



Angela Carter's *Nights at the Circus*: A Routledge Study Guide (Routledge Guides to Literature)

By Helen Stoddart

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A highly original and influential work of modern British literature, Angela Carter's *Nights at the Circus* combines a fantastically creative plot with a strong political undertone. The result is an emotive and provocative novel, which has attracted much critical attention from a range of perspectives including poststructuralism, gender studies, postmodernism and psychoanalysis.

This guide to Angela Carter's complex novel, presents:

- an accessible introduction to the text and contexts of *Nights at the Circus* a critical history, surveying the many interpretations of the text from publication to the present
- a selection of new critical essays on the *Nights at the Circus*, by Heather Johnson, Jeannette Baxter, Sarah Sceats and Helen Stoddart, providing a variety of perspectives on the novel and extending the coverage of key critical approaches identified in the survey section
- cross-references between sections of the guide, in order to suggest links between texts, contexts and criticism
- suggestions for further reading.

Part of the *Routledge Guides to Literature* series, this volume is essential reading for all those beginning detailed study of *Nights at the Circus* and seeking not only a guide to the novel, but a way through the wealth of contextual and critical material that surrounds Carter's text.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Helen Stoddart is a lecturer at Keele University. She is interested in research on the circus; its history, cultural influences and implications and, most particularly, its representation in other forms such as literature and cinema.

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