



# Criterion: A Journal of Literary Criticism

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Volume 13  
Issue 2 *Fall*

Article 1

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1-22-2021

## Front Matter

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(2021) "Front Matter," *Criterion: A Journal of Literary Criticism*: Vol. 13 : Iss. 2 , Article 1.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/criterion/vol13/iss2/1>

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# CRITERION

A JOURNAL OF LITERARY CRITICISM

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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. We as a staff are dedicated to bringing quality pieces of literary criticism from the undergraduate and graduate levels to our readers. *Criterion* functions entirely through the commitment of our volunteer editors. We take this opportunity to express sincere gratitude for the staff, and for the excellent work they have contributed to the development of this issue. Their enthusiasm, insight, and expertise make the publication process singularly delightful for us as an executive team.

The worldwide pandemic has brought many challenges to the world and to college campuses. For BYU students, this semester has been marked by mask mandates and socially distanced classes. For *Criterion*, the pandemic necessitated that all of our work and trainings be done remotely. Fall 2020 was the first entirely virtual semester for *Criterion*, and we are happy to say that it has been a success.

First, we would like to thank the contributing authors for this issue, whose essays were selected from the annual BYU English Symposium. These essays were chosen for their unique themes and excellent grasp of the genre of literary criticism. It goes without saying, but we could not have produced such a successful issue without the work and cooperation of these authors. I would also like to extend a special thanks to Dr. Billy Hall, our new faculty advisor, who has provided formative guidance during

this unpredictable time. We also would like to thank the BYU English Department and the College of Humanities for their extended support.

Finally, I want to take a moment to applaud our superb editorial staff for their efforts despite challenges. Our volunteers, some who have never worked on a journal before, all received hands-on editing experience and produced a high quality issue. The success of our journal depends on the diligence of our volunteer editors, and this issue would not have been possible without them. Each member of the staff remained positive throughout the process and worked hard each week even though we were limited to virtual meetings. It has been a pleasure to oversee their progress and we are very proud to present their final product. We hope you enjoy the Fall 2020 issue of *Criterion*.

*Michela Miller Dickson and Heather Bergeson*