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Robert Ludlum: A Critical Companion (Hardback)

By Gina Macdonald

ABC-CLIO, United States, 1997. Hardback. Condition: New. New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. There s more than meets the eye in the fiction of the master of the espionage thriller Robert Ludlum. In a study that examines seventeen of Ludlum s novels in depth, including the latest, The Apocalypse Watch (1995), Macdonald uncovers the serious themes running through the novels: the role of the individual in preserving democracy, the value of competing voices, the failure of educational institutions to preserve ideals, the temptations of power, the importance of personal loyalties in the face of impersonal organizations, and the nature of evil. She shows how Ludlum s novels are valuable in helping us to understand modern paranoia- our fear of conspiracies, terrorism, barbarism, and intolerance. A personal interview granted by Ludlum for this book illuminates the influences on his craft, especially his long experience in the theater, which affects his sense of pacing, characterization, humor, and suspense. After an initial biographical chapter, Macdonald examines Ludlum s literary roots in suspense novels and discusses the genre. Each succeeding chapter examines a group of his novels tied together thematically or, in the case of the Bourne series, by...



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