English Literature 2014

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KEY TO SYMBOLS

- New: New title
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Introductory Textbooks
Medieval Literature
Shakespeare
Early Modern Literature
Eighteenth-Century Literature
Nineteenth-Century Literature
Twentieth-Century Literature
Contemporary Literature
Children’s Literature
Creative Writing
A History of English Literature

3rd edition

Michael Alexander, University of St Andrews, UK

'Michael Alexander is a writer of rare skill: he is learned, as befits a former professor of English literature, and yet he is able to write about reading in a way that is accessible and pleasurable but never lightweight. Above all, he is an astute guide through the classical landscape of English writing.'
- Alexander Lucie-Smith, The Tablet

'If I had my way, every student of English would be supplied with a copy of this book.'
- Times Higher Education Supplement

'A succinct, comprehensive and readable chronological account... [Alexander] threads the history and literature together with authority and occasional wit.'
- Professional Journal of the National Association for the Teaching of English

A History of English Literature is an essential text for all Literature students. Writing in a lively and engaging way, Michael Alexander traces the development of writing in England from the Old English period to the present day, discussing a wide range of key authors, texts and genres. The third edition has been updated throughout, and now includes a full final chapter on the contemporary scene, with more on genres and the impact of globalization.

Features of this best-selling book include:
• a helpful overview of each chapter
• boxed biographies of authors, and tables of publications and historical events
• on-page definitions of important terms and concepts
• suggestions for further reading at the end of each chapter to aid study
• portraits of authors, illustrations, maps and an index.

464pp
March 2013
Palgrave Foundations Series

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A Brief History of English Literature

2nd edition

John Peck, formerly, and Martin Coyle, both at Cardiff University, UK

This new edition of an established text provides a lively, concise and up-to-date historical overview of the story of English literature. Focusing on how writing both reflects and challenges the periods in which it is produced, John Peck and Martin Coyle combine close readings of key texts with recent critical thinking on the interaction of literary works and culture. The book places novels, poetry, prose and other forms of writing in their social, political and cultural contexts, and offers an engaging chronological narrative of the main literary periods, from Anglo-Saxon times to the present day. The second edition features a new final chapter on twenty-first century literature.

392pp
November 2013

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New EEC
Living Poetry
Reading Poems from Shakespeare to Don Paterson

William Hutchings, formerly, University of Manchester, UK

‘Living Poetry is a passionately written and clear introduction that offers a strong overview of English poetry. It is an extremely useful book and guides readers through an impressive range of poems, granting them an array of ideas to be developed in their own work.’ - Emma Mason, University of Warwick, UK

Living Poetry demonstrates that poems are vital expressions of how we live, feel and think. Lucidly written and jargon free, it introduces a range of poems from the Elizabethan age to the present day, presenting practical models of close reading and a stimulating rationale for the power of poetry to move and excite us.

216pp  February 2012
Hardback  9780230301702  $90.00 (C$104.00)
Paperback  9780230301719  $28.00 (C$32.00)
The Later Middle Ages
A Sourcebook

Carolyn P. Collette and Harold Garrett-Goodyear, both at Mount Holyoke College, USA

‘This exceptionally wide-ranging, lucid and informative selection of texts pulls off a brilliant trick: it makes the strange places of the past accessible while revealing at the same time their fascinating variousness and complexity.’ - Felicity Riddy, University of York, UK

More than a hundred primary documents offer students intriguing original perspectives through which to understand the literary texts of the period 1350-1500 as well as the culture which created and received them.

320pp December 2010
Hardback 9780230551350 $104.00 (C$120.00)
Paperback 9780230551367 $37.00 (C$42.50)

Palgrave Sourcebooks
Series Editor: Steven Matthews

Chaucer’s Language
2nd edition

Simon Horobin, Magdalen College, University of Oxford, UK

‘The author turns linguistic facts into consistently deft critical analysis, making the book useful not just as a ‘background’ study, but as a stimulus to thinking about Chaucer as a literary author.’ - Marilyn Corrie, University College London, UK

The book is accessibly written and presented, but also maintains rigorous standards of scholarship, and is informed by the most recent research...This will be a valuable teaching and reference tool for courses on Chaucer, Middle English language and literature, and history of the English language.’ - Medium Ævum

In keeping with the first edition, this is a thorough yet concise introduction to Chaucer’s language, which does not assume prior knowledge of linguistics or Middle English. This updated, expanded edition features a glossary on Chaucer’s words, along with sample quotes, and a section on how to use the Middle English Dictionary.

240pp November 2012
Paperback 9780230293793 $32.00 (C$37.00)
Reading Shakespeare

Michael Alexander, University of St Andrews, UK

'There are other good short introductions to Shakespeare, but few are as 'helpful' (Alexander's aim) and none packs so much - and with such elegance - into the space. Infinite riches in a little room.' - Times Literary Supplement

'Reading Shakespeare almost always finds something new to say about this multi-faceted genius...Michael Alexander provokes thought throughout in this fascinating little book.' - Alexander Lucie-Smith, The Tablet

This brief yet comprehensive introduction offers a clear narrative of Shakespeare's writing career. The book examines the texts of twenty widely-studied plays, and the Sonnets, illuminating both their original contexts and their later reception. Lucidly written, with no jargon, this is an invaluable overview of Shakespeare's life and works.

192pp January 2013
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Shakespeare and Political Theatre in Practice

Andrew James Hartley, University of North Carolina, USA

What are the political dimensions of Shakespeare's plays in performance? Hartley reveals the unspoken politics of Shakespeare's plays on stage, examining their nature, agenda, limits and potential. In doing so, he highlights a more consciously political approach to making theatre out of Shakespeare's scripts - and to experiencing it as an audience.

176pp December 2013
Hardback 9780230370067 $80.00 (C$92.00)
Paperback 9780230370074 $24.00 (C$27.50)
Shakespeare & the Making of Theatre

Edited by Stuart Hampton-Reeves, University of Central Lancashire, UK and Bridget Escolme, Queen Mary, University of London, UK

'The editors have assembled a formidable team of world-class experts, whose command of the field is so confident that they can present truly original ideas about the most basic issues...This maturity makes for lucid, relaxed, and accessible reading.' - Richard Wilson, Kingston University, UK

A highly engaging text that approaches Shakespeare as a maker of theatre, as well as a writer of literature. Leading performance critics dismantle Shakespeare’s texts, identifying theatrical cues in ways which develop understanding of the underlying theatricality of Shakespeare’s plays and stimulate further performances.

Shakespeare: The Late Plays

Kate Aughterson, University of Brighton, UK

This essential study takes a fresh look at The Winter’s Tale, The Tempest, Cymbeline and Pericles. Part I uses carefully selected short extracts for close textual analysis, while Part II examines the contexts and key criticism. The volume is an ideal introductory guide for those who are studying Shakespeare’s late plays for the first time.

264pp  November 2012
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Shakespeare: The Histories

John Blades, formerly, University of Leeds, UK

This indispensable volume explores four of Shakespeare’s major history plays: Richard II, Henry IV Parts 1 & 2, and Richard III. Part I uses carefully selected short extracts for close textual analysis, while Part II examines the historical and literary contexts and key criticism. The volume is an ideal introductory guide for those who are studying the Histories for the first time.

224pp  November 2013
Hardback  9780230299580  $80.00 (C$92.00)
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Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet

Gillian Woods, Birkbeck College, University of London, UK
This guide surveys the truly essential criticism of the play over the last four centuries, from 16th-century responses to the present day. Discussing key areas of debate, and a wide range of scholarship, Gillian Woods provides an invaluable introduction to the vast array of criticism surrounding one of Shakespeare’s most popular plays.

200pp January 2013
Hardback 9780230222069 $80.00 (C$92.00)
Paperback 9780230222076 $24.00 (C$27.50)

Readers’ Guides to Essential Criticism
Series Editor: Nicolas Tredell

Studying Shakespeare in Performance

John Russell Brown, University College London, UK
‘John Russell Brown almost single-handedly created the discipline of Shakespeare performance studies, as well as being directly involved in production during an important period. This will be a very useful book for students of Shakespeare performance and criticism, as well as the history of that discipline.’ - James Loehlin, University of Texas at Austin, USA

John Russell Brown is arguably the most influential scholar in the field of Shakespeare in performance. This collection brings together, and makes accessible, his most important writing across the last 40 years. Together these essays provide an authoritative and engaging account of how to study Shakespeare’s plays as texts for performance.

224pp August 2011
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Webster: The Duchess of Malfi

David Carnegie, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand
This introductory guide to one of Webster’s most widely-studied plays offers a scene-by-scene theatrically aware commentary, a brief history of the text and first performances, case studies of key performances and productions, a survey of film and TV adaptations, and a wide sampling of critical opinion and annotated further reading.

176pp August 2014
Hardback 9780230243743 $72.00 (C$83.00)
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Middleton and Rowley: The Changeling

Jay O’Berski, Duke University, USA

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Ford: 'Tis Pity She's a Whore

Martin White, University of Bristol, UK

This introductory guide to one of Ford's most read and performed plays offers a scene-by-scene theatrically aware commentary, a brief history of the text and first performances, case studies of key performances and productions, a survey of film and TV adaptations, and a wide sampling of critical opinion and further reading.

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Webster: The White Devil

Stephen Purcell, University of Warwick, UK

This introductory guide to one of Webster's most widely-studied plays offers a scene-by-scene commentary of the play in performance, a brief history of the text and first performances, case studies of key productions, a wide sampling of critical opinion and further reading.

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**The Renaissance**

*A Sourcebook*

Lena Cowen Orlin, Georgetown University, USA

'The book covers everything a reader could conceivably want to know about early modern England - religion, the family, philosophy, high culture, trade, everyday life and more. I find it impossible to imagine who could fail to learn from this volume.' - Andrew Hadfield, University of Sussex, UK

This collection of rare and classic documents provides students with rich source material and context for studying the literature of Shakespeare’s age. The documents are supported by substantial editorial matter, including an authoritative introduction which outlines key historical events, movements, and literary and cultural issues of the time.

326pp May 2009
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*Readers’ Guides to Essential Criticism*  
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**The Rise of the Novel**

**Nicholas Seager, Keele University, UK**

'A remarkably comprehensive, lucid, and well-organised account of 'rise of the novel' criticism from the later seventeenth century to the present. Its judgements about the main lines of this criticism, and its assessments of the issues at stake, are judicious and convincing.' - Shaun Regan, Queen’s University Belfast, UK

This guide explores the dominant methodologies, theories and debates surrounding the emergence of the novel during the eighteenth century. Covering key criticism on authors such as Defoe, Fielding, Richardson and Austen, the emphasis is on how critical work is interrelated, allowing readers to discern trends in the critical conversation.

240pp
November 2012
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**Nicholas Marsh, formerly, Francis Holland School, UK**

2nd edition

Focusing on *Songs of Innocence and Experience*, this book uses close analysis and interpretation of individual poems to build the reader’s confidence when approaching Blake's lyrics. This edition includes additional textual analysis, expanded contextual material, discussion of the work of recent critics, and fully updated Further Reading.

288pp
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Hardback 9780230348073 $88.00 (C$132.00)
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**Sarah Haggarty, Newcastle University, UK and Jon Mee, University of Warwick, UK**

This indispensable guide maps out the daunting critical terrain surrounding Blake’s most widely-studied text. It introduces students to the earliest reactions to *Songs* during Blake’s lifetime, explores his gathering reputation in the nineteenth century, and examines critical approaches to the work in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

212pp
December 2013
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Victorian Literature
A Sourcebook

John Plunkett, University of Exeter, UK, Ana Parejo Vadillo, Birkbeck College, University of London, UK, Regenia Gagnier, Angelique Richardson, Rick Rylance and Paul Young, all at University of Exeter, UK

‘An excellent anthology...well organised, lucidly introduced and broad in outlook.’ - Gail Marshall, University of Leicester, UK

An anthology of both familiar and previously unavailable primary texts that illuminate the world of nineteenth-century ideas. An expert team introduce and annotate a range of original social, cultural, political and historical documents necessary for contextualising key literary texts from the Victorian period.

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Charles Dickens:
David Copperfield/
Great Expectations

Nicolas Tredell, Freelance writer, UK

This thought-provoking study takes a fresh look at two of Dickens’ most popular texts. Part I uses carefully selected short extracts for close textual analysis, while Part II examines the historical and literary contexts and key criticism. The volume is an ideal introductory guide for those who are studying Dickens’ novels for the first time.

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Analysing Texts
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This stimulating study takes a fresh look at Hardy’s poetry and key themes. Part I uses carefully selected extracts for close textual analysis, while Part II examines Hardy’s life and works and a sample of criticism. The volume is an ideal introductory guide for those who are studying Hardy’s poems for the first time.

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Analysing Texts
Series Editor: Nicholas Marsh

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Tennessee Williams -
A Streetcar Named Desire/
Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

Thomas P. Adler,
Purdue University, USA

This guide charts the development in the criticism surrounding two of Williams’ most popular plays, from the 1940s/50s through to the present day. Adler’s overview of the critical responses proceeds in a generally chronological fashion and demonstrates how the emergence of newer theoretical methodologies has broadened the range of these responses.

F. Scott Fitzgerald

Michael K. Glenday,
The Open University, UK

‘In this engaging and accessible book, Michael Glenday has painted a lively and vividly living portrait of F. Scott Fitzgerald as the gifted artist.’ - Stephanie Ann Smith, University of Florida, USA

This study of F. Scott Fitzgerald offers new readings of novels such as The Great Gatsby, Tender is the Night and The Last Tycoon. It is an essential introduction to Fitzgerald’s fiction, both for first-time readers and for those aware of his reputation as one of twentieth-century America’s most representative writers.

The Poetry of Ted Hughes

Sandie Byrne,
University of Oxford, UK

This Readers Guide charts the reception history of Ted Hughes’ poetry from his first to last published collection, culminating in posthumous tributes and assessments of his lifetime achievement. Sandie Byrne explores the criticism relating to key issues such as nature, myth, the Laureateship, and Hughes’ relationship with Sylvia Plath.

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Ted Hughes

Edited by Terry Gifford, Bath Spa University, UK

This collection of original essays by an international team of Hughes scholars demonstrates afresh how key contextual and theoretical approaches to the poet’s work serve to illuminate the texts. Part I reads Hughes’ poems through cultural contexts while Part II examines his work through the frames of a range of literary theories.

208pp August 2014
Hardback 9781137301123 $80.00 (C$57.50)
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Postcolonial Theories

Jenni Ramone, Nottingham Trent University, UK

‘Jenni Ramone’s Postcolonial Theories is among the most accessible and engaging introductions to this important field now available, as well as the only one to pay due attention to the variety of new directions postcolonial scholars are taking. It vindicates theory: not as an end in itself but as an aid to critical and even political practice.’ - Robert Spencer, University of Manchester, UK

Postcolonial theory is a prominent approach in English Studies today. This introductory guide presents both the theory and practice to students in accessible and attractive ways. It includes contextualised discussion of a range of influential theorists, and applies postcolonial theory to a variety of key literary texts.

248pp September 2011
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Postmodern Narrative Theory

Mark Currie, Queen Mary, University of London, UK

‘A highly intelligent study, covering all the relevant theoretical issues skilfully and clearly.’ - Sir Frank Kermode, Cambridge University, UK

‘The new edition stands out from its competitors because of its concision, clarity, and refreshingly lively style.’ - Brendan Stone, University of Sheffield, UK

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Writing Jewish
Contemporary British-Jewish Literature

Ruth Gilbert, University of Winchester, UK

Writing Jewish provides a lively and accessible introduction to the key issues in contemporary British-Jewish fiction, memoirs and journalism, and explores how Jewishness exists alongside a range of other different identities in Britain today. By interrogating myths and stereotypes and looking at themes of remembering and forgetting, belonging and alienation, location and dislocation, Ruth Gilbert examines how these writers identify the particularity of their difference – while acknowledging that this difference is neither fixed nor final, but always open to re-interpretation.

192pp December 2013
Hardback 9780230275553 $80.00 (C$92.00)
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Novelists in the New Millennium
Conversations with Writers

Edited by Vanessa Guignery, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon, France

'A superb collection of scholarly interviews with celebrated contemporary novelists...sit back and enjoy the revealing responses of British literary maestros to Guignery’s questions - questions that allow eminent authors the opportunity to explain their work at length, in their own terms...It is a very real privilege to share the experiences and insights of the greatest writers of our day.' - The Bay

A collection of interviews with leading writers such as Julian Barnes, Jonathan Coe, Kazuo Ishiguro, Hanif Kureishi, Arundhati Roy and Will Self. Through these interviews the book explores and introduces a range of key themes in contemporary literature, raising questions about genre, history, postmodernism, celebrity culture and form.

176pp December 2012
Hardback 9780230238237 $85.00 (C$98.00)
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Contemporary Novelists
British Fiction since 1970
2nd edition

Peter Childs, University of Gloucestershire, UK

'This study carves an admirably clear and informative path through a great range of subjects...a useful student handbook.' - Times Literary Supplement

'A good, comprehensive overview of contemporary fiction with well-chosen chapters on important novelists, and illuminating commentary on those novelists.' - Merritt Moseley, University of North Carolina, USA

Peter Childs offers accessible analyses of the work of twelve prominent contemporary British writers, including Hanif Kureishi, Pat Barker, Zadie Smith and Jeanette Winterson. This expanded second edition has been revised and updated throughout, and now also features a new chapter on the younger ‘generation’ of novelists born in the 1970s.

328pp October 2012
Hardback 9780230249370 $92.00 (C$106.00)
Paperback 9780230249387 $30.00 (C$34.50)
John Fowles

Edited by James Acheson, formerly, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

‘An intriguing exploration into the mind and work of an important twentieth-century author.’ - Richard Kane, Penn State University, USA

‘This collection of essays covers an impressive range of Fowles’s texts and represents a significant addition to Fowles studies.’ - William Stephenson, University of Chester, UK

This vibrant collection of original essays sheds new critical light on all of John Fowles’s writings, with a special focus on The French Lieutenant’s Woman as the most widely studied of his works. The cast of contributors offers an outstanding range of expertise on Fowles, providing fresh reassessments and new perspectives on his fiction and non-fiction.

224pp October 2013
Hardback 9780230348059 $80.00 (C$92.00)
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New Casebooks

The Fiction of Pat Barker

Merritt Moseley, University of North Carolina, USA

A prize-winning and critically acclaimed author, Pat Barker is one of the most important contemporary British novelists. This Reader’s Guide covers all of Barker’s fiction to date and surveys the surrounding criticism, paying particular attention to her most widely-studied works that comprise the Regeneration Trilogy.

192pp July 2014
Hardback 9780230293304 $76.00 (C$87.00)
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Readers’ Guides to Essential Criticism
Series Editor: Nicolas Tredell

A.S. Byatt

Mariadele Boccardi, University of the West of England, UK

‘Boccardi offers a compact yet comprehensive introduction to Byatt’s work and succinctly situates Byatt’s long career within major critical debates and existing scholarship.’ - Stephanie Harzewski, University of Pennsylvania, USA

This comprehensive study offers a detailed analysis of all of Byatt’s fiction and also discusses her critical output. Mariadele Boccardi examines Byatt’s work in the light of postmodern concerns with language, narrative and self-referentiality.

184pp April 2013
Hardback 9780230275706 $80.00 (C$92.00)
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New British Fiction
Series Editors: Philip Tew and Rod Mengham

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Margaret Atwood
An Introduction to Critical Views of Her Fiction

Gina Wisker, University of Brighton, UK

'A stimulating study of Margaret Atwood’s fiction which also offers a substantial authoritative overview of recent trends and key debates in Atwood criticism. This is something no other book on the market has attempted. This book will be worth its weight in gold to students and researchers.' - Coral Ann Howells, University of Reading, UK

Gina Wisker provides a fresh, up-to-date introductory guide to the work of this internationally renowned writer, covering Atwood’s entire fictional oeuvre and engaging with the surrounding criticism and debates developed by key Atwood critics. Wisker also explores the main issues and approaches to reading Atwood’s fiction.

Strange Divisions & Alien Territories
The Sub-Genres of Science Fiction

Edited by Keith Brooke, University of Essex, UK

'I wonder if I am the first reviewer anywhere to describe a non-fiction book about science fiction as a page turner and to mean it seriously.' - Amazing Stories

Strange Divisions & Alien Territories explores the sub-genres of science fiction from the perspectives of a range of top sci-fi authors. Combining a critical viewpoint with the exploration of the challenges and opportunities facing authors working in the field, contributors include Michael Swanwick, Catherine Asaro and Paul di Filippo.

240pp
March 2013
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Paperback
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Reading the Child in Children's Literature
An Heretical Approach

David Rudd, University of Bolton, UK

‘An exciting catalyst for innovation within Children’s Literature studies.’ - Liz Thiel, University of Roehampton, UK

Rudd explores and challenges the critical representation of the child in children’s literature, looking at the child’s positioning from a psychoanalytically informed perspective. He shows students how to work productively with theory, combining conceptual analysis with close-textual readings of key texts in a sophisticated yet readable manner.

248pp November 2013
Hardback 9781137322357 $90.00 (C$104.00)
Paperback 9781137322340 $30.00 (C$34.50)

Children's Literature Studies
A Research Handbook

Edited by M.O. Grenby and Kimberley Reynolds, both at University of Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

‘An extremely useful handbook that provides excellent advice on how to approach literary-critical research into children’s literature.’ - Lisa Sainsbury, National Centre for Research in Children’s Literature, Roehampton University, UK

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*Edited by* Adrienne E. Gavin, Canterbury Christ Church College, UK

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## Roald Dahl

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‘Well worth reading and full of valuable insights that will make this volume of use to students and scholars alike.’ - Michele Stepto, Yale University, USA

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This invaluable collection of essays by published novelists focuses on the journey of writing a first novel. Writers generously offer their insight and advice on the joys and challenges that new authors of fiction will inevitably encounter along the way. A literary agent and a publisher add their own professional perspectives.

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