.M. Train," "My Father's Black Lungs," "The Last Unmined Vein," "Fossil Fuel," and "Train Horn."

Giardina, Denise. *Storming Heaven: A Novel.* New York: Ballantine, 1988. Print.

PZ4 .G5374 St 1988

This novel is set in West Virginia in the early part of the 20th century. Four narrators describe their perspective of the historical, 1921 Battle of Blair Mountain when 10,000 coal miners took up arms against the mine owners to organize a union for the miners. U.S. Army bombers dropped gas and explosive bombs killing and wounding hundreds.

Haigh, Jennifer. *Baker Towers.* NY: William Morrow, 2005. Print. PZ4 .H33325 Ba 2005

The towers in the titles are smoldering slag heaps from the coal mines of the fictional Bakerton, PA. It is set in the post World War II years and tells of a family and a community that some want to leave and others wish to stay.

House, Silas. *Clay's Quilt: A Novel.* New York: Ballantine, 2001. Print. PZ4 .H6873 Cl 2001

Set in Kentucky, this tells more of the earlier story of the Sizemore family, and their love of place and love of family. Clay is the main character and he is the grown son of Anneth, from the novel, *The Coal Tattoo.*

---. *The Coal Tattoo: A Novel.* New York: Ballantine, 2005. Print. PZ4 .H6873 Co 2005

Continues the saga began in *The Clay Quilt* and *A Parchment of Leaves*. This is set in the 1960's in Clay County, Kentucky when two sisters lose their father in a mining accident. One sister leaves college to raise her younger sister. One is religious, the other wild. Both, in the end, fight against the coal company that threatens their home.

O'Dell, Tawni. *Back Roads*. New York: Viking, 2000. Print. PZ4 .O3344 Ba 2000

A novel of a family in a Pennsylvania coal-mining town. The mother is in jail for killing the father and the four children are on their own, Harley Altmyer, 20, once abused, works two minimum wage jobs to support his three sisters, and family secrets are buried deep.

Ultimately this is a story of his survival and discovery of his own self worth.

Ogle, George Ewing. *The Price of Colorado Coal: A Tale of Ludlow and Columbine*. Xlibris, 2006. Print. PZ4 .O3362 Pr 2006

An historical novel based on 2 massacres, the Ludlow Massacre, 1913 to 1914, and the Columbine Miners' Strike, 1927.

Olsen, Tillie. *Yonnonidio: From the Thirties*. Lincoln: U Nebraska P, 2004. Print. PZ4 .O3736 Yo 2004

Jim and Anna Holbrook and Maize, a six-year-old girl, move from a mining town in Wyoming during the depression, only to face a drunken miner who tries to throw Maize down a mining shaft. Another move to Omaha doesn't help them to find a secure job, nor a better life.

Settle, Mary Lee. "from *Addie*" and "from *the Killing Ground*." *Listen Here: Women Writing in Appalachia*. Eds. Sandra L. Ballard and Patricia L. Hudson. Lexington: UP Kentucky, 2003. 536-544. Print. PS554 .L57 2003

Addie is a memoir/autobiography of Settle's grandmother. *The Killing Ground* is the fifth novel in the *Beulah Quintet*.

Sinclair, Upton. *King Coal*. Champaign, IL: Book Jungle, 2009. Print. PZ3 .S616 Ki 2009

First published in 1917, this novel resulted from the 1914 Ludlow, Colorado strike in which National Guard members fired into a miner's camp and killed 11 women and two children. Sinclair interviewed miners and labor leaders and mining officials to write this story of injustice.

Smith, Lee. *Fair and Tender Ladies*. New York: Putnam, 1988. Print.

PZ4 .S64738 Fa 1988 and 1989

The story of Ivy Rowe spread over 70 years is told in letters. As change comes to Blue Star mountain, Ivy comments "everybody has took everything out of here first the trees, then the coal, then the children."

---. *Oral History*. New York: Ballantine, 1993. Print. PZ4 .S4738 Or 1993

What begins as an oral history project in present day leads to family history. The changing in the setting and the effects of first the lumber mills and then coal mines provides a backdrop for tales of a southern family from the 18th century to the 1970's.

Still, James. *River of Earth*. Lexington: UP Kentucky, 1940. Print. PZ3 .S8566 Ri 1978

This novel, first published in 1940, is set at a time in the '30s when the coal industry declined to the point that mines were opened for only short time periods and workers lived in camps in the mountains of Kentucky. The Baldrige family moves from a failing farm to the coal camps in search of work.

Tanenbaum, Robert. *Absolute Rage*. New York: Pocket, 2002. Print. PZ4 .T3636 Ab 2003

A novel and legal thriller involving the murder of a coal mine union organizer, with a college age student and moral dilemmas for all.

Zola, Émile. *Germinal*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1968. Print. PQ2504 .A1 1952 & 1942

The setting is France in the 1860's. Zola describes the miserable conditions of coal miners' lives.