Henpecked to heroism: placing Rip Van Winkle and Francis Macomber in the American renegade tradition

Abstract:
Ernest Hemingway's Francis Macomber and Washington Irving's Rip Van Winkle are not archetypal characters of the American renegade spirit. Despite weakness and compliance to their dictatorial wives, they transcend their henpecked existences. These henpecked anti-heroes, although lacking renegade spirit, remain distinctly American.