

# Literature Resources from Gale

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## What is it?

Literature Resources from Gale is an online gateway to information on literary figures from a variety of genres and formats. It connects users to biographical information and critical analysis of over 90,000 authors. Literature Resources includes access to the following Gale databases:

- Contemporary Authors Online
- Contemporary Literary Criticism
- Dictionary of Literary Biography
- *Merriam-Webster's Encyclopedia of Literature*
- Scribner Writer's Series
- Twayne's Author's Series
- Portions of Gale's *For Students* series
- Portions of Gale's *Literature Criticism* series

## How do I use it?

- The LRC offers four distinct search features: basic, advanced, person and works. The Gale Literary Index is also accessible, which allows users to search by author or title.
- This database is suitable for high school and college students, as well as the sophisticated casual user.

<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In-depth resource for literature and authors</li><li>• Offers full-text articles</li><li>• Variety of search techniques, i.e. advanced searching includes themes, genres, and author's nationality</li><li>• Similar feel to Student Research Center - compatible searching and help options</li><li>• Option to print, email, and save articles</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only offers articles on a select number of authors, not comprehensive</li><li>• There is article overlap among tabs, offers redundant information at times</li><li>• The number of different tabs can be overwhelming to a new user</li><li>• No saving searches</li></ul>

The following examples show the three most common searches on LRG.

## Where Do I Start Searching?

1. This starting page directs you to the **search options** available in LRG.
2. This page allows you to choose from four search options: **basic, advanced, person, and works.**
3. This screen offers a **default advanced search** .
4. From this page, you can access more LRG information as well as the **help screen.**

The screenshot shows the Gale Literature Resources from Gale website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Gale logo and the text "Literature Resources from Gale". Below this, there are several tabs: "Basic Search", "Advanced Search", "Person Search", "Works Search", and "Gale Literary Index". The "Advanced Search" tab is currently selected. The main content area displays the "Advanced Search" form, which includes a search bar for "Keyword (ke)", a dropdown menu for "And", and input fields for "Name Of Work (w0) \*" and "Person-By or About (pz)". There are also buttons for "Add a Row", "Search", and "Clear". Below the search form, there are options to "limit results:" with checkboxes for "to documents with full text" and "to peer-reviewed publications". There are also radio buttons for "by publication date(s)" with options "All Dates", "Before", "On", "After", and "Between". Below these are dropdown menus for "Day", "Month", and "Year". Finally, there is a dropdown menu for "by publication century:" with options "None selected\*", "21st Century A.D.", "20th Century A.D.", and "19th Century A.D.". The page also includes a status bar at the top indicating "Currently searching Literature Resources from Gale with 2,008,185 documents."

GALE  
CENGAGE Learning

Literature Resources from Gale

Bookmark Marked Items(2) Previous Searches Dictionaries Title List Help Tips Guided Tour

Basic Search Advanced Search **Person Search** Works Search Gale Literary Index

Currently searching *Literature Resources from Gale* with 2,008,185 documents.

### Advanced Search

Select index(es) and enter term(s) to search (\*indicates a browseable index)

Keyword (ke) [input field] [dropdown]

And [dropdown] Name Of Work (w0) \* [input field] [dropdown] [Browse]

And [dropdown] Person-By or About (pz) [input field] [dropdown]

[Add a Row](#) **Search** **Clear**

limit results:

to documents with full text

to peer-reviewed publications

by publication date(s)  All Dates  Before  On  After  Between

\*Day\* [dropdown] \*Month\* [dropdown] \*Year\* [dropdown] and

\*Day\* [dropdown] \*Month\* [dropdown] \*Year\* [dropdown]

by publication century: \*None selected\* [dropdown]  
21st Century A.D. [input field]  
20th Century A.D. [input field]  
19th Century A.D. [input field]

## Works Search

Allows users to search literary materials by title.

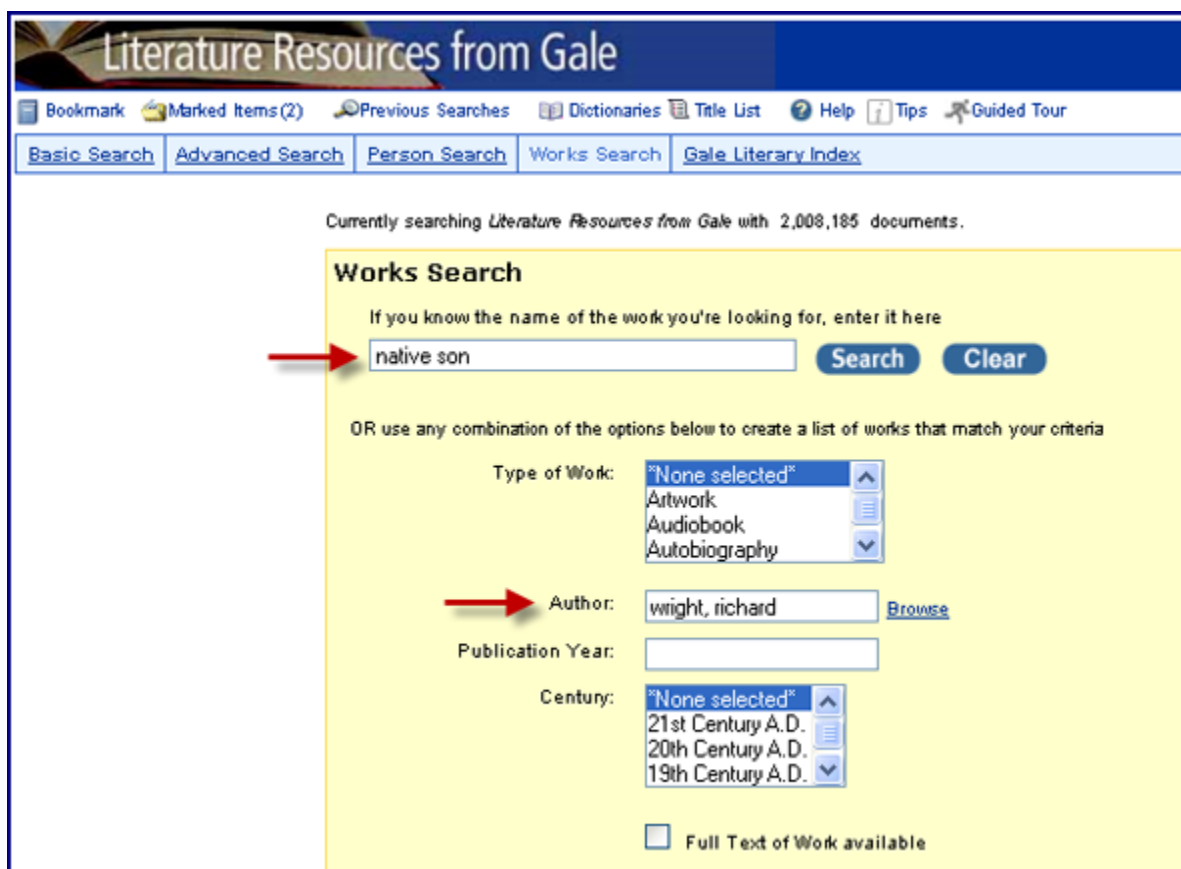
**EXAMPLE :** *I'd like to find information about the Richard Wright novel Native Son.*

**Step 1 :** Choose whether you would like to search for a **title** and/or an **author name**.

**Step 2 :** In the first text box, enter the title of the work you would like to search.

**Step 3 :** For **increased specificity** , in the Author text box, enter the name of the author.

**Step 4 :** To **narrow your search**, use any of the other search functions such as publication year or author nationality.



The screenshot shows the 'Literature Resources from Gale' website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Bookmark', 'Marked Items (2)', 'Previous Searches', 'Dictionaries', 'Title List', 'Help', 'Tips', and 'Guided Tour'. Below this is a search navigation bar with tabs for 'Basic Search', 'Advanced Search', 'Person Search', 'Works Search', and 'Gale Literary Index'. The main content area is titled 'Works Search' and contains the following elements:

- A text box with the input 'native son' and a red arrow pointing to it. To its right are 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons.
- A dropdown menu for 'Type of Work' with options: '\*None selected\*', 'Artwork', 'Audiobook', and 'Autobiography'.
- A text box for 'Author' with the input 'wright, richard' and a red arrow pointing to it. To its right is a 'Browse' button.
- A text box for 'Publication Year'.
- A dropdown menu for 'Century' with options: '\*None selected\*', '21st Century A.D.', '20th Century A.D.', and '19th Century A.D.'.
- A checkbox labeled 'Full Text of Work available'.

At the top of the main content area, it says 'Currently searching Literature Resources from Gale with 2,008,185 documents.'

## Advanced Search

For users with more complicated information needs, the advanced search option provides a range of search options.

**EXAMPLE:** How do I do a search for critical essays about autobiographical elements in Maya Angelou's work?

- Step 1 :** Enter your keywords in the available entry fields if using multiple search fields, determine whether you want your searches connected with **AND** , **OR** , or **NOT** .
- Step 2 :** Use the **drop-down boxes** to determine your search criteria - there are a number of options.
- Step 3 : Browse the options** in these boxes before settling on any one choice. The options should affect your choice of keywords.
- Step 4:** Choose the content and/or document type(s) you would like to search.
- Step 5:** Click ' search. '

**Advanced Search**  
 Select index(es) and enter term(s) to search (\*indicates a browseable index)

Person - About (p0)

And

And

[Add a Row](#)

limit results:

to documents with full text

to peer-reviewed publications

by publication date(s)  All Dates  Before  On  After  Between

"Day" "Month" "Year" and "Day" "Month" "Year"

by publication century: "None selected" 21st Century A.D. 20th Century A.D. 19th Century A.D.

by content type:  All  Literature Criticism  Primary Sources & Literary Works  Topic & Work Overviews

by publication title:  [Browse](#)

by document type: Cover story Critical essay Culture overview Dance review

by language: "None selected" English French German

by target audience: "None selected" Academic Children's Children's--Upper elementary

Search in:  All electronic resources  LitFinder  Literature Resource Center  Scribner Writers Series  Turayne's Authors Series

[Hide Search Options](#)

**SEARCH TIP:**

Before conducting a search, make a list of keywords and synonyms and try several searches using different combinations of those keywords.

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