This volume is part of the Critical Insights series from Salem Press which focuses on important texts and issues in literature. There are two introductory essays: one discusses the influence of The Crucible in the last six decades and one provides a short biography of the author Arthur Miller. The next section, Critical Contexts, contains four essays that explore various topics related to the content of the text: primogeniture, skepticism and tragedy, the 1996 film version, and recent scholarship. The Critical Readings section has twelve essays on issues such as scapegoats, satanism, communism, Marxism, postwar aesthetics, post World-War II dystopian writings, anti-Communist criticism, reviews of the 1996 film, the 2016 Broadway production, non-Broadway stagings, and audio readings of the book. Resources included at the back of the book include a chronology of the author's life, other works by the author, and an extensive bibliography. A concise presentation of opinion and scholarship on this important text.

— ARBA

The most valuable aspect of this volume of Critical Insights: The Crucible by Arthur Miller is the diversity of critical opinion contained within its pages. This is not a book that lionizes the playwright. Instead, the essays selected seemingly debate one another, as good scholarship should do—and we are all the wiser for it.

This collection of critical essays is marvelous and, surprisingly, quite the page-turner. Each analysis reminds the reader why The Crucible is a classic of the theater and a play that will be studied and performed for generations to come.

— The Arthur Miller Journal