

SALEM PRESS

Published & Distributed by Grey House Publishing

For Immediate Release

March 15, 2022

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Salem Press Announces a New Addition to the *Critical Insights Series: J.D. Salinger*

Although J.D. Salinger is especially renowned for his novel *The Catcher in the Rye*, he has also authored many other noteworthy works, including a number of significant short stories. Salinger is also known for his mysteriously reclusive lifestyle—a lifestyle that only stimulated people’s interest in his personality and personal habits. *Catcher* is one of the most widely-read novels about young people ever written, and today, after 70 years, still remains a celebrated work about alienated youth. This volume examines Salinger and his works from numerous points of view, adopting biographical, historical, sociological, and aesthetic perspectives, among others.

The volume starts out with an introductory “About this Volume” essay by volume editor Peter J. Bailey. This is followed by a second piece from Bailey titled, “From ‘The Male Goodbye’ to ‘Bananafish’: The Evolution of ‘A Perfect Day for Bananafish’ and Beyond,” which explores how Salinger improved on the opening narrative of *Nine Stories*. This is followed by a brief biography of the Salinger by the volume editor. These essays are followed by five **Critical Context** essays:

- A War Novel with No Combat, by Frederic Glover
- J.D. Salinger’s *The Catcher in the Rye*: Early Responses in the Popular Press, by Robert C. Evans
- Early Reviews of J.D. Salinger’s *Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters and Seymour: An Introduction*, by Robert C. Evans
- The Bohemian Madonna: Boo Boo Tannenbaum in “Down at the Dinghy,” by Sue Norton
- “Adventurers on Behalf of Us All”: J.D. Salinger and John Updike, by Peter J. Bailey

Next comes the **Critical Readings** section of this book, which contains the following essays:

- Salinger’s Ghosts, by Kenneth Slawenski
- Holden’s Favorite Guy in the Bible, by Sylvie Mathé
- Smells Like Teen Spirit: *The Catcher in the Rye* and the Young-Adult (YA) Canon, by Erik Esckilsen
- J.D. Salinger Meets the Wrath of Manic Pixie Dream Girls, by Rebecca Bell-Metereau
- “To Edify, to Instruct”: Storytelling Ethics and the Children of Salinger’s Short Fiction, Bridger Royce

- “Getting Scared”: Unseasonable Maturation in “The Laughing Man” and Thomas Pynchon’s “The Secret Integration,” by Peter J. Bailey
- From a Loving Heart: The Art of Affection in Eudora Welty’s *The Ponder Heart* and J.D. Salinger’s “Seymour: An Introduction,” by Jericho Williams
- Logorrhea Rampant: Why Salinger Chose Buddy Glass to Write the Letter in “Hapworth 16, 1924,” by Donald J. Greiner
- Authenticity and the “Real” Writer: Representations of J.D. Salinger in *Coming Through the Rye*, *Rebel in the Rye*, and *My Salinger Year*, by Tammie M. Kennedy

Each essay in *Critical Insights: J.D. Salinger* includes a list of **Works Cited** and detailed endnotes. In the final section, **Resources**, easy-to-follow lists are provided to help guide the reader through important dates and moments in the authors’ lives. A selection of further reading is then provided. Also included in this volume is a **Chronology of J.D. Salinger’s Life, Works by J.D. Salinger**, a **Bibliography**, biographies of the **Editor** and **Contributors**, and 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: J.D. Salinger* 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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Critical Insights: J.D. Salinger

Pub. Date: January 2022

Hardcover ISBN: 978-1-63700-075-5

306 pages

\$105.00

Ebook ISBN: 978-1-63700-076-2