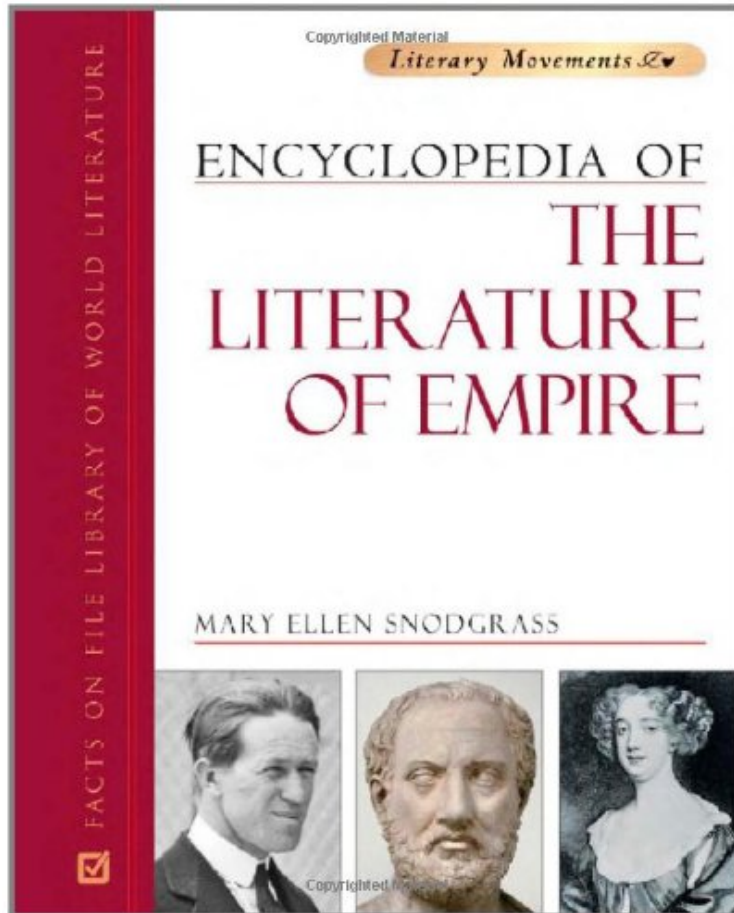


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Encyclopedia of the Literature of Empire (Literary Movements)

Mary Ellen Snodgrass M.A.

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Mary Ellen Snodgrass M.A. : Encyclopedia of the Literature of Empire (Literary Movements) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia of the Literature of Empire (Literary Movements):

Surveys the world's greatest literature about empires and imperialism, written by citizens of these empires and the colonized people who lived under their rule. This book contains more than 200 A-to-Z entries that examine authors, classic works, themes, and concepts related to particular empires in history or the general topics of imperialism.

From School Library Journal Grade 9 Up Considerably broader in scope and deeper in detail than Kathy J. Whitson's same-titled volume (Greenwood, 2004), this survey covers not only writers from Sappho to Sara Paretsky, and significant works from Toni Morrison's *Beloved* to Judy Blume's *Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret*, but delves

also into folklore and film, letters, criticism, and such pervasive topics as Confinement and Sexist Language. Each of the 500-plus alphabetically arranged articles includes a source bibliography, and all are backed up by extensive back matter, including a filmography, booklists, a chronology, and zillions of citations to both primary and secondary sources. The information is current enough to include the death of Betty Friedan in 2006. Despite its English-language focus, the lack of see references or illustrations, plus occasional gaps in coverage (Louise Erdrich's defense of pioneer values in the Little House series is mentioned, for instance, but not her own *The Birchbark House* [Hyperion, 1999]), this would be a significant addition to most collections for its insights into the spirit and viscera of female life. John Peters, New York Public Library Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist This alphabetically arranged encyclopedia covers world literature about empires and imperialism, a category that cuts a much broader swath than one might think. Including writings both by citizens of empires and people who lived under imperial rule, the works include unattributed texts, such as *Genesis*, *I Ching*, and *Ramayana*, while authors range from Aesop and Virgil to Shakespeare, Isak Dinesen, Ruth Praver Jhabvala, and Chinua Achebe. Besides looking at the works of specific authors through the lens of the effects of empire, the encyclopedia contains articles on topics such as Censorship, Prison literature, and Translation. The articles themselves are lucid, and cogent, and interestingly written, and they manage to give at once information on the specific topic being treated and to integrate that topic in the larger tapestry of complementary works. Each entry concludes with a short list of sources. The appendixes are particularly detailed and useful. They include lists of Major Works of the Literature of Empire, a filmography, and bibliographies of primary and secondary sources. A comprehensive index rounds out the volume. Though useful for those researching topics related to imperialism and its effects, this encyclopedia also gives a different window on the works of many well-known authors. It is of use to students in both literature and political science. An excellent addition to college and university as well as large public libraries, the *Encyclopedia of the Literature of Empire* is also available as an e-book. --Ann Welton ... "a welcome addition to reference materials in the area of literary movements...[a] solid, very readable and essential contribution to the field of literary genre reference materials. It is highly recommended for all undergraduate collections and public libraries as well as research libraries."