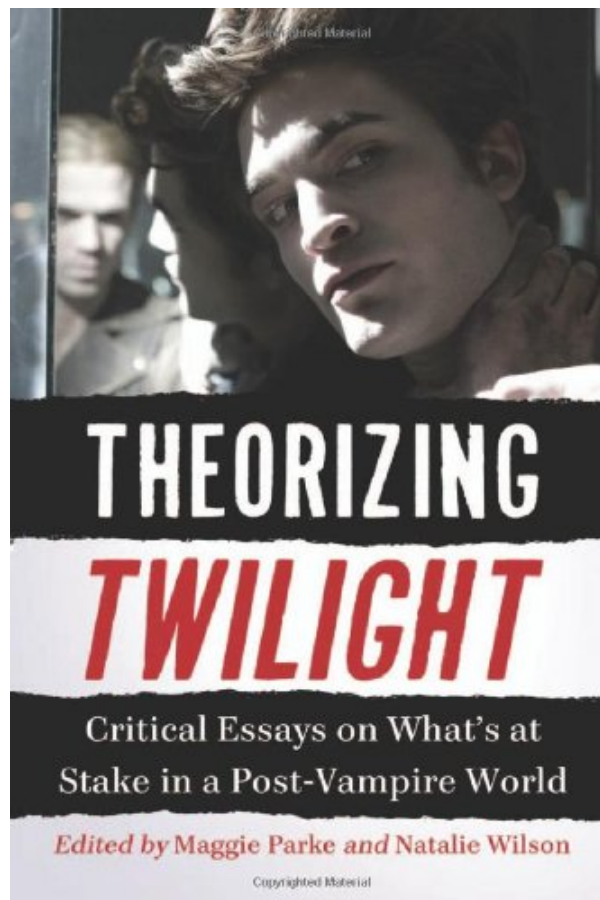
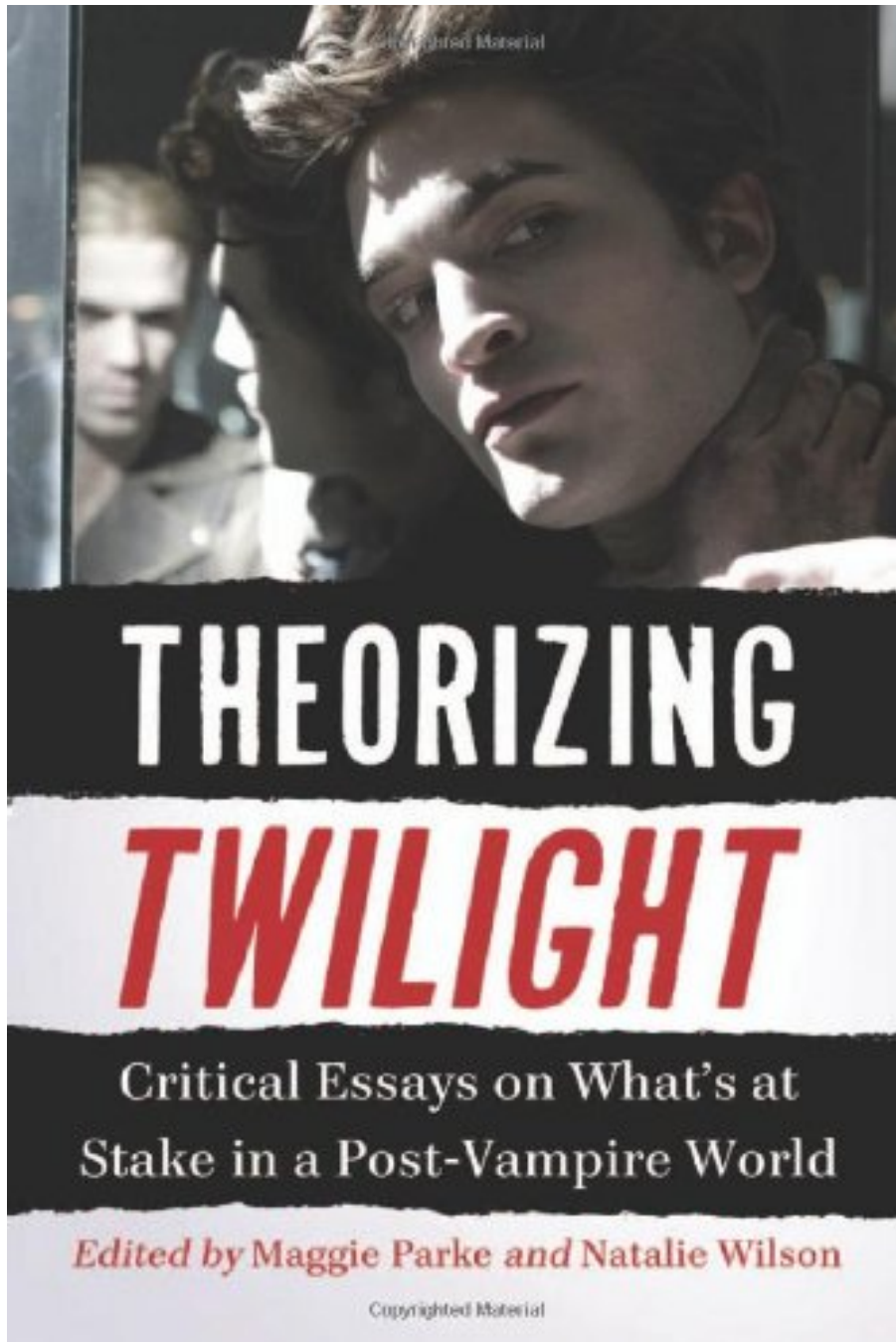


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## About the Author

Maggie Parke is completing her doctoral degree at the National Institute for Excellence in the Creative Industries at Bangor University, Wales. She has published in the *Journal of Gaming and Virtual Worlds* and is the head of development for Elfin Productions. Natalie Wilson pens one of the only academic blogs analyzing *Twilight* and its cultural impact. She teaches at Cal State San Marcos in the Department of Literature and Writing and in the women's studies program.

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Since the publication of *Twilight* in 2005, Stephenie Meyer's four-book saga about the tortured relationship between human heroine Bella Swan and her vampire love Edward Cullen has become a world-wide sensation--inciting screams of delight, sighs of derision, and fervent pronouncements. Those looking deeper into its pages and on screen can find intriguing subtexts about everything from gender, race, sexuality, and religion. The 15 essays in this book examine the texts, the films, and the fandom, exploring the series' cultural reach and offering one of the first thorough analyses of the saga.

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## About the Author

Maggie Parke is completing her doctoral degree at the National Institute for Excellence in the Creative Industries at Bangor University, Wales. She has published in the *Journal of Gaming and Virtual Worlds* and is the head of development for Elfin Productions. Natalie Wilson pens one of the only academic blogs analyzing *Twilight* and its cultural impact. She teaches at Cal State San Marcos in the Department of Literature and Writing and in the women's studies program.

## Most helpful customer reviews

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

Not my cup of tea, loved it anyway

By Armin Tamzarian

Eight weeks prior to this review, one of my fellow reference librarians received a request via our "Research Consultation Program" (anyone can request an appointment with a librarian for assistance in research). The patron stated they needed "scholarly articles about the *Twilight* movies and books." We both rolled our eyes and chuckled to each other (in private) then proceeded, in good faith, to help our hapless undergraduate. It's not that topics in popular culture don't receive scholarly treatment, but given that Stephenie Meyer's series was written so recently, 2005 to 2008, and the film versions didn't start until 2008 and won't be complete until late 2012, we weren't confident we'd find much. To our surprise, we did find a couple of critical analyses, mostly in the form of reviews. Fast forward to today.

Maggie Parke and Natalie Wilson have done a fine job of filling the void in scholarly and critical analysis of many things *Twilight*. The essays are divided into three sections. The first covers the pop cultural aspects surrounding *Twilight*. Reading the five essays herein reminded me of my earlier days, reviewing a fanzine

called "The Picardian" which attempted to cover, and deconstruct, all things Jean Luc Picard (see Star Trek: The Next Generation).

The thrust of the second five essays falls under traditional literary criticism and analysis. Comparisons with Wuthering Heights and modern teen fiction are well written and, dare I say it? INTERESTING!

The final five essays focus on the social and anthropological aspects of the Twilight universe. Discussions of "heteronormative patriarchy" stand along side musing about the "Noble Savage" and "Genesis, Gender, and Gynocide."

This book should be a no brainer purchase for public libraries, and academic libraries that can back down from snobbery ("But, but, but, it's just about TWILIGHT, dang it!") could also benefit from our experience that there will be a demand for this book (and I know that anecdote is not evidence).

Parents could consider purchasing this for their Fans of Twilight offspring. Think of this work as a stealthy introduction to a younger generation about the joys of quality critical analysis, deconstruction, and the analysis of pop culture.

I give it 5 out of 5 stars because, despite NOT being a fan of the Twilight books or movies, I loved this collection.

NOTE: The reviewer received a free copy of this book via the LibraryThing Early Reviewer Program.

4 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

Need more info? Here you go!

By Ashley R. Benning

From McFarland:

About the Book

Since the publication of Twilight in 2005, Stephenie Meyer's four-book saga about the tortured relationship between human heroine Bella Swan and her vampire love Edward Cullen has become a world-wide sensation--inciting screams of delight, sighs of derision, and fervent pronouncements. Those looking deeper into its pages and on screen can find intriguing subtexts about everything from gender, race, sexuality, and religion.

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It was an okay read, but far better books about the 'Twilight Saga' are available

By JMV

If you're looking for a general over-view of thoughts and analyses of the 'Twilight Saga' novels and books, then this is a good book to start with. Admittedly, there are far better books of this skein available though on Amazon.

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