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Editorial Review

Review

"A Companion to British Literature is a fascinating four-volume set. Most of the essays are engaging and informative, and the comprehensive index as well as the chronology makes the volumes easy to browse." (*Reference Reviews*, May 2016)

From the Back Cover

A Companion to British Literature is a comprehensive guide to British literature and the contexts and ideas that have shaped and transformed it over the past thirteen centuries. Its four volumes cover literature from all periods and places in Britain and demonstrate the wide variety of approaches to studying the subject. Featuring a broad range of expert contributors, including distinguished academics and rising stars, the *Companion* examines the historical, social, political, domestic, linguistic, institutional and material contexts in which British literature has been produced.

Essays in the *Companion* discuss the real and imaginary geography in which British literature plays out, as well as the importance of technological contexts of literature, including transformations in book production and circulation. With special attention to individual genres, in historical context, the *Companion* discusses both formal and technical aspects of the subject. Throughout the volumes, essays take a highly contextual approach, joining readings across geographical, cultural, institutional, economic and mediological contexts in a unique way. The *Companion* has been carefully organized to support readers and; it includes a general index, and a thematic table of contents, enabling e-readers to follow numerous discursive threads across various chapters of the book.

About the Author

Robert DeMaria, Jr. is the Henry Noble MacCracken Professor of English Literature at Vassar College, USA. He is the General Editor of the Yale Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson, the editor of the *Johnsonian News Letter*, and the author of *Johnson's Dictionary and the Language of Learning* (1986), *The Life of Samuel Johnson* (Blackwell, 1993), and *Samuel Johnson and the Life of Reading* (1997). He is also the editor of *Classical Literature and Its Reception* (with Robert Brown, Blackwell, 2007) and *British Literature 1640-1789: An Anthology* (Blackwell, 1996; 3rd edn, 2008).

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Becoming the Chosen People is forthcoming (2013). She is also editing a new collection of essays entitled *Imagining the Jew: Jewishness in Anglo-Saxon Literature and Culture* (forthcoming, 2013).

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