

# SALEM PRESS

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## **Salem Press Announces a New Edition of *Cyclopedia of Literary Places***

This second edition of *Cyclopedia of Literary Places* is built around the use of place in individual literary works. The content of this work includes articles from the first, 2003 edition, plus 101 new articles, bringing the total number of works covered to 1,403. With extensive and intensive coverage of place in literature, these three volumes provide in depth insight into a subject that has historically received little treatment in library reference materials but has long been part of literary scholarship.

*Cyclopedia of Literary Places* contains articles on 1,403 literary works that include more than 6,000 literary places. The selected titles lend themselves to meaningful discussion of place as a literary device. Many of the novels, most of the plays, and a selection of the volumes of poetry covered in this volume are also in *Masterplots* (fourth edition) and *Cyclopedia of Literary Characters* (fourth edition), so readers will often be able to find parallel articles providing detailed synopses and plot analyses in *Masterplots* and detailed character analyses in *Cyclopedia of Literary Characters*.

*Cyclopedia of Literary Places* includes articles that range in length from 300 words, for short stories, plays, and works of poetry, to 1,000 words, some longer for large novels.

Arranged in alphabetical order by title, each article provides standard top-matter information including:

- Full titles
- Authors' names and vital dates
- Types of work
- Types of plot
- Times of plot
- Dates of original publication

Brief introductory paragraphs explain where the works are set and comment on broad themes and patterns in the use of place. Following the top-matter material are detailed entries that discuss important real and imaginary places that figure into the work. Boldfaced place names that begin paragraphs identify the places that are subjects of individual entries. Occasionally, an entry will contain additional boldfaced names, indicating places that merit attention. Help with

pronunciation of foreign place-names is provided in many entries, in which phonetic spellings follow the boldface place name. Pronunciation guides and a key to the symbols used in them appear at the beginning of each volume.

Contributors of these articles focused on the literary dimensions of place in stories, novels, plays, and poems in which they appear and not on plot details and mere physical descriptions of places. Readers will learn how place matters within literary work and how it functions as a literary device. In addition to establishing where places are and how they relate to one another, the entries address how places help to establish mood, how they reflect the actions and characters of the story, how they appear to change as the story develops, and what their overall contribution to the work is. In some literary works, place plays such an integral role that individual places seem to take on the attributes of characters.

To set manageable parameters to this work, contributors construed “place” as physical locations, both real and imaginary—not metaphysical states of mind, dreams, or the inner consciousness of characters. Even with this limitation, the variety of places covered in these articles is so extraordinary that it will alert many readers to literary techniques they may previously have overlooked or underestimated. Types of places discussed in these articles range from articles of furniture to rooms to buildings to neighborhoods to cities to countries to planets, and the range of ways in which all of these places are used is even greater.

Articles in this set are arranged alphabetically, by the titles of the works they discuss. The table of Contents in each volume is a complete list of all titles. Three indexes appear at the back of Volume 3: **Title Index**, book titles A-Z with author; **Author Index**, authors A-Z with book titles; and **Place Index**, places A-Z with book titles.

These character descriptions can be used alone to begin researching character development and motivation in a novel. They also can be used as a starting place for analyzing an epic play or novel and its author’s writing style and technique.

**Free Online with Print Purchase.**

In addition, *Cyclopedia of Literary Places* comes with complimentary online access via <http://online.salempress.com>. A single purchase of the printed version is all it takes to gain access to this important title on the web.

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