

THE SHORT STORY AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR

The poetry of the First World War has come to dominate our understanding of its literature, while genres such as the short story, which are just as vital to the literary heritage of the era, have largely been neglected. In this study, Ann-Marie Einhaus challenges deeply embedded cultural conceptions about the literature of the First World War using a corpus of several hundred short stories that, until now, have not undergone any systematic critical analysis. From early wartime stories to late-twentieth-century narratives – and spanning a wide spectrum of literary styles and movements – Einhaus's work reveals a range of responses to the war through fiction, from pacifism to militarism. Going beyond the household names of Owen, Sassoon, and Graves, Einhaus offers scholars and students unprecedented access to new frontiers in twentieth-century literary studies.

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