



## Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated)

By Henry James



Download



Read Online

**Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated)** By Henry James

- 12 illustrations
- 11 essays
- including The Art of Fiction

According to Wikipedia: "Partial Portraits is a book of literary criticism by Henry James published in 1888. The book collected essays that James had written over the preceding decade, mostly on English and American writers. But the book also offered treatments of Alphonse Daudet, Guy de Maupassant and Ivan Turgenev. Perhaps the most important essay was The Art of Fiction, James' plea for the widest possible freedom in content and technique in narrative fiction. The Art of Fiction was a response to remarks by English critic Walter Besant, who wrote an article that literally attempted to lay down the "laws of fiction." For instance, Besant insisted that novelists should confine themselves to their own experience: "A young lady brought up in a quiet country village should avoid descriptions of garrison life." James argued that a sufficiently alert novelist could catch knowledge from everywhere and use it to good purpose: "The young lady living in a village has only to be a damsel upon whom nothing is lost to make it quite unfair (as it seems to me) to declare to her that she shall have nothing to say about the military. Greater miracles have been seen than that, imagination assisting, she should speak the truth about some of these gentlemen." James continually argues for the fullest freedom in the novelist's choice of subject and method of treatment: "The only obligation to which in advance we may hold a novel, without incurring the accusation of being arbitrary, is that it be interesting." In particular, James is suspicious of restraining fiction with specific moral guidelines: "No good novel will ever proceed from a superficial mind; that seems to me an axiom which, for the artist in fiction, will cover all needful moral ground." James followed his own advice in criticizing the various writers included in Partial Portraits. In his long, engrossing essay on Maupassant, for instance, he couldn't help noticing the Frenchman's propensity for what James called the "monkeys' cage" view of human existence. But that didn't stop James from approving wholeheartedly of Maupassant's vigor, precision and conciseness in describing life as he saw it. Similarly, James found much to appreciate in the intellectual force of George Eliot, the stolid but comprehensive detail-work of Anthony Trollope, the unbounded imagination of Robert Louis Stevenson, and the genial common sense of Alphonse Daudet. All very different writers, but all speak with validity from their personal view on life. This wide range presages the "house of fiction" image James would include in the New York Edition preface to The Portrait of a Lady, where each novelist looks at life from a particular window of the house and thus composes a unique and personally characteristic

account."

 [Download Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction \(I ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction ...pdf](#)

## Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated)

By Henry James

### Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James

- 12 illustrations
- 11 essays
- including The Art of Fiction

According to Wikipedia: "Partial Portraits is a book of literary criticism by Henry James published in 1888. The book collected essays that James had written over the preceding decade, mostly on English and American writers. But the book also offered treatments of Alphonse Daudet, Guy de Maupassant and Ivan Turgenev. Perhaps the most important essay was The Art of Fiction, James' plea for the widest possible freedom in content and technique in narrative fiction. The Art of Fiction was a response to remarks by English critic Walter Besant, who wrote an article that literally attempted to lay down the "laws of fiction." For instance, Besant insisted that novelists should confine themselves to their own experience: "A young lady brought up in a quiet country village should avoid descriptions of garrison life." James argued that a sufficiently alert novelist could catch knowledge from everywhere and use it to good purpose: "The young lady living in a village has only to be a damsel upon whom nothing is lost to make it quite unfair (as it seems to me) to declare to her that she shall have nothing to say about the military. Greater miracles have been seen than that, imagination assisting, she should speak the truth about some of these gentlemen." James continually argues for the fullest freedom in the novelist's choice of subject and method of treatment: "The only obligation to which in advance we may hold a novel, without incurring the accusation of being arbitrary, is that it be interesting." In particular, James is suspicious of restraining fiction with specific moral guidelines: "No good novel will ever proceed from a superficial mind; that seems to me an axiom which, for the artist in fiction, will cover all needful moral ground." James followed his own advice in criticizing the various writers included in Partial Portraits. In his long, engrossing essay on Maupassant, for instance, he couldn't help noticing the Frenchman's propensity for what James called the "monkeys' cage" view of human existence. But that didn't stop James from approving wholeheartedly of Maupassant's vigor, precision and conciseness in describing life as he saw it. Similarly, James found much to appreciate in the intellectual force of George Eliot, the stolid but comprehensive detail-work of Anthony Trollope, the unbounded imagination of Robert Louis Stevenson, and the genial common sense of Alphonse Daudet. All very different writers, but all speak with validity from their personal view on life. This wide range presages the "house of fiction" image James would include in the New York Edition preface to The Portrait of a Lady, where each novelist looks at life from a particular window of the house and thus composes a unique and personally characteristic account."

### Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James Bibliography

 [Download Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction \(I ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James

---

### Editorial Review

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

##### Michelle Beltran:

Book is definitely written, printed, or illustrated for everything. You can realize everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. We all know that that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Adjacent to that you can your reading talent was fluently. A publication Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) will make you to possibly be smarter. You can feel more confidence if you can know about almost everything. But some of you think that open or reading the book make you bored. It is not necessarily make you fun. Why they could be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or acceptable book with you?

##### Ruth Nicholson:

As people who live in the actual modest era should be update about what going on or data even knowledge to make these people keep up with the era which can be always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice for you but the problems coming to you actually is you don't know which one you should start with. This Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and want in this era.

##### Johnny Harper:

Hey guys, do you wants to finds a new book to learn? May be the book with the concept Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) suitable to you? Often the book was written by well known writer in this era. The actual book untitled Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) is a single of several books which everyone read now. This kind of book was inspired a lot of people in the world. When you read this e-book you will enter the new way of measuring that you ever know previous to. The author explained their plan in the simple way, thus all of people can easily to recognise the core of this reserve. This book will give you a lots of information about this world now. So you can see the represented of the world on this book.

##### Todd Lyons:

The e-book untitled Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) is the guide that recommended to you to study. You can see the quality of the e-book content that will be shown to you. The language that writer use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The author was did a lot of

analysis when write the book, therefore the information that they share to you personally is absolutely accurate. You also could possibly get the e-book of Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) from the publisher to make you more enjoy free time.

## **Download and Read Online Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James #Q0PU28V6TRA**

## **Read Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James for online ebook**

Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James books to read online.

### **Online Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James ebook PDF download**

#### **Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James Doc**

**Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James Mobipocket**

**Partial Portraits, Including The Art of Fiction (Illustrated) By Henry James EPub**