



# The Compact Bedford Introduction to Literature: Reading, Thinking, Writing

By Michael Meyer

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*The Compact Bedford Introduction to Literature* is designed to bring literature to life — and to make students lifelong readers. As an instructor of literature and writing, editor Michael Meyer understands that a particular challenge in today's classroom is that students may not see literature as relevant to their lives. They may have difficulty reading it critically and lack confidence in their writing skills. With these factors in mind, Meyer has put together a lively collection of literature drawn from many periods, cultures, and voices, with an excellent representation of contemporary authors, women authors, and authors of color.

These works are presented with more than a dozen chapters of critical reading and writing support, and a generous helping of sample close readings, writing assignments, and student papers. And, because everyone teaches a little differently, the book offers more options for working with the literature than any comparable anthology — including in-depth chapters on major authors and case studies on individual works and universal themes.

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### **About the Author**

**MICHAEL MEYER** (Ph.D., University of Connecticut) has taught introductory writing and literature courses for more than thirty years — since 1981 at the University of Connecticut and before that at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and the College of William and Mary. His articles have appeared in such distinguished journals as *American Literature*, *Studies in American Renaissance*, and the *Virginia Quarterly Review*, and he is former president of the Thoreau Society and coauthor (with Walter Harding) of *The New Thoreau Handbook*, a standard reference source. His other books for Bedford/St. Martin's include *The Bedford Introduction to Literature*, Eighth Edition, *Poetry: An Introduction*, Fifth Edition, and *Thinking and Writing About Literature*, Second Edition.

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