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Salem Press Announces a New Addition to the Critical Insights Series: *Critical Insights: Invisible Man*

Invisible Man is and almost always has been considered one of the most important works of twentieth-century fiction. Although this book was the only complete novel Ellison published during his lifetime, its impact was immediate and has proven to be enduring. The purpose of *Critical Insights: Invisible Man* is to offer a diverse array of new perspectives on *Invisible Man* as well as many helpful facts and a good deal of new information.

A collection of four critical contexts essays are intended to treat the novel (1) from a historical vantage point, (2) in terms of its critical reception, (3) using a specific critical lens, and (4) by comparing and contrasting it with another important work. In the first essay, Phill Johnson looks at Ellison's novel from an intriguing historical perspective. He recounts the various attempts that have been made to challenge and even to ban the book, especially from high school classrooms. Robert C. Evans' goal in this second essay, "is to survey representative critical reactions to the book in the first two decades of its existence—from 1952 until 1969—by relying on essays reprinted in various critical anthologies." Nicolas Tredell goes on to examine issues of "sensation and making sense" in *Invisible Man*. In the last of the Critical Contexts essays, Steven D. Ealy highlights "biblical riffs in and on *Invisible Man*."

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

- "Ralph Ellison: A Biography," Arnold Rampersad
- "*Invisible Man*: Critical Responses from the Seventies through the Early Twenty-First Century," Robert C. Evans
- "Ralph Ellison on the Craft of Good Writing," Antonio Byrd
- "Ralph Ellison on *Invisible Man*: Early Interviews," Robert C. Evans
- "*Invisible Man*: Anger, Action, and Art," Nicolas Tredell
- "Race and Individualism in Ralph Ellison's Writing," Lucas E. Morel
- "The Political Implications of Ralph Ellison's Writing," Lucas E. Morel
- "*Invisible Man* and the Mysteries of Reconstruction," Grant Shreve
- "*Invisible Man* the Play: The Oren Jacoby Stage Adaptation," Bryan Warren
- "*Ralph Ellison: An American Journey*-A Survey of Reviews (and a Guide to Other Films)," Bryan Warren
- "On *Invisible Man*: Past, Present, and Present-Past," Michael Germana

In the final section, **Resources**, easy-to-follow lists are provided 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: Invisible Man* includes a list of Works Cited and detailed endnotes. Also included in this volume is a **Bibliography**, biographies of the **Editor** and **Contributors**, and alphabetical **Index** as well as **Early Material on Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man***.

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: Invisible Man* 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: Invisible Man

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