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Editors' Note

Criterion: A Journal of Literary Criticism, is a student-run journal associated with the English Department at Brigham Young University. As a journal we are dedicated to bringing quality pieces of literary criticism from the undergraduate and graduate levels to our readers. *Criterion* functions entirely through the exhaustive efforts of our volunteer editors. We would like to take this moment to thank our staff for the wonderful work they have done for this issue. Our staff devoted their time and energy to refining these articles and preparing them for publication. We could not have done this without their extraordinary efforts, and we appreciate the unique presence each and every one of them has contributed to the journal.

We would also like to thank the university's English Department, its faculty and staff, and numerous student volunteers for organizing and participating in the English Symposium from which this issue's submissions were drawn. The Symposium comprised many excellent sessions and panels addressing a wide range of authors, genres, and periods; selections were made from the finest pieces of work with engaging ideas and a level of professionalism that could be made publishable on our single-semester turnaround time for each issue.

It is always difficult to adequately express our appreciation to all of the individuals involved in the development of a student journal. However, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude for the guiding hand of our faculty advisor, Mike Taylor, for his continued investment in this journal. We would also like to thank Maddie Calder, who provided the design for our cover. Finally, we would

like to extend our thanks to the BYU Department of English for their patronage and support of our events, promotional materials, and final publications.

This issue includes several pieces dedicated to the topics of identity and nation, stereotype and gender construction, and religion's role in a largely post-Christian literary sphere. Authors, too, revised rigorously to bring their pieces to this present state, and their intellectual engagement remains the force fueling a critical endeavor such as this. As the Editors-in-Chief of this journal, we eagerly present our readers with the Fall 2018 issue of *Criterion*.

Maren Loveland, McKay Hansen, and Hailey Kate Chatlin

