

# SALEM PRESS

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## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Salem Press Announces a New Addition to the Critical Insights Series: *Critical Insights: Historical Fiction***

Salem Press is proud to announce a new addition to the *Critical Insights Series: Historical Fiction*. This volume encourages readers to engage with plots based on historical events and characters in several ways. They may re-imagine history in cases where it is reconstructed; become better acquainted with history as it is personalized through specific characters; and, perhaps most importantly, even question historical fact. This volume considers fiction drawn from fact and the implications of interpreting and reinterpreting historical events.

Each essay is 2,500 to 5,000 words in length, and all essays conclude with a list of "Works Cited," along with endnotes. Finally, the volume's appendixes offer a section of useful reference resources:

- About This Volume
- Critical Context: Original Introductory Essays
- Critical Readings: Original In-Depth Essays
- Further Reading
- Detailed Bibliography
- Detailed Bio of the Editor
- General Subject Index

Parameters for the works discussed as historical fiction in this volume could be set only after research on the editor's part to determine the most simple yet clearly structured elements to be shared by all essays. Given the collection's academic focus, some of the more imaginative popular culture approaches to historical fiction, such as those featuring Abraham Lincoln or Jane Austen embroiled with vampires are avoided, not that such presentations cannot be entertaining.

The volume anticipates a diverse reading audience. It intends to support study of historical fiction in the classroom, but also reading apart from a structured teaching agenda, so that any member of the reading public may find it of use. For those in the classroom, both instructors and students, the volume provides a hearty resource in terms of novel titles, but also of discussion of related concepts and the sharing of a plethora of research materials, both print and electronic. Thus, its design will satisfy the needs of the scholar and the nonscholar, teachers, parents, and common readers. Its contributors have broad expertise in the topic, as evident in their brief biographies, and those familiar with research about young adult literature will recognize several contributor names as individuals who follow active writing and publishing agendas. Others bring the expertise of the classroom, both at the secondary and college levels, to bear on their analysis.

In respect to the broad use of history in fiction, the collection offers multiple examples. The novels discussed are united by their incorporation of historical fact, but also diversified in its application.

Readers will be introduced to concepts in historical fiction by the first four essays, all of which focus on Critical Context through exploration of historical nonfiction's background, its critical reception, its view through a select critical lens, and via comparative analysis.

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*The Critical Insights series* is an outstanding, in-depth scholarship by renowned literary critics; great starting point for students seeking an introduction to the theme and the critical discussions surrounding it.

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*Critical Insights: Historical Fiction*

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