

**Labeling the Decades/Contextualizing the Works
U.S. Literature after 1945
Professor Bryant Mangum**

Mid-Century to the Millenium

1950-1959 - Two Cars in Every Garage
(J.D. Salinger's
Nine Stories: 1953)

1960-1969 - Civil Rights and Turmoil
(Kurt Vonnegut's
Cat's Cradle: 1963)

1970-1979 - The Nation in Flux
(from Robert Pirsig's *Zen and
the Art of Motorcycle
Maintenance*: 1974)

1980-1989 - The Reagan Revolution
(Raymond Carver's *What We Talk About
When We Talk About Love*: 1981)
(Ernest Gaines's *A Gathering
of Old Men*: 1983)

1990-1999 - Prosperity as the World Turns
Jhumpa Lahiri's *Interpreter
of Maladies*: 1999)

Post Millenium: 2000's

2000-2009 - The Fight against Terrorism
(ZZ Packer's "Drinking Coffee
Elsewhere": 2003)

2010-Present - Economic Recovery
(Kevin Powers' *The Yellow
Birds*: 2012)