

# SALEM PRESS

Published & Distributed by Grey House Publishing

## For Immediate Release

October 31, 2018

Contact: Jessica Moody, VP Marketing  
(800) 562-2139 x101  
jmoody@greyhouse.com

## **Salem Press Announces a New Addition to the Critical Insights Series: *Critical Insights: Animal Farm***

*Critical Insights: Animal Farm* contextualizes the allegorical novel that established George Orwell as the greatest British satirist since Jonathan Swift. This volume considers *Animal Farm* within the author's multidisciplinary oeuvre, the complex cultural climate of its composition, and the diverse range of critical responses to the text. The first four essays, which comprise the critical contexts section of the book, cover *Animal Farm's* literary, historical, and political importance as well as its ongoing relevance to contemporary readers, providing a foundation for further study and scholarly work.

In the first essay, Erik Jaccard assesses the critical reception of *Animal Farm* from the time of its publication to the present, illuminating how contradictions between Orwell's support for international socialism and his wartime embrace of popular English patriotism shape critical debate about the novel's literary and political value. In the next essay, Bradley Hart investigates initial reactions by American writers to the publication of *Animal Farm* to explore how the book served as a sort of Rorschach test for the underlying political convictions of its stateside readers, resulting in a diverse range of early interpretations that resonate through American cultural to the present day. Gregory Brophy's critical lens essay introduces the readers to critical animal studies, tracing out a surprisingly recent development in *Animal Farm's* critical reception that interprets Orwell's animals simply as animals rather than as symbolic depictions of historical personages. Lastly, Rafeeq McGiveron provides a revealing comparison of *Animal Farm* and *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, addressing how Orwell used very different strategies of narration to further the ever-timely warnings of his thematically similar political satires.

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

- "Are Rats Comrades? Metaphor and Allegory in George Orwell's *Animal Farm*" Brian Ireland
- "Writing Revolution: Orwell's Not-So-Plain Style in *Animal Farm*" Paige Busby
- "'This World and the Next': Religious Text and Subtext in *Animal Farm*" Camilo Peralta
- "'Just Smile and Nod': The Absent Malcontent in *Animal Farm*" Charity Gibson
- "From Eric to Tony Blair: *Animal Farm* in Modern British Political Discourse" Richard Carr
- "The Typecasting of Female Characters in George Orwell's *Animal Farm* and Disney's *Zootopia*" Melanie A. Marotta
- "Tensions, Tenor, and Vehicle: *Animal Farm* and the Evolution of the Animal Fable" Josephine A. McQuail
- "A Tale of Violence: *Animal Farm* as an Allegory of Social Order" Dario Altobelli
- "The Biopolitics of Totalitarianism in Orwell's *Animal Farm*" Andrew Byers
- "The Function of Humor in George Orwell's *Animal Farm*" Robert C. Evans

In the final section, **Resources**, easy-to-follow lists are given in order to help guide the reader through important dates and moments in the author's life. A selection of further reading is then provided. Each essay in *Critical Insights: Animal Farm* 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: Animal Farm* 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.

**BUY THE PRINT AND GET FREE ONLINE ACCESS**

This edition comes with FREE ONLINE ACCESS on the popular Salem Press platform, <http://online.salempress.com>. With unlimited users and remote access included, your students and researchers can now search this amazing collection of data, anytime & anywhere, all just a click away.

---

*Critical Insights: Animal Farm*

Pub. Date: September 2018

Hardcover ISBN: 978-1-68217-918-5    300 pages    \$105.00

Ebook ISBN: 978-1-68217-961-5