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Salem Press Announces the Publication of *Notable Crime Fiction Writers*

Notable Crime Fiction Writers continues the Salem Press tradition of providing detailed analysis of the lives and works of major contributors to notable literary genres. This two-volume work features the best crime and mystery fiction writers—both classic and contemporary. Using the *Critical Survey of Mystery & Detective Fiction* (Carl Rollyson, ed. 2008) as a foundation, this new edition features a combination of new and updated essays. In addition to essays on individual writers, *Notable Crime Fiction Writers* includes a number of essays that survey groups of writers who are not treated at length in their own essays. Survey essays cover crime writers whose detectives fall into various groups, including LGBTQ detectives, African American detectives, Asian detectives, Scandinavian detectives, and detectives with disabilities.

These volumes proudly explore famed and famous writers like Edgar Allan Poe, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Shirley Jackson next to more modern authors like Stephen King, Attica Locke, and Gillian Flynn. Additionally, this volume highlights authors from previously “under-represented groups” who make note to include a diverse cast of characters. Important forerunners for LGBTQ+ representation in the crime fiction genre included range from Rudolfo Anaya to Rita Mae Brown, to Katherine V. Forrest, Val McDermind, and Michael Nava. Prominent African American writers such as Rudolph Fisher, Chester Himes, and Walter Mosley are highlighted, as well as Thulani Davis, Grace F. Edwards, Gar Anthony Haywood, and more.

Notable Crime Fiction Writers is, simultaneously, a condensation and major expansion of its five-volume predecessor. In the 13 years since that Critical Survey work appeared, many of its featured authors have died or ceased publishing crime or mystery fiction. Such authors—with the exception of major, continuously influential figures, such as Poe, Christie, Hammett, and others—are not covered in this two-volume edition.

Each essay is 1,000 to 2,000 words in length and includes the top matter information such as **Name**, by which the subject is best known; a **Description** of each author’s contributions and the type of writing they are best known for; and **Birth and death dates and locations**.

The body of each article is organized as follows:

- **Contribution** which sums up the author’s place in the crime and mystery fiction genre and discusses what sets the author apart from others in the field.

- **Biography** provides a brief summary of the author's life, paying particular attention to events relating to the author's crime and mystery fiction.
- **Analysis** begins with an overview of the author's writing that discusses themes, motifs, and writing style. This section is further broken down into sub-headed sections on individual works—usually novels—or groups of works, with an average of four sections per article.
- **Principal Works** lists the author's main works, arranged by genre.
- Lastly, each article ends with an annotated **Further Reading**, listing works on the author and the other subgenres in which the author writes.

Back matter includes supporting features of particular interest to those crime fiction writers:

- **Appendix One: Past and Present Mystery and Detective Fiction**
- **Appendix Two: Crime Fiction Settings and Situations**
- **Appendix Three: Resources**
- **Appendix Four: Author Birth and Death Data**
- **Indexes**

Designed to introduce readers at the high school and university level to the rich world of crime fiction authors, this two-volume collection will provide students with careful research and resources for further exploration into these accomplished and indispensable writers.

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