

### Pandora's Jar : Women in the Greek Myths

Natalie Haynes

9780063139466, 0063139464

Pub Date: 3/29/22

\$21.99 CAD

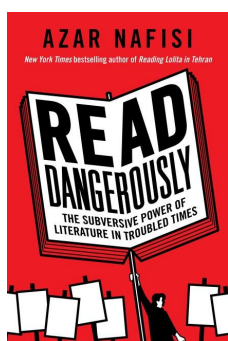
320 pages

Paperback

Literary Criticism / Fairy Tales, Folk Tales, Legends & Mythology

**Summary:** The tellers of Greek myths—historically men—have routinely sidelined the female characters. When they do take a larger role, women are often portrayed as monstrous, vengeful or just plain evil—like Pandora, the woman of eternal scorn and damnation whose curiosity is tasked with causing all the world's suffering and wickedness when she opened that forbidden box. But, as Natalie Hayes reveals, in early Greek myths there was no box. It was a jar . . . which is far more likely to tip over.

In *Pandora's Jar*, the broadcaster, writer, stand-up comedian, and passionate classicist turns the tables, putting the women of the Greek myths on an equal footing with the men. With



### Read Dangerously : The Subversive Power of Literature in Troubled Times

Azar Nafisi

9780062947369, 0062947362

Pub Date: 3/8/22

\$33.50 CAD

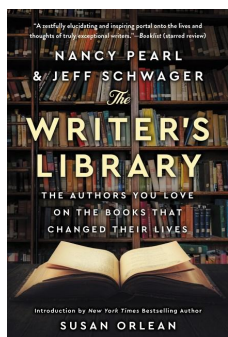
240 pages

Hardcover

Literary Criticism / Subjects & Themes / Politics

**Summary:** What is the role of literature in an era when the president wages war on writers and the press? What is the connection between political strife in our daily lives, and the way we meet our enemies on the page in fiction? How can literature, through its free exchange, affect politics?

In this galvanizing guide to resistance literature, Nafisi seeks to answer these questions. Drawing on her experiences as a woman and voracious reader living in the Islamic Republic of Iran, her life as an immigrant in the United States, and her role as literature professor in both countries, she crafts an argument for why, in a genuine democracy, we must engage with the enemy, and how literature can be a vehicle for doing



### The Writer's Library : The Authors You Love on the Books That Changed Their Lives

Nancy Pearl, Jeff Schwager

9780062968494, 0062968491

Pub Date: 11/16/21

\$21.00 CAD

368 pages

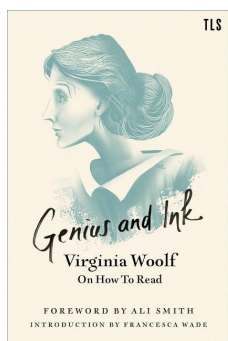
Paperback

Literary Criticism / Books & Reading

**Summary:** Before Donna Tartt, Andrew Sean Greer, Louise Erdrich, and Jonathan Lethem became revered authors, they were reverent readers.

In this ebullient book, America's favorite librarian Nancy Pearl and noted playwright Jeff Schwager interview a diverse range of America's most notable and influential writers about the books that shaped them and inspired them to leave their own literary mark.

From Viet Thanh Nguyen's reading of American Vietnam War stories, which informed his own Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Sympathizer*, to Jennifer Egan finding a touchstone for A



### Genius and Ink : Virginia Woolf on How to Read

Virginia Woolf

9780008361884, 0008361886

Pub Date: 6/1/21

\$18.99 CAD

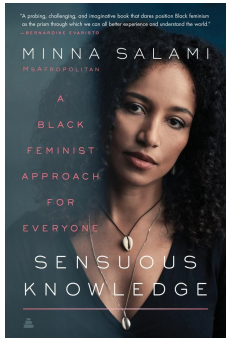
256 pages

Paperback

Literary Criticism / Women Authors

**Summary:** In the early years of its existence, the *Times Literary Supplement* published some of the finest writers in English: T. S. Eliot, Henry James and E. M. Forster among them. But one of the paper's defining voices was Virginia Woolf, who produced a string of superb essays between the two World Wars.

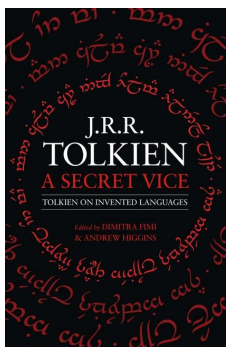
The weirdness of Elizabethan plays, the pleasure of revisiting favourite novels, the supreme examples of Charlotte Brontë, George Eliot and Henry James, Thomas Hardy and Joseph Conrad: all are here, in anonymously published pieces, in which may be glimpsed the thinking behind Woolf's works of fiction and the enquiring, feminist spirit of *A Room of One's*



### **Sensuous Knowledge : A Black Feminist Approach for Everyone**

Minna Salami  
9780062877079, 0062877070  
Pub Date: 1/26/21  
\$21.00 CAD  
208 pages  
Paperback  
Literary Criticism / Feminist

**Summary:** One of the most exciting and influential social critics emerging today—named by *Elle* magazine as “one of twelve women changing the world” alongside Michelle Obama and Angelina Jolie—Minna Salami offers fresh insights on key cultural issues that impact women’s lives. *Sensuous Knowledge* explores racism, power, beauty, and knowledge, as well as Afrofuturism, radical Black feminism, and gender politics—all with a historical outlook that is also future-oriented. Salami draws upon a range of traditions and ideologies, feminist theory, popular culture—including insights from Lauryn Hill, Beyoncé, Audre Lorde, Toni Morrison, and others—science, philosophy, African myths and origin stories, and her own bold personal narrative to



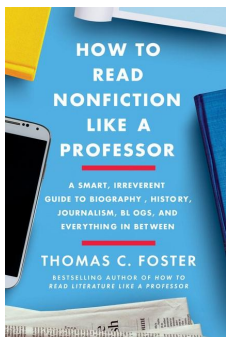
### **A Secret Vice : Tolkien on Invented Languages**

J. R. R. Tolkien, Dimitra Fimi, Andrew Higgins  
9780008131418, 0008131414  
Pub Date: 9/29/20  
\$19.99 CAD  
224 pages  
Paperback  
Literary Criticism / Science Fiction & Fantasy

**Summary:** First ever critical study of Tolkien’s little-known essay, which reveals how language invention shaped the creation of Middle-earth and beyond, to George R R Martin’s *Game of Thrones*.

J.R.R. Tolkien’s linguistic invention was a fundamental part of his artistic output, to the extent that later on in life he attributed the existence of his mythology to the desire to give his languages a home and peoples to speak them. As Tolkien puts it in ‘A Secret Vice’, ‘the making of language and mythology are related functions’.

In the 1930s, Tolkien composed and delivered two lectures,

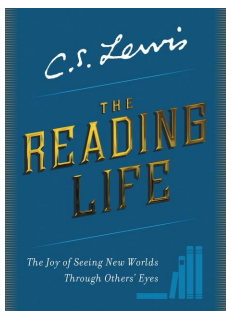


### **How to Read Nonfiction Like a Professor : A Smart, Irreverent Guide to Biography, History, Journalism, Blogs, and Everything in Between**

Thomas C. Foster  
9780062895813, 0062895818  
Pub Date: 5/26/20  
\$21.99 CAD  
336 pages  
Paperback  
Literary Criticism / Books & Reading

**Summary:** We live in an information age, but it is increasingly difficult to know which information to trust. Fake news is rampant in mass media, stoked by foreign powers wishing to disrupt a democratic society. We need to be more perceptive, more critical, and more judicious readers. The future of our republic may depend on it.

*How to Read Nonfiction Like a Professor* is more careful, more attentive, more aware reading. On bookstore shelves, one book looks as authoritative as the next. Online, posts and memes don’t announce their relative veracity. It is up to readers to establish how accurate, how thorough, how fair material may be.

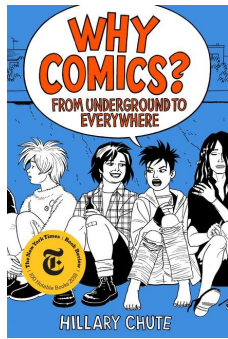


### **The Reading Life : The Joy of Seeing New Worlds Through Others' Eyes**

C. S. Lewis  
9780062849977, 0062849972  
Pub Date: 10/15/19  
\$24.99 CAD  
192 pages  
Hardcover  
Literary Criticism / Books & Reading

**Summary:** More than fifty years after his death revered intellectual and teacher C. S. Lewis continues to speak to readers thanks to not only his intellectual insights on Christianity but also his wondrous creative works and deep reflections on the literature that influenced his life. Beloved for his instructive novels including *The Screwtape Letters*, *The Great Divorce*, and *The Chronicles of Narnia* as well as his philosophical books that explored theology and Christian life, Lewis was a life-long writer and book lover.

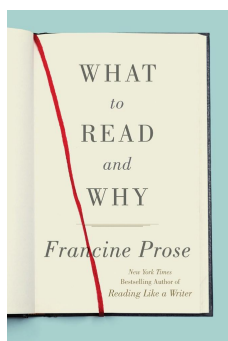
Cultivated from his many essays, articles, and letters, as well as his classic works, *The Reading Life* provides guidance and reflections on the love and enjoyment of books. Enqaing



**Why Comics? : From Underground to Everywhere**  
 Hillary Chute  
 9780062957788, 0062957783  
 Pub Date: 10/8/19  
 \$31.00 CAD  
 464 pages  
 Paperback  
 Literary Criticism / Comics & Graphic Novels

**Summary:** Over the past century, fans have elevated comics from the back pages of newspapers into one of our most celebrated forms of culture, from *Fun Home*, the Tony Award-winning musical based on Alison Bechdel's groundbreaking graphic memoir, to the dozens of superhero films that are annual blockbusters worldwide. What is the essence of comics' appeal? What does this art form do that others can't?

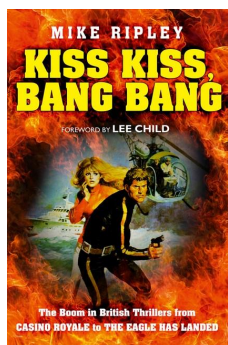
Whether you've read every comic you can get your hands on or you're just starting your journey, *Why Comics?* has something for you. Author Hillary Chute chronicles comics culture, explaining underground comics (also known as



**What to Read and Why**  
 Francine Prose  
 9780062397874, 0062397877  
 Pub Date: 7/2/19  
 \$21.99 CAD  
 352 pages  
 Paperback  
 Literary Criticism / Books & Reading

**Summary:** In an age defined by hyperconnectivity and constant stimulation, here is a compelling case for the solitary act of reading and the great enjoyment it brings. Inspiring and illuminating, *What to Read and Why* includes selections culled from Prose's previous essays, reviews, and introductions, combined with new, never-before-published pieces that focus on her favorite works of fiction and nonfiction, on works by masters of the short story, and even on books by photographers such as Diane Arbus.

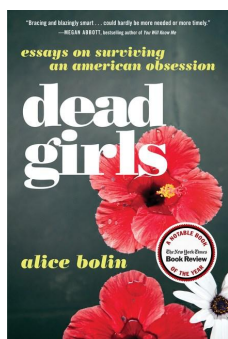
Prose considers why the works of literary masters such as Mary Shelley, Charles Dickens, George Eliot, and Jane Austen have endured, and shares intriguing insights about modern



**Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang : The Boom in British Thrillers from Casino Royale to The Eagle Has Landed**  
 Mike Ripley  
 9780008172251, 0008172250  
 Pub Date: 5/28/19  
 \$18.99 CAD  
 464 pages  
 B-format Paperback  
 Literary Criticism / Comparative Literature

**Summary:** When Ian Fleming dismissed his books in a 1956 letter to Raymond Chandler as 'straight pillow fantasies of the bang-bang, kiss-kiss variety' he was being typically immodest. In three short years, his James Bond novels were already spearheading a boom in thriller fiction that would dominate the bestseller lists, not just in Britain, but internationally.

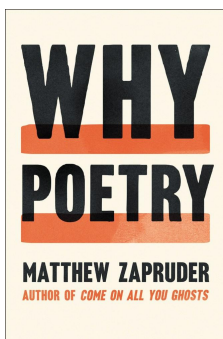
The decade following World War II had seen Britain lose an Empire, demoted in terms of global power and status and economically crippled by debt; yet its fictional spies, secret agents, soldiers, sailors and even (occasionally) journalists were now saving the world on a regular basis.



**Dead Girls : Essays on Surviving an American Obsession**  
 Alice Bolin  
 9780062657145, 0062657143  
 Pub Date: 6/26/18  
 \$19.99 CAD  
 288 pages  
 Paperback  
 Literary Criticism / Feminist

**Summary:** In her debut collection, Alice Bolin turns a critical eye to literature and pop culture, the way media consumption reflects American society, and her own place within it. From essays on Joan Didion and James Baldwin to *Twin Peaks*, Britney Spears, and *Serial*, Bolin illuminates our widespread obsession with women who are abused, killed, and disenfranchised, and whose bodies (dead and alive) are used as props to bolster a man's story.

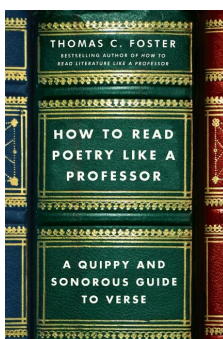
From chronicling life in Los Angeles to dissecting the "Dead Girl Show" to analyzing literary witches and werewolves, this collection challenges the narratives we create and tell ourselves, delving into the hazards of toxic masculinity and

**Why Poetry**

Matthew Zapruder  
9780062343086, 0062343084  
Pub Date: 6/12/18  
\$18.50 CAD  
256 pages  
Paperback  
Literary Criticism / Poetry

**Summary:** We have been taught that the language of poetry is symbolic—a difficult code that must be rigorously and carefully deciphered. As a result, poetry's importance has suffered in popular culture and been abandoned by readers fearful of its difficulty. In lively, conversational prose, acclaimed poet Matthew Zapruder argues against this approach to poetry, demystifying it for ordinary readers and revealing how this misunderstanding interferes with our direct, visceral experience of poetry's beauty and strangeness, instilling instead a sense of confusion and inadequacy.

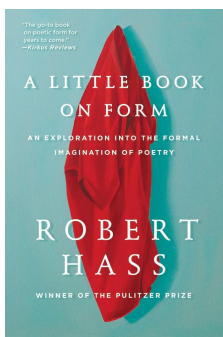
In this engaging, informed handbook, Zapruder takes on

**How to Read Poetry Like a Professor : A Quippy and Sonorous Guide to Verse**

Thomas C. Foster  
9780062113788, 006211378X  
Pub Date: 3/27/18  
\$21.00 CAD  
224 pages  
Paperback  
Literary Criticism / Poetry

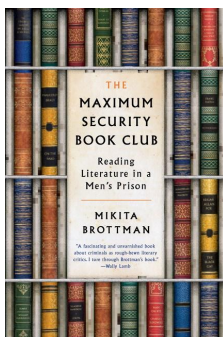
**Summary:** No literary form is as admired and feared as poetry. Admired for its lengthy pedigree—a line of poets extending back to a time before recorded history—and a ubiquitous presence in virtually all cultures, poetry is also revered for its great beauty and the powerful emotions it evokes. But the form has also instilled trepidation in its many admirers mainly because of a lack of familiarity and knowledge.

Poetry demands more from readers—intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually—than other literary forms. Most of us started out loving poetry because it filled our beloved children's books from Dr. Seuss to Robert Louis Stevenson

**A Little Book on Form : An Exploration into the Formal Imagination of Poetry**

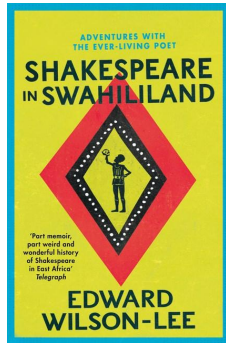
Robert Hass  
9780062332431, 0062332430  
Pub Date: 3/6/18  
\$21.00 CAD  
464 pages  
Paperback  
Literary Criticism / Poetry

**Summary:** *A Little Book on Form* brilliantly synthesizes Hass's formidable gifts as both a poet and essayist. In it he takes up the central tension between poetry as genre and the poetics of the imagination. A wealth of vocabulary exists with which to talk about poetry in traditional formal terms. But the more intuitive, creative parts of a poet's work and processes are more elusive: if the most interesting aspect of form is the shaping power of the essential, expressive gestures inside it, how do we come to a language in which to speak about form as the search for the radiant shapes—the wholeness or brokenness—we experience inside powerful works of art?

**The Maximum Security Book Club : Reading Literature in a Men's Prison**

Mikita Brottman  
9780062384348, 0062384341  
Pub Date: 6/6/17  
\$19.99 CAD  
288 pages  
Paperback  
Literary Criticism / Books & Reading

**Summary:** On sabbatical from teaching literature to undergraduates, and wanting to educate a different kind of student, Mikita Brottman starts a book club with a group of convicts from the Jessup Correctional Institution in Maryland. She assigns them ten dark, challenging classics—including Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, Stevenson's *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, Poe's "The Black Cat," and Nabokov's *Lolita*—books that don't flinch from evoking the isolation of the human struggle, the pain of conflict, and the cost of transgression. Although Brottman is already familiar with these works, the convicts explore them in completely new ways. Their discussions may be about "only" literature, but for the prisoners, everything is at stake



### Shakespeare in Swahiland : Adventures with the Ever-Living Poet

Edward Wilson-Lee

9780008146214, 0008146217

Pub Date: 4/25/17

\$18.99 CAD

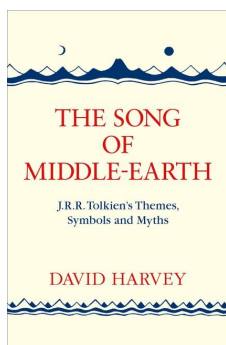
320 pages

Paperback

Literary Criticism / Shakespeare

**Summary:** Investigating the literary culture of the early interaction between European countries and East Africa, Edward Wilson-Lee uncovers an extraordinary sequence of stories in which explorers, railway labourers, decadent émigrés, freedom fighters, and pioneering African leaders made Shakespeare their own in this alien land.

Exploring the unexpected history of Shakespeare's global legacy, *Shakespeare in Swahiland* is a breathtaking combination of travel, history, biography and satire. It traces Shakespeare's influence in Zanzibar, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan and Kenya – where Cambridge lecturer



### The Song of Middle-earth : J. R. R. Tolkien's Themes, Symbols and Myths

David Harvey

9780008184810, 000818481X

Pub Date: 8/30/16

\$17.99 CAD

240 pages

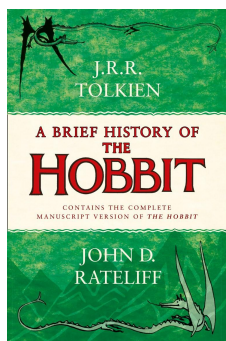
Paperback

Literary Criticism / Science Fiction & Fantasy

**Summary:** Available for the first time in paperback, this is the pre-eminent critical study, and exploration, of how myth and legend played such a significant role in the works of J.R.R. Tolkien.

The Song of Middle-earth takes a fresh look at The Lord of the Rings, digging deep into the foundations of Tolkien's world to reveal the complex tapestry of history and mythology that lies behind his stories.

The charge that Tolkien's work was merely derivative – that he extracted elements from other mythologies and incorporated them into his own fiction – is dismissed in



### A Brief History of the Hobbit

John Rateliff, J.R.R. Tolkien

9780007557257, 0007557256

Pub Date: 3/3/15

\$18.99 CAD

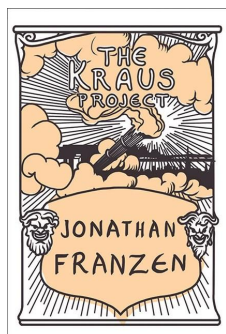
592 pages

B-format Paperback

Literary Criticism / Science Fiction & Fantasy

**Summary:** This brand new, shorter edition of the critically acclaimed work includes J.R.R. Tolkien's complete draft manuscript of 'The Hobbit', together with notes about its history, and is perfect for readers of all ages wishing to know more about how he came to write his beloved masterpiece.

A Brief History of the Hobbit presents the complete unpublished text of the original manuscript of J.R.R. Tolkien's The Hobbit, accompanied by John Rateliff's lively and informative account of how the book came to be written and published. As well as recording important changes made to the story both before and after publication, it examines why those changes were made and how they reflect Tolkien's



### The Kraus Project

Jonathan Franzen

9781443423632, 1443423637

Pub Date: 2/17/15

\$16.99 CAD

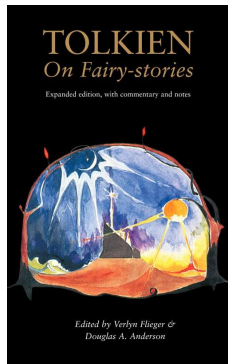
336 pages

Trade Paperback

Literary Criticism

**Summary:** Strikingly original in form, *The Kraus Project* is a feast of thought, passion and literature. A hundred years ago, the writings of Viennese satirist Karl Kraus were among the most penetrating and prophetic in Europe—a relentless criticism of the popular media's manipulation of reality, the dehumanizing machinery of technology and consumerism, and the jingoistic rhetoric of a fading empire. But even though Kraus's followers included Franz Kafka and Walter Benjamin, he remained something of a lonely prophet, and few people today are familiar with his work. Thankfully, Jonathan Franzen is.

In *The Kraus Project*, Franzen not only presents his definitive



### Tolkien On Fairy-Stories

Verlyn Flieger, Douglas A. Anderson

9780007582914, 0007582919

Pub Date: 9/16/14

\$19.99 CAD

320 pages

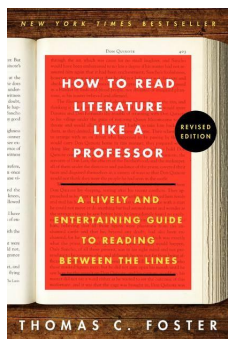
B-format Paperback

Literary Criticism / Science Fiction & Fantasy

**Summary:** A new expanded edition of Tolkien's most famous, and most important essay, which defined his conception of fantasy as a literary form, and which led to the writing of *The Lord of the Rings*. Accompanied by a critical study of the history and writing of the text.

J.R.R. Tolkien's "On Fairy-stories" is his most-studied and most-quoted essay, an exemplary personal statement of his views on the role of imagination in literature, and an intellectual tour de force vital for understanding Tolkien's achievement in the writing of *The Lord of the Rings*.

"On Fairy-stories" comprises about 18,000 words. What is



### How to Read Literature Like a Professor Revised Edition : A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines

Thomas C. Foster

9780062301673, 0062301675

Pub Date: 2/25/14

\$21.99 CAD

368 pages

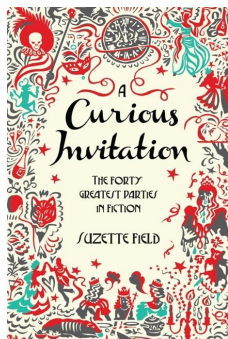
Paperback

Literary Criticism / Comparative Literature

**Summary:** While many books can be enjoyed for their basic stories, there are often deeper literary meanings interwoven in these texts. *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* helps us to discover those hidden truths by looking at literature with the eyes—and the literary codes—of the ultimate professional reader, the college professor.

What does it mean when a literary hero is traveling along a dusty road? When he hands a drink to his companion? When he's drenched in a sudden rain shower?

Ranging from major themes to literary models, narrative



### A Curious Invitation : The Forty Greatest Parties in Fiction

Suzette Field

9780062271839, 0062271830

Pub Date: 10/15/13

\$19.99 CAD

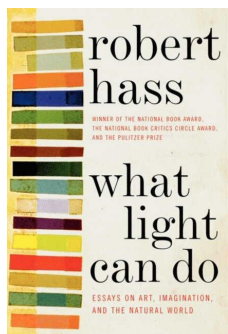
320 pages

Paperback

Literary Criticism / Humor

**Summary:** People love to party. And writers love to attend and document these occasions. The party is a useful literary device, not only for social commentary and satire, but as an occasion where characters can meet, fall in and out of love, or even get murdered.

*A Curious Invitation* features forty of the greatest fictional festivities, spanning continents and empires, as seen through the eyes of the world's greatest writers. Some of these parties are depictions of real events, like the Duchess of Richmond's Ball on the eve of battle with Napoleon in Thackeray's *Vanity Fair*; others draw on the author's



### What Light Can Do : Essays on Art, Imagination, and the Natural World

Robert Hass

9780061923913, 0061923915

Pub Date: 7/30/13

\$21.00 CAD

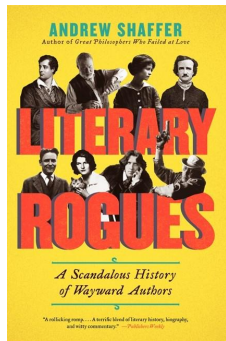
496 pages

Paperback

Literary Criticism / Books & Reading

**Summary:** Renowned for his magisterial verse, Robert Hass is also a brilliant essayist. The *New York Times* hailed him as a writer who "is so intelligent that to read his poetry or prose, or to hear him speak, gives one an almost visceral pleasure." Now, with *What Light Can Do*, Hass's first collection of essays in more than twenty-five years, the lauded author returns to and enlarges the territory of his critically acclaimed and much-loved collection *Twentieth Century Pleasures*, recipient of the National Book Critics Circle Award.

These acute and deeply engaging essays are as much a portrait of the elegant thought processes of an

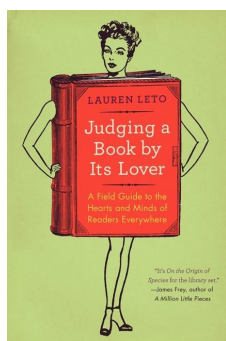


### Literary Rogues : A Scandalous History of Wayward Authors

Andrew Shaffer  
9780062077288, 0062077287  
Pub Date: 2/5/13  
\$18.50 CAD  
320 pages  
Paperback  
Literary Criticism

**Summary:** In *Great Philosophers Who Failed at Love*, Andrew Shaffer explored the romantic failures of some of the great minds in history. Now, in *Literary Rogues*, he turns his unflinching eye and wit to explore our love-hate relationship with literature's most contrarian, drunken, vulgar, and just plain rude bad boys (and girls) in this very funny and shockingly true compendium of literary misbehavior.

Vice wasn't always the domain of rock stars, rappers, and actors. There was a time when writers fought both with words and fists, a time when writing was synonymous with drinking and early mortality. The very mad geniuses whose books are studied in schools around the world are the very

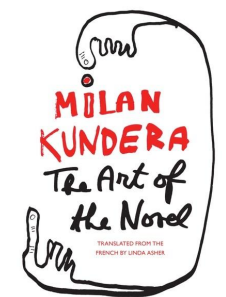


### Judging a Book by Its Lover : A Field Guide to the Hearts and Minds of Readers Everywhere

Lauren Leto  
9780062070142, 0062070142  
Pub Date: 10/2/12  
\$18.50 CAD  
288 pages  
Paperback  
Literary Criticism / Books & Reading

**Summary:** A pretty stranger at the bar demands your take on *Infinite Jest* and you need to impress? Wondering how to insert "leitmotif," "nobrow" and "derivative" into your daily vocabulary? Can't keep Francine Prose and Annie Proulx straight? Dying to shut up the blowhard in line, pontificating on Cormac McCarthy's "recurring road narratives?" More anxious about mispronouncing Michael Chabon's last name than about adjusting your stock portfolio? Most of all: need to get a grip on the constant onslaught of must-read books—and the conversations that swirl around them?

Lauren Leto offers solutions to these dilemmas and others in a hilarious send-up of and inspired homage to the



### The Art of the Novel

Milan Kundera  
9780060093747, 0060093749  
Pub Date: 4/1/03  
\$18.50 CAD  
176 pages  
Paperback  
Literary Criticism / Books & Reading

**Summary:** Kundera examines the evolution, construction, and essence of the novel as an art form through the lens of his own work and through the work of such important and diverse figures as Rabelais, Cervantes, Sterne, Diderot, Flaubert, Tolstoy, Musil, Kafka, and perhaps the least known of all the great novelists of our time, Hermann Broch.

As witty, original, and far-reaching as his unique fiction, Kundera offers his views on the role of historical events in fiction, the meaning of action, the creation of character in the postpsychological novel and his reflections on the state of the modern European novel.