



The Cambridge Companion to European Novelists (Cambridge Companions to Literature)

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A lively and comprehensive account of the whole tradition of European fiction for students and teachers of comparative literature, this volume covers twenty-five of the most significant and influential novelists in Europe from Cervantes to Kundera. Each essay examines an author's use of, and contributions to the genre, and also engages in an important aspect of the form, such as its relation to romance or one of its sub-genres, such as the Bildungsroman. Larger theoretical questions are introduced through specific readings of exemplary novels. Taking a broad historical and geographic view, the essays keep in mind the role the novel itself has played in the development of European national identities and in cultural history over the last four centuries. While conveying essential introductory information for new readers, these authoritative essays reflect up-to-date scholarship and also review, and sometimes challenge, conventional accounts.

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Review

"Each chapter includes a bibliography of primary texts and suggestions for further reading, and Bell frankly and honestly admits that the book leaves out many important novelists, some of whom are listed in a long sentence that ends, appropriately enough, in an ellipsis." --Choice

About the Author

Michael Bell is Professor Emeritus in the Department of English and Comparative Literary Studies at the University of Warwick.

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