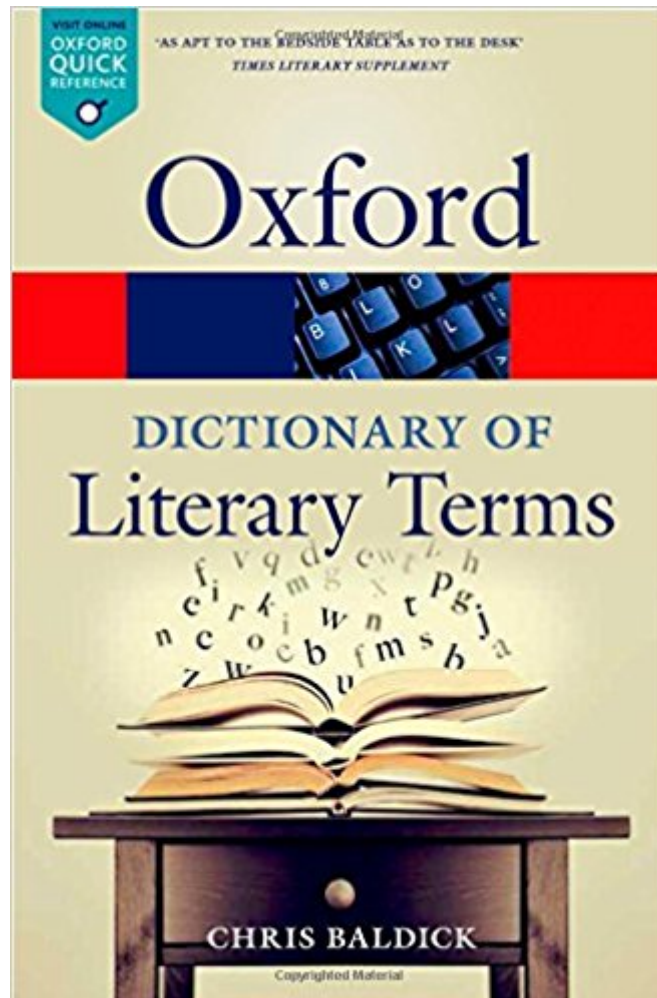




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"This dictionary's virtues and its plain-spokenness make it ... as apt to the bedside table as to the desk: Dr Baldick is a Brewer for specialized tastes" --Times Literary Supplement
"fun to read ... first rate" --Toronto Globe and Mail

Chris Baldick is a Professor of English at Goldsmiths, University of London. He edited *The Oxford Book of Gothic Tales* (1992), and is the author of *The Oxford English Literary History, Volume 10*

(1910-1940): The Modern Movement (2004), In Frankenstein's Shadow (1987), Criticism and Literary Theory 1890 to the Present (1996), and other works of literary history. He has edited, with Rob Morrison, Tales of Terror from Blackwood's Magazine, and The Vampyre and Other Tales of the Macabre, and has written an introduction to Charles Maturin's Melmoth the Wanderer (all available in the Oxford World's Classics series).

I have several dictionaries of literary terms, and the Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms is adequate, especially for the price, though it is not nearly as comprehensive as A Handbook to Literature, edited by Holman and Harmon. The Handbook, while not perfect, is the gold standard. Of course, it costs \$60 new compared to Oxford's \$15. The Handbook is used in a lot of colleges and universities, hence the heavy price. So, if you are a casual reader, the Oxford Dictionary is good enough, but if you are a serious student of literature, the Handbook is a must. You can usually find much cheaper copies secondhand.

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