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Where the World
Is Not
Where the World Is Not

Cultural Authority and Democratic Desire in Modern American Literature

KIM SAVELSON
For Noah and Ella
And for Dede
In these days of purposes and vexed moral problems it is hard for an author to keep himself untainted by the world. It is hard to hold fast to art pure and simple. . . . An artist should be able to lift himself up into the clear firmament of creation where the world is not. He should be among men but not one of them, in the world but not of the world. Other men may think and reason and believe and argue, but he must create.

—Willa Cather