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## **Salem Press Announces a New Addition to the Critical Insights Series; *Critical Insights: Holocaust Literature***

Edited by Dorian Stuber, associate professor of English at Hendrix College, this collection seeks to dive into the world of Holocaust Literature. *Critical Insights: Holocaust Literature* contains fourteen essays on the state-sponsored genocide perpetrated by the National Socialist government of Germany from 1933-1945 against groups of people deemed “undesirable.” This volume emphasizes the Jewish genocide, the murder of six million people. The essays in this volume aim to improve the reader’s understanding of the Holocaust and to become more careful and critical as readers of Holocaust literature.

Stuber begins the book with an **About This Volume** and **On Holocaust Literature** section. Here, Stuber provides an introduction to Holocaust Literature and analyzes three primary accounts of survivors’; Primo Levi’s *Survival in Auschwitz*, Elie Wiesel’s memoir *Night*, and a short story “*This Way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentleman*” by Tadeusz Borowski. This analysis highlights the importance of recognizing the role of mediation in Holocaust literature.

The next section, **Critical Contexts**, begins with an essay by Sue Vice, “The Canonical Testifiers”, accounting the primary sources of Holocaust survivors and showing how the Holocaust is not ‘unspeakable.’ Corey L. Twitchell analyzes how German-Jewish authors managed to resist cultural and political mechanisms in the German-speaking world that may have silenced them. Rebekah Slodounik talks about the testimony of different generations of survivors, from survivors themselves to their grandchildren. Okla Elliot provides insight on the story *Austerlitz* through the lens of psychoanalysis, memory studies, and the ethical theory of the implicated subject.

The next major section of this volume, **Critical Readings**, is devoted to a range of topics. Michael Rotenberg-Schwartz discusses a comic book retelling of a survivor’s experiences in Poland before and during the Holocaust. Vanessa Rachael Marsden talks about the influence of gender performance on women’s resistance in Auschwitz. Marsden’s piece offers a unique view on how gender roles were used to combat the dehumanization inmates suffered in Nazi death camps. Seth Rogoff examines Philip Roth’s writings on the Holocaust and the concept of American Jewish Identity post-WWII. In examining Roth’s *The Counterlife*, Rogoff speaks of how the Holocaust was used as a historical Trojan horse to be deployed in rhetorical combat by Israeli settlers and American Zionists in the conquest of Palestinian territory. Jennifer Drake Askey talks about how younger generations perceive Holocaust Literature as the last living witnesses of the Holocaust pass and the event fades to history. Nathaniel Leach writes about film and the ethics of representation in Holocaust literature, balancing both sides of the argument of whether it is appropriate to use film to attempt to display the horrors of the Holocaust. Other essay topics include:

- “Travel in Yiddishlands: Three Centers of Yiddish Responses to the Holocaust” by Naya Lekht
- “Between Mimesis and Allegory: Vasily Grossman, Boris Slutsky, the Strugatsky Brothers and the Meaning of the Holocaust in Russian” by Marat Grinberg

- “Flowerless Gardeners: Poetry after Auschwitz” by Jennifer M. Hoyer
- “Nothing is Meant Quite Literally: Adorno and the Barbarism of Poetry after Auschwitz” by Marianne Tettlebaum
- “The Daunting Task of Approaching Holocaust Literature” by Brian Tucker

Each essay in *Critical Insights: Holocaust Literature* includes a list of Works Cited and detailed endnotes. Also included in this volume is a **Bibliography**, biographies of the **Editor** and **Contributors**, as well as an alphabetical **Index**.

The *Critical Insights* Series distills the best of both classic and current literary criticism of the world’s most studied literature. Edited and written by some of academia’s most distinguished literary scholars, *Critical Insights: Holocaust Literature* provides authoritative, in-depth scholarship that students and researchers will rely on for years. This volume is destined to become a valuable purchase for all.

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