

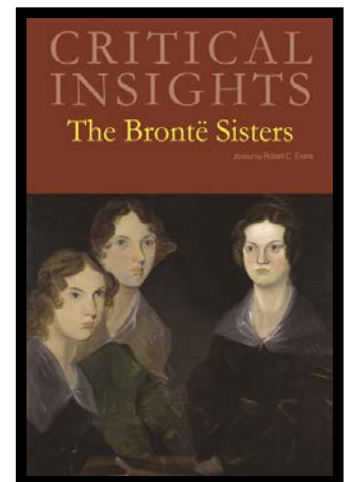
# Critical Insights: The Brontë Sisters

## Text Reviews

“There were three Brontë sisters—Charlotte, Emily, and Anne—and all became famous novelists to varying degrees. **Released in the "Critical Insights" series, this volume begins with a brief collective biography before turning to the novels.** Evans (Auburn Univ.) presents many examples of how one might approach the study of these women, first dealing with past criticism and then looking at contemporary points of view.

The major novels discussed are Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* and *Villette* and Emily's *Wuthering Heights*. Less-known works (Charlotte's *The Professor*, Anne's *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*) are briefly analyzed. Written between 1847 and 1849, the sisters' works are said to have changed novel writing forever. Though the sisters focused on domestic life, their writing—with its transformative psychological thrills—revolutionized what a woman's perspective could be. Especially interesting is the idea that not becoming a wife and mother might drive a woman's growth, which could be fostered through travel and work. Most of the book's introductions to the Brontës' novels offer convenient, standardized overviews of critical responses... **But the volume's notes and sources provide nonspecialists with an invaluable summary of critical responses to the Brontës.** Also enlightening are the three summaries of films made of the Brontë novels.”

- *CHOICE*



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2 University Plaza, Suite 310, Hackensack, NJ 07601  
(800) 221-1592 FAX (201) 968-0511  
www.salempress.com csr@salempress.com