

Critical Essays on  
Hawthorne's the Scarlet  
Letter (Critical essays  
on American literature)

Kesterson, David B.

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# Critical Essays On Hawthornes The Scarlet Letter

**Gary Scharnhorst**



## **Critical Essays On Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter:**

*Critical Essays on Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter* David B. Kesterson, 1988 Contains a collection of reviews and critical essays on The scarlet letter     The Scarlet Letter Nathaniel Hawthorne, Seymour Lee Gross, 1988 Critical essays accompany the story of Puritan life and the workings of the conscience on the human heart     **The Scarlet Letter** Janusz Semrau, 2018 The book is a collection of critical essays on Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter 1850 The interpretations deal with its main characters The Custom House the Spanish sailors the Book of Revelations and the artist as adulterer The authors apply different critical tools such as allegory or hermeneutical exposition     *The Scarlet Letter* Nathaniel Hawthorne, 2009 A key figure in the development of American literature Nathaniel Hawthorne was also profoundly influenced by his ancestors and the Christianity that underscored their Puritan heritage A literary classic The Scarlet Letter presents a profound meditation on the nature of sin repentance and redemption and on how such Christian concepts may be integrated into American democracy This edition features an introduction by Aaron Urbanczyk chair of the literature department at Southern Catholic College that explores themes in The Custom House that guide the reader's interpretation of the text of the novel and several critical articles on the work's major symbols and Christian themes Mary R Reichardt the editor of this edition is a professor of literature in the Catholic Studies department at the University of St Thomas in St Paul MN     *The Scarlet Letter* Nathaniel Hawthorne, 2006 Hester Prynne a young woman in seventeenth century Massachusetts is condemned by Puritan law to wear a scarlet A as the symbol of the sin she committed Includes biographical and historical context contextual documents and illustrations literary criticisms and glossary     **Twentieth Century Interpretations of The Scarlet Letter** John C. Gerber, 1968 A collection of critical and expository essays on The scarlet letter     **The Scarlet Letter** Nathaniel Hawthorne, 2015-09-27 This newly revised Squid Ink Classic edition of The Scarlet Letter includes the full text of the work plus MLA style citations for scholarly secondary sources peer reviewed journal articles and critical essays for when your teacher requires extra resources in MLA format for your research paper     **Nathaniel Hawthorne, The Scarlet Letter** Elmer Kennedy-Andrews, 2000 Introduces and sets in context the enormous range of critical arguments that have been generated by this enduring work From the comments and reviews of Hawthorne's contemporaries through discussions of the novel by fellow artists such as Henry James and D H Lawrence to radical re readings of the postwar decades the reader is given an invaluable guide to the critical progress of this key American text     Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter Harold Bloom, 2004-01 A critical overview of the work features such contributors as Henry James Harry Levin Mark Van Doren and Terence Martin     **Hawthorne** A. N. Kaul, 1966 Includes criticism of Roger Malvin's burial The artist of the beautiful The custom house The scarlet letter The house of the seven gables The Blithedale romance and The marble faun

*The Scarlet Letter Followed by Hawthorne of Henry James* Henry James, Nathaniel Hawthorne, 2017-01-24 The Scarlet Letter A Romance is an 1850 work of fiction in a historical setting written by American author Nathaniel Hawthorne The

book is considered to be his masterwork Set in 17th century Puritan Boston Massachusetts during the years 1642 to 1649 it tells the story of Hester Prynne who conceives a daughter through an affair and struggles to create a new life of repentance and dignity Throughout the book Hawthorne explores themes of legalism sin and guilt Most literary critics praised the book but religious leaders took issue with the novel's subject matter Orestes Brownson complained that Hawthorne did not understand Christianity confession and remorse A review in The Church Review and Ecclesiastical Register concluded the author perpetrates bad morals On the other hand 20th century writer D H Lawrence said that there could not be a more perfect work of the American imagination than The Scarlet Letter Henry James once said of the novel It is beautiful admirable extraordinary it has in the highest degree that merit which I have spoken of as the mark of Hawthorne's best things an indefinable purity and lightness of conception One can often return to it it supports familiarity and has the inexhaustible charm and mystery of great works of art Hawthorne is a book of literary criticism by Henry James published in 1879 The book was an insightful study of James great predecessor Nathaniel Hawthorne James gave extended consideration to each of Hawthorne's novels and a selection of his short stories He also reviewed Hawthorne's life and some of his nonfiction The book became somewhat controversial for a famous section where James enumerated the items of novelistic interest he thought were absent from American life This is the only book length study James wrote about a fellow novelist and it is not surprising he picked Hawthorne for such extended treatment The tradition Hawthorne began in American literature the morally intense exploration of the universality of guilt and the ambiguities of human choice was clearly carried on by James Although James expressed misgivings about some of Hawthorne's more extravagant symbolism and heavy reliance on allegory he shared his predecessor's constant interest in moral quandaries divided loyalties and the inevitable conflicts between imaginative protagonists and intractable reality James also shared Hawthorne's passion for careful craftsmanship and thorough unsparing analysis of character James ranking of Hawthorne's novels from The Scarlet Letter down to The Marble Faun has generally been accepted by later critics Although James at least in his earlier work was more of a consistent realist than Hawthorne the later novelist's work always betrays the influence of his predecessor's tendency towards metaphorical expression In James final novels such as The Golden Bowl this influence becomes even more pronounced in extended metaphor and complex symbolism By and large James book has enjoyed favorable reviews from later critics They have usually recommended the book as one of permanent interest and still well worth reading Critics have disagreed about how closely James followed Hawthorne's example though there's general agreement that the influence was considerable especially as James fiction became more symbolic and dominated by psychological introspection

**The Critical Response to Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter** Gary Scharnhorst, 1992-01-22 The Scarlet Letter is virtually unique among works of American fiction because it has not lapsed from print in over 140 years The history of its reception which is fully articulated in the volume introduction may be read as a case study in canon formation The collection of documents in the

volume outline the highs and lows of Nathaniel Hawthorne's literary reputation and the elevation of his first and best known romance to the rank of masterpiece and classic Also included is a selective bibliography of modern scholarship Among the early documents reprinted are contemporary news accounts of Hawthorne's dismissal from the Salem Custom House in June 1849 which provide the immediate background to The Custom House introduction in the story the publisher James T Fields's anecdotal version of the book's composition history and a generous sheaf of notices from both American and British newspapers upon its publication in March 1850 Of special value are the various essays and other materials that trace the institutionalization of the romance within the genteel tradition of American letters in the late nineteenth century More recently The Scarlet Letter has become something of an academic shibboleth inspiring dozens of New Critical psychoanalytical feminist and other readings which are also represented in this collection Prominent among modern critics whose essays appear are Neal Frank Doubleday Darrel Abel and Nina Baym A number of reviews of theatrical and cinematic adaptations of the story also underscore its stature as a cultural icon This volume is essential for serious research on Nathaniel Hawthorne and provides a convenient body of valuable commentary accessible even to the student reading The Scarlet Letter for the first time

**The Scarlet Mob of Scribblers** Jamie Barlowe, 2000 Barlowe examines the causes and consequences of the continuing disregard for women's scholarship To that end she chronicles The Scarlet Letter's critical reception analyzes the history of Hester Prynne as a cultural icon in literature and film rereads the canonized criticism of the novel and offers a new reading of Hawthorne's work by rescuing marginalized interpretations from the alternative canon of women critics

**BOOK JACKET The Scarlet Letter** Nathaniel Hawthorne, 2014-08-31 No man for any considerable period can wear one face to himself and another to the multitude without finally getting bewildered as to which may be the true Nathaniel Hawthorne The Scarlet Letter She had not known the weight until she felt the freedom Nathaniel Hawthorne The Scarlet Letter The Scarlet Letter is an 1850 romantic work of fiction in a historical setting written by Nathaniel Hawthorne It is considered to be his magnum opus Set in 17th century Puritan Boston Massachusetts during the years 1642 to 1649 it tells the story of Hester Prynne who conceives a daughter through an adulterous affair and struggles to create a new life of repentance and dignity Throughout the book Hawthorne explores themes of legalism sin and guilt In popular culture The Scarlet Letter has been adapted to numerous films plays and operas and remains frequently referenced in modern popular culture The plot of the novel The Brooklyn Follies by Paul Auster revolves around the manuscript of The Scarlet Letter

**Critical response** On its publication critic Evert Augustus Duyckinck a friend of Hawthorne's said he preferred the author's Washington Irving like tales Another friend critic Edwin Percy Whipple objected to the novel's morbid intensity with dense psychological details writing that the book is therefore apt to become like Hawthorne too painfully anatomical in his exhibition of them Most literary critics praised the book but religious leaders took issue with the novel's subject matter Orestes Brownson complained that Hawthorne did not understand Christianity confession and remorse A review in The

Church Review and Ecclesiastical Register concluded the author perpetrates bad morals On the other hand 20th century writer D H Lawrence said that there could be not be a more perfect work of the American imagination than *The Scarlet Letter* Henry James once said of the novel It is beautiful admirable extraordinary it has in the highest degree that merit which I have spoken of as the mark of Hawthorne s best things an indefinable purity and lightness of conception One can often return to it it supports familiarity and has the inexhaustible charm and mystery of great works of art The book s immediate and lasting success are due to the way it addresses spiritual and moral issues from a uniquely American standpoint In 1850 adultery was an extremely risqu subject but because Hawthorne had the support of the New England literary establishment it passed easily into the realm of appropriate reading It has been said that this work represents the height of Hawthorne s literary genius dense with terse descriptions It remains relevant for its philosophical and psychological depth and continues to be read as a classic tale on a universal theme     Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* Kimberly Free Muirhead,2004 This reference guides scholars through the vast amount of literary criticism devoted to Nathaniel Hawthorne s *The Scarlet Letter* between 1950 and 2000 Following introductory information on the work s initial reception are some 800 cross referenced bibliographical entries arranged first by decade and then alphabetically by author Muirhead s annotations illuminate the principal arguments and describe the theoretical models used by the authors The volume is indexed by author subject and critical approach Muirhead Duquesne U has published three prior bibliographic studies on Hawthorne in the *Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*     **New Essays on 'The Scarlet Letter'** Michael J. Colacurcio,1985-10-31 These interpretative essays explore different topics and issues in the context of history and culture

**The Cambridge Companion to Nathaniel Hawthorne** Richard H. Millington,2004-09-23 The Cambridge Companion to Nathaniel Hawthorne offers students and teachers an introduction to Hawthorne s fiction and the lively debates that shape Hawthorne studies today In newly commissioned essays twelve eminent scholars of American literature introduce readers to key issues in Hawthorne scholarship and deepen our understanding of Hawthorne s writing Each of the major novels is treated in a separate chapter while other essays explore Hawthorne s art in relation to a stimulating array of issues and approaches The essays reveal how Hawthorne s work explores understandings of gender relations and sexuality of childhood and selfhood of politics and ethics of history and modernity An Introduction and a selected bibliography will help students and teachers understand how Hawthorne has been a crucial figure for each generation of readers of American literature

The Scarlet Letter Twentieth century interpretations,1968     *Twentieth Century Interpretations of "The Scarlet Letter"* John C. Gerber,1968     **Critical Essays on Hawthorne's *The House of the Seven Gables*** Bernard Rosenthal,1995 Assembles a range of criticism on THE HOUSE OF SEVEN GABLES from its earliest reception to contemporary times

Uncover the mysteries within Crafted by is enigmatic creation, **Critical Essays On Hawthornes The Scarlet Letter** . This downloadable ebook, shrouded in suspense, is available in a PDF format ( PDF Size: \*). Dive into a world of uncertainty and anticipation. Download now to unravel the secrets hidden within the pages.

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