

THE MAGICAL CAMPUS

University of North Carolina Writings,
1917–1920

Thomas Wolfe

Edited by Matthew J. Bruccoli and Aldo P. Magi

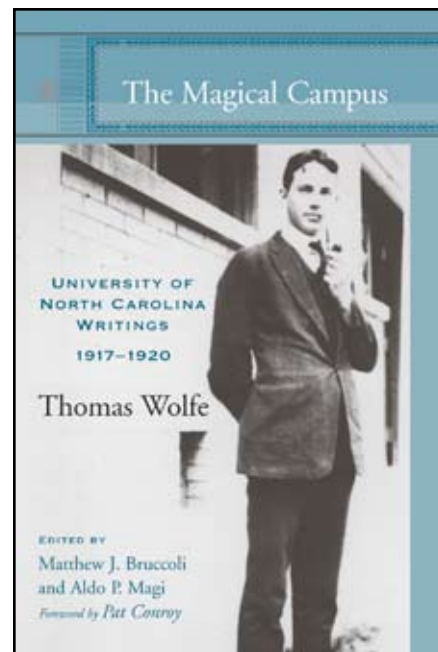
Foreword by Pat Conroy

Edited by Matthew J. Bruccoli and Aldo P. Magi, *The Magical Campus* collects for the first time Thomas Wolfe's earliest published work—including poems, plays, short fiction, news articles, and essays—both signed and unsigned, assembled in chronological order.

Wolfe began his collegiate career at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1916, when he was fifteen, with a freshman year marked by obscurity and loneliness. By his junior year he had emerged as a recognized and popular figure in campus life, a participant in organizations, clubs, and fraternities as well as the editor of several student publications. He began in these apprenticeship years his ascendancy to iconic literary status.

Included in *The Magical Campus* is Wolfe's first published work, the poem "A Field in Flanders" from the November 1917 issue of the *Magazine*. Here too is the poem "The Challenge," Wolfe's first piece to be reprinted off campus, in his hometown newspaper and elsewhere across the Southeast. "A Cullenden of Virginia" represents his inaugural foray into published fiction; and his folk plays, such as *The Return of Buck Gavin* and *Deferred Payment*, mark the start of his unrealized ambitions to be a playwright. Though they lack the sophistication and scale of the grand fictions that now define Wolfe's place in literature, these and others of his student publications testify to the potential he had tapped into through instruction and encouragement at Chapel Hill.

April 2008, 160 pages, 32 illus.



Matthew J. Bruccoli is the Emily Brown Jefferies Professor Emeritus of English at the University of South Carolina and the leading authority on the House of Scribner and its authors. He is the author or editor of one hundred books, including *O Lost: A Story of the Buried Life*.

Aldo P. Magi, an editor emeritus of the *Thomas Wolfe Review* and a founding father of the Thomas Wolfe Society, has published numerous books and articles about Thomas Wolfe. His library of more than three thousand Thomas Wolfe items is now at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Method of payment:

_____ Check or money order: (payable to USC Press in United States dollars)

Credit Card: _____ Discover _____ Mastercard _____ Visa

Account number: _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature: _____

Name (please print): _____ Phone: _____

Shipping Address: _____

Send me _____ copy/copies

(cl, 978-1-57003-734-4, \$22.50 each) _____

SC residents add 6% sales tax _____

Shipping and Handling* _____

CODE AUFR

TOTAL _____

*add \$6.00 for first book,
\$2.00 for each additional book