## **Table of Contents**

Acknowledgements	. I
Introduction	.7
American Sublimes: The Natural and the Technological	.9
Anthropocene Sublimes: The Ecological, the Environmental, and the Speculative	14
The Contemporary U.S. Ecobiographical Memoir in the Anthropocene	21
A Rhetorical-Econarratological and Materialist Inquiry: Narrative Features, Senses, and Affects3	31
Overview of the Chapters	
Part I: Post-Natural and Post-Technological Sublimes	
Chapter 1: Climbing to the Haptic Sublime4	
Introduction: From Mountain View to Mountain Terrain	41 44
"A State of Grace": Deceiving Hubris and the Relational Self in Jon Krakauer's Mountaineering	
Memoirs	
"Embrace the Misery": Trauma and Self-Questioning in <i>Into Thin Air</i> (1997) and <i>Classic Krakauer</i> (2019)	9)
"To Honor, to Grieve, to Grow": Shared Trauma and the Social Self in Silvia Vasquez-Lavado's In the Shadow of the Mountain: A Memoir of Courage (2022)	65 67
Conclusion: Working with the Haptic Sublime?	79
Chapter 2: Hunting for the Animal Sublime	
Introduction: Tracking Animals in Experiences and Theories of the Sublime	84 86
"An Act of Love": Taking Lives, Keeping Still Lifes, and Recuperating the American Self in Steven Rinella's Memoirs	95 ost 96
No Abstraction, No Forgiveness: Human-Nonhuman Relationality in Mary Zeiss Stange's and Gerald Vizenor's Memoiristic Hunting Narratives	14 r 14
Conclusion: Challenging Affective Logics in Human-Nonhuman Work	
Chapter 3: Farming the Post-Agricultural Sublime13	
Introduction: Reworking the Agricultural Sublime in the Anthropocene	33 35

Going 'Back to the Farm' and Thinking Small: Kristin Kimball's <i>The Dirty Life</i> (2010) and (	Good
Husbandry (2019)	
"Dirt Plus Water Plus Sun Plus Sweat Equaled Food": Labor and Disgust on the Essex Farm	
"Something Stronger and More Intimate": Smallness and Human-Animal Work in Good Husbands	y156
"Like a Blunting of the Real": "Machine Work" and Animal Death in Ellyn Gaydos' <i>Pig Yea</i> (2022)	
Conclusion: Post-Agricultural 'Female' Sublimes	
Part II: Post-Energy Sublimes	175
Chapter 4: Risking the Nuclear Sublime	
Introduction: The Poetics of Nuclear Risk in the Atomic Age	176
"We Must Somehow Articulate or Image-Forth this End-Game Genre": The Nuclear/Atomic Subli its Invisibilities	me and
Addressing the Absences: The Rhetorics of Affective Knowledge and Hauntology	
"An Explosion but also a Pause": Spectral Rhetoric and the Nuclear Sensorium in Lindsey A Freeman's <i>This Atom Bomb in Me</i> (2019)	
"Bombed Without a Bang": Notional Ekphrasis and Phantoms in Emily Strasser's <i>Half-Life Secret: Reckoning with a Hidden History</i> (2023)	
Conclusion: A Matrix of Counternarratives to the Nuclear Sublime	218
Chapter 5: Partnering with the Petroleum Sublime	222
Introduction: The Spilled Rhetoric of the Toxic-Petroleum Sublime	222
"The Grease May Turn the World, but the Wound Rules the Men Who Do the Work": Retrosexuality and the Toxic-Haptic Sublime in Michael Patrick F. Smith's <i>The Good Hand</i>	
A "Silence Between Acceptance and Exile": Queer Identity and Corporeal Resistance in Tay Brorby's <i>Boys and Oil</i> (2022)	lor
Conclusion: Petro-Masculinity, the Oil Memoir, and the Politicization of the Toxic Sublime	261
Coda: From the Titanic to the Pluralized Sublime, or Navigating "Heart Work" in Anthropocene	
Reference List	273