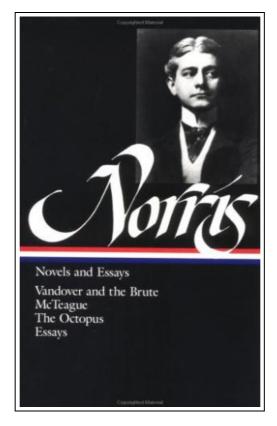
# Novels and Essays: Vandover & the Brute, McTeague, The Octopus, Essays



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# Reviews

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(Nels Runte IV)

### NOVELS AND ESSAYS: VANDOVER & THE BRUTE, MCTEAGUE, THE OCTOPUS, ESSAYS



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Library of America, New York, 1986. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. 1st Edition. NEW Library of America hardcover, 1st edition (orig. 1986) 1st printing, new Library of America slipcase w/ double-ruled borders & LOA logo on front panel & w/ sharp new edges & corners, immaculate smooth-cut text-block exterior, new rust-crimson silk-finish Brillianta linen-over-boards cover w/ sharp new edges & corners & titles & LOA colophon handsomely gold-stamped on spine, immaculate smooth-cut text-block exterior, impeccable white-on-purple LOA patterned end-papers on heavy stock, pristine interior printed in remarkably clear 10-point Linotron Galliard on superb acid-free Ecusta Nyallite paper \* 5.12" x 8.12" x 1.52", 0.78 kg., 1232 pp. / 5.36 x 8.36" x 1.66" (w/ slipcase) , 0.89 kg (w/ slipcase) \* CONTENTS: Vandover & the Brute (1), McTeague (261), The Octopus (573), Essays (1099); Chronology (1211), Note on the Texts (1217), Notes (1223) \* In his brief career (he died at 32), Frank Norris introduced fresh & sometimes shocking elements into American fiction. Inspired by the naturalistic "new novel" developed in France by Zola & Flaubert, he adapted it to American settings, adding his own taste for exciting action & a fascination w/ the emerging sciences of economics & psychology. Vandover & the brute, set in a vividly described San Francisco, captures w/ harsh realism the dissipation & decline of a fashionable playboy into virtual bestiality. McTeague (source for Erich von Stroheim's classic film Greed) was a radical departure for its time in its frank treatment of sex, domestic violence & pathological obsession, revealing the dark underside of San Francisco's new middle class. The octopus depicts the epic struggle of strong, ruthless California ranchers w/ the railroad monopoly & its political machine. Twenty-two essays address theories of literature, the state of American fiction, & the social responsibilities of the artist. The...



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