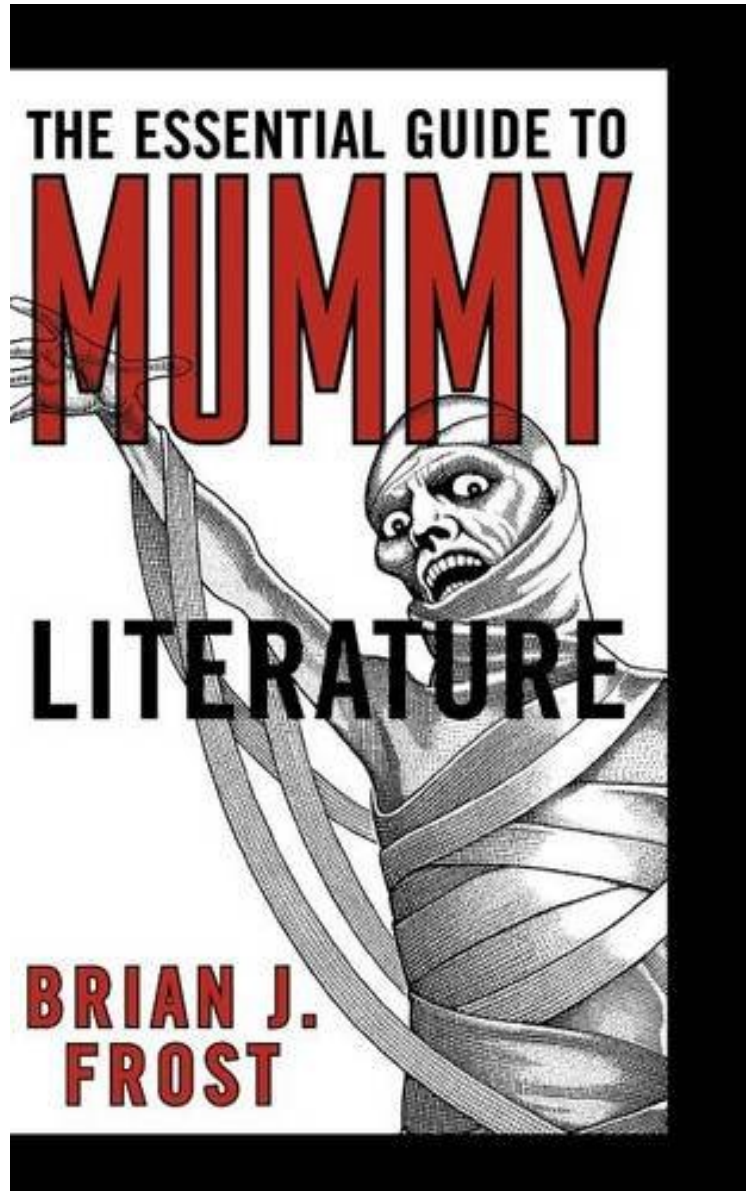


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The Essential Guide to Mummy Literature

Brian J. Frost

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monster in literature this is a great resource. It chronicles the entire history of the theme. There is a great anthology just published which can be viewed as a primer to this study. *A Mummy Omnibus: 1820s - 1920s* (Gothic Library Editions) Many of the stories that Frost discusses in his book can be found in this anthology.

Few historical relics have exerted such a hold on our imaginations as the mummy. In 1834, Thomas J. Pettigrew's *A History of Egyptian Mummies* was the first scholarly work wholly devoted to the subject, providing, for its time, a remarkable analysis of the different mummification techniques used by the ancient embalmers. Such volumes of serious nonfiction have been supplemented over the years by additional works, both scholarly and otherwise, as well as works of fiction that incorporate and expand upon mummy lore. Indeed, the popular concept of the mummy as a malevolent monster dates back to the nineteenth century, when stories about mummies rising from the dead to terrify the living first captured the imagination of the reading public and set the revived corpse on the path to becoming a major horror icon. In *The Essential Guide to Mummy Literature*, Brian J. Frost provides the first in-depth survey and bibliography of works of fiction featuring mummies. In this comprehensive volume, Frost traces the development of the mummy story, paying particular attention to works by Victorian authors and pulp fiction writers, as well as stories from the American pulp magazines. The annotated bibliography provides synopses of all the key works of fiction in the mummy canon, as well as others not so well known. Full publication details for each entry, with plot summaries of more than 500 works of fiction and abridged descriptions of 250 nonfiction books, are provided. Additionally, a filmography is included, along with listings of young adult novels, children's storybooks, and reference works for both adults and children. Well-organized and comprehensive, *The Essential Guide to Mummy Literature* will appeal to devotees of the horror genre and students of popular literature, as well as researchers and librarians.

About the Author Brian J. Frost is widely regarded as one of the world's leading authorities on weird fiction. He is the author of *The Monster with a Thousand Faces: Guises of the Vampire in Myth and Literature* (1989) and *The Essential Guide to Werewolf Literature* (2003).