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## **Salem Press Announces the Second Edition of *Notable African American Writers***

This new, second edition of *Notable African American Writers* documents the ever-growing African American literary tradition, highlighting African Americans who wrote centuries ago, as well as modern storytellers whose work reflects the changing global landscape. Readers will explore what inspired various African-American writers to create poems, plays, short stories, novels, essays, opinion pieces and numerous other works, and how those writers contributed to American culture. From autobiography to young adult fiction, these volumes provide an overview and more in-depth context of each author's biography and literary career as well as a ready-reference listing of his or her major works in all genres.

In the decade and a half since the publication of the first edition, African American literature became an even more vibrant part of the American literary tradition than it had already been. Some writers who had previously established themselves as major figures, such as Toni Morrison, continued to be impressively productive, while new writers who were very little known at the time of the first edition's publication have now established themselves as important authors in their own right.

This edition not only features 19 new writers, but also includes hundreds of updates to older articles including current bibliographical resources. Each essay identifies a writer's major genres, and birth and death dates and places. The essays are arranged alphabetically by the author's last name, from "Ai" to "Al Young". Some new entries include:

- Dinaw Mengestu
- Ta-Nehisi Coates
- Dawn Lundy-Martin
- Chinua Achebe
- Terrance Hayes
- Anna Deaver Smith
- Jess Mowry
- Teju Cole
- Roxane Gay
- Nnedi Okorafor
- bell hooks
- Safiya Henderson-Holmes
- and Suzan-Lori Parks

Each essay in *Notable African American Writers* profiles a different writer, and includes an overview of the writer's life and work, a detailed reading of the author's principal writings, as well

as a comprehensive bibliography. The essays range in length from 3,000 to 11,000 words and contain the following sections:

- A comprehensive list of the writer's **Works**, organized by genre;
- A list of the writer's **Achievements**, comprising both specific awards and the author's larger impact on the culture;
- A detailed **Biography** of each writer;
- An in-depth **Analysis** of the writer's major works, with close readings of the author's principal texts; and
- An annotated **Bibliography** offering a generous selection of resources for further study.

The back matter in Volume 3 contains a number of reference tools to help readers further explore the lives and works of African American writers. These include:

- Four lengthy **Essays** that provide a critical overview of African American literature by genre. Essays cover Drama, Long Fiction, Poetry, and Short Fiction.
- An updated **Bibliography** that directs readers to accessible sources for further study;
- A **Genre Index** which allows readers to search for individual authors by the type of work they've produced;
- A **Title Index** which allows readers to search for the titles of individual works; and
- A **Subject Index** which provides access to the individual essays and their content through multiple access points.

Designed to introduce readers at the high school and university level to the rich world of African American literature, this three-volume collection will provide students with careful research and resources for further exploration into these rich literary traditions.

### **FREE ONLINE ACCESS**

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*Notable African American Writers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.*

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