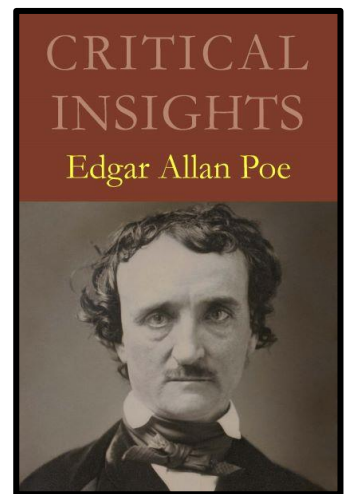


Critical Insights: Edgar Allan Poe

FULL
TEXT
REVIEW

***Critical Insights: Edgar Allan Poe* provides valuable contributions to the ever-expanding body of literature on various aspects of Poe's works.** Besides including critical and analytical scholarship on Poe's tales and poetry, the volume provides a nuanced reading of the illustrations depicting the major fires that occurred in New York in the early nineteenth century and their influence on Poe's work. Apart from Poe scholars and researchers, people interested in history, the arts, illustrations, and gender studies can benefit from the volume.... Joyce Ann's essay conducts a survey of the critical reception of Poe's work, with a focus on *The Cambridge Companion to Edgar Allan Poe*, edited by Hayes. Ann delineates that literary critics such as Daniel Royot, Teresa Goddu, and Karen Weekes focus on Poe's use of literary persona, aesthetic theory, and humor, along with the notion that he created the genre of detective fiction. Ann suggests that the overall premise of the volume is Poe's status as a cultural icon and avant-garde thinker and how this reputation was established. **This essay is extremely helpful for graduate students, Poe researchers, and instructors because it describes in detail the main arguments of prominent Poe essays and the critical lens that various authors have employed to evaluate Poe's tales and poetry...** Nonetheless, this volume is set apart by its illumination of the lesser-known aspects of Poe's life, which can bring valuable new insights to literary scholars and opportunities on which to build their research. **Overall, the volume is a worthy contribution to the field of Poe studies, covering a wide swath of Poe's work, including his poetry, detective fiction, and Gothic tales, through a variety of traditional and novel analytical techniques.**

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