John F. Kennedy remains central to both the American and the global imagination. Featuring essays by leading literary critics, historians, and film scholars, *The Cambridge Companion to John F. Kennedy* addresses such topics as Kennedy’s youth in Boston and his time at Harvard, his foreign policy and his role in reshaping the U.S. welfare state, his relationship to the civil rights and conservative movements, and the ongoing reverberations of his life and death in literature and film. Going beyond historical or biographical studies, these chapters explore the creation and afterlife of an icon, a figure who still embodies – and sparks debate about – what it means to be American.

Andrew Hoberek is Associate Professor of English at the University of Missouri. He is also the author of *The Twilight of the Middle Class: Post–World War II American Fiction and White-Collar Work* and *Considering Watchmen: Poetics, Property, Politics*. Hoberek has published in *Modern Fiction Studies*, *Modern Language Quarterly*, *Studies in American Fiction*, *American Literary History*, and *Contemporary Literature*. He currently serves as the book review editor for *Twentieth-Century Literature*. 
This series of Companions to key figures in American history and culture is aimed at students of American studies, history, and literature. Each volume features newly commissioned essays by experts in the field, with a chronology and guide to further reading.

VOLUMES PUBLISHED

The Cambridge Companion to Frederick Douglass edited by Maurice Lee
The Cambridge Companion to Bob Dylan edited by Kevin Dettmar
The Cambridge Companion to W. E. B. Du Bois edited by Shamoon Zamir
The Cambridge Companion to Benjamin Franklin edited by Carla Mulford
The Cambridge Companion to Thomas Jefferson edited by Frank Shuffelton
The Cambridge Companion to Malcolm X edited by Robert Terrill
The Cambridge Companion to Abraham Lincoln edited by Shirley Samuels