



## The Fiction of Angela Carter

By Sarah Gamble, Sarah Gamble

Palgrave Macmillan. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Fiction of Angela Carter, Sarah Gamble, Sarah Gamble, In this Readers' Guide, Sarah Gamble, herself a leading interpreter of Carter's work, examines the critical reception of her writing, including the much-debated non-fiction text, *The Sadeian Woman*. Drawing on interviews, articles, books and Carter's own assessments of her role as writer, it focuses on the controversy surrounding Carter's portrayals of sadistic eroticism; her adaptation of the Gothic, science-fiction and fairy-tale genres; her subversion of gender identity; and the extent to which she was influenced by postmodern theory.



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Angela Olive Carter (later Pearce) (née Stalker; 7 May 1940 – 16 February 1992), who published under the name Angela Carter, was an English novelist, short story writer, poet, and journalist, known for her feminist, magical realism, and picaresque works. She is best known for her book *The Bloody Chamber*, which was published in 1979. In 2008, *The Times* ranked Carter tenth in their list of "The 50 greatest British writers since 1945". In 2012, *Nights at the Circus* was selected as the best ever winner of the Angela Carter Award. Photo: ullstein bild/Getty Images. Open *The Bloody Chamber* by Angela Carter and you know right away you're reading a masterpiece – not something one expects with a modern collection of retold fairy tales. Electric, hypnotic, dizzying, occasionally hallucinatory – paragraph by paragraph, you are in the presence of an author in total control of her prose. That the stories – versions of Bluebeard, Beauty and the Beast, Little Red Riding Hood, etc. – are so familiar is part of the collection's paradoxical force. The spell is irresistible. I say that as someone who finds fairy tales

Angela Carter was a legendary English fiction writer and journalist. She figured in *The Times* list of *The 50 Greatest British Writers Since 1945*. Her writings personified a pledge to feminism and also included nuances of magical realism. As a young girl, she was inspired to take up journalism, following the footsteps of her father and was soon appointed with *The Croydon Advertiser*. After a brief stint as a journalist, she began to write short-stories and novels, some of the celebrated ones being, *The Infernal Desire Machines of Doctor Hoffman*, *Fireworks: Nine Profane Pieces* and *N Angela Carter*. 'Curiosity is the most fleeting of pleasures; the moment is satisfied, it ceases to exist and it always proves very, very expensive.' Angela Carter's playful and subversive retellings of Charles Perrault's classic fairy tales conjure up a world of resourceful women, black-hearted villains, wily animals and incredible transformations. In these seven stories, bristling with frank, earthy humour and gothic imagination, nothing is as it seems. One of our most imaginative and accomplished writers, Angela Carter left behind a dazzling array of work: essays, criticism, and fiction. But it is in her short stories that her extraordinary talents—as a fabulist, feminist, social critic, and weaver of tales—are most penetratingly evident. Angela Carter's *Feminist Mythology*. A new biography shows how the British author made fairy tales psychological and sexy. By Joan Acocella. Carter's taste for folklore, psychoanalysis, and luridness enabled her to take the fairy tale in new and shocking directions. Illustration by Oliver Munday / Photograph courtesy Andrew Travers. Save this story for later. The English novelist Angela Carter is best known for her 1979 book *The Bloody Chamber*, which is a kind of updating of the classic European fairy tales.

Angela Carter's 'carnival' London home receives blue plaque. The novelist wrote some of her most famous books at the Clapham house, where she also tutored the young Kazuo Ishiguro. Published: 11 Sep 2019. Angela Carter's 'carnival' London home receives blue plaque. February 2019. Top 10s Top 10 genre-twisting novels.Â Former artistic director of Shakespeare's Globe steps into limelight in her production of Angela Carter adaptation. Published: 4 Feb 2019. Director Emma Rice to take over role in *Wise Children*. November 2018. Top 10s From Hound of the Baskervilles to the Essex Serpent: top 10 folk tales in fiction. Folklore continues to inspire writers like Neil Gaiman and Sarah Perry " as well as online communities with #FolkloreThursday and creepypastas. Published: 28 Nov 2018. Angela Carter was a legendary English fiction writer and journalist. She figured in "The Times" list of "The 50 Greatest British Writers Since 1945". Her writings personified a pledge to feminism and also included nuances of magical realism. As a young girl, she was inspired to take up journalism, following the footsteps of her father and was soon appointed with "The Croydon Advertiser". In 1978, Angela Carter wrote a controversial essay 'The Sadeian Woman and the Ideology of Pornography'. In the essay she offered a generally positive interpretation of the works of the Marquis de Sade. She argued that the Marquis de Sade was one of the first writers who viewed the function of women as something that transcended the function of producing babies. In 1969 Angela Carter used the proceeds of her Somerset Maugham Award to leave her husband and relocate for two years to Tokyo, Japan, where she claims in *Nothing Sacred* (1982) that she "learnt what it is to be a woman and became radicalised." She wrote about her experiences there in articles for *New Society* and a co Born Angela Olive Stalker in Eastbourne, in 1940, Carter was evacuated as a child to live in Yorkshire with her maternal grandmother. As a teenager she battled anorexia. As well as being a prolific writer of fiction, Carter contributed many articles to *The Guardian*, *The Independent* and *New Statesman*, collected in *Shaking a Leg*. She adapted a number of her short stories for radio and wrote two original radio dramas on Richard Dadd and Ronald Firbank. Angela Carter, British author who reshaped motifs from mythology, legends, and fairy tales in her books, lending them a ghastly humour and eroticism. Carter rejected an Oxford education to work as a journalist with the *Croydon Advertiser*, but she later studied medieval literature at the University. Carter's fiction gained new popularity in the 1980s, notably after the release of the motion picture *The Company of Wolves* (1984), which she cowrote; the film was based on a story from *The Bloody Chamber* (1979), a collection of her adaptations of fairy tales. Her interest in the macabre and the sensual was reflected in *The Sadeian Woman: An Exercise in Cultural History* (1979), a polemical study of the female characters in the writings of the marquis de Sade. Angela Olive Pearce (formerly Carter, née Stalker; 7 May 1940 " 16 February 1992), who published under the name Angela Carter, was an English novelist, short story writer, poet, and journalist, known for her feminist, magical realism, and picaresque works. She is best known for her book *The Bloody Chamber*, which was published in 1979. In 2008, *The Times* ranked Carter tenth in their list of "The 50 greatest British writers since 1945". In 2012, *Nights at the Circus* was selected as the best ever winner

Author Angela Carter's complete list of books and series in order, with the latest releases, covers, descriptions and availability.Â Angela Carter was born in 1940. She lived in Japan, the United States and Australia. Her first novel, *Shadow Dance*, was published in 1965. Her next book, *The Magic Toyshop*, won the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize and the next, *Several Perceptions*, the Somerset Maugham Award. She died in February 1992. Genres: Horror. Series. Angela Carter, British author who reshaped motifs from mythology, legends, and fairy tales in her books, lending them a ghastly humour and eroticism. Carter rejected an Oxford education to work as a journalist with the *Croydon Advertiser*, but she later studied medieval literature at the University.Â Carter's fiction gained new popularity in the 1980s, notably after the release of the motion picture *The Company of Wolves* (1984), which she cowrote; the film was based on a story from *The Bloody Chamber* (1979), a collection of her adaptations of fairy tales. Her interest in the macabre and the sensual was reflected in *The Sadeian Woman: An Exercise in Cultural History* (1979), a polemical study of the female characters in the writings of the marquis de Sade. About Angela Carter: Born Angela Olive Stalker in Eastbourne, in 1940, Carter was evacuated as a child to live in Yorkshire with her maternal grandmother...Â As well as being a prolific writer of fiction, Carter contributed many articles to *The Guardian*, *The Independent* and *New Statesman*, collected in *Shaking a Leg*. She adapted a number of her short stories for radio and wrote two original radio dramas on Richard Dadd and Ronald Firbank. Two of her fictions have been adapted for the silver screen: *The Company of Wolves* (1984) and *The Magic Toyshop* (1987). In gothic fiction, Angela Carter wrote in 1974, "characters and events are exaggerated beyond reality, to become symbols, ideas, passions" style will tend to become ornate and unnatural " and thus operate against the perennial human desire [especially in Britain] to believe the word as fact (the Gothic) retains a singular moral function " that of provoking unease." Christopher Frayling, "Introduction", in *The Gothic Reader " A Critical Anthology* (Tate, 2006).Â Lucie Armitt, "The Fragile Frames of *The Bloody Chamber*", quoted in Sarah Gamble, *The Fiction of Angela Carter " A Reader's Guide to Essential Criticism* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2001). Reading around Angela Carter's "The Lady of the House of Love" critical extract H. Read your critical extract.

After Angela Carter's death from lung cancer in 1992 interest in her work suddenly increased, with a rapid rise in sales of her books and a plethora of stage adaptations of her work in Britain and abroad. She also became one of the most widely taught and researched writers of British fiction. Her writing occupies a unique place in 20th century fiction, a place where myths around gender and sexuality are debunked and where not even the deepest darkest recesses of human imagination are off-limits. Further information about the life of Angela Carter can be found via the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. Photo: ullstein bild/Getty Images. Open *The Bloody Chamber* by Angela Carter and you know right away you're reading a masterpiece – not something one expects with a modern collection of retold fairy tales. Electric, hypnotic, dizzying, occasionally hallucinatory – paragraph by paragraph, you are in the presence of an author in total control of her prose. That the stories – versions of Bluebeard, Beauty and the Beast, Little Red Riding Hood, etc. – are so familiar is part of the collection's paradoxical force. The spell is irresistible. I say that as someone who finds fairy tales Angela Carter. 'Curiosity is the most fleeting of pleasures; the moment is satisfied, it ceases to exist and it always proves very, very expensive.' Angela Carter's playful and subversive retellings of Charles Perrault's classic fairy tales conjure up a world of resourceful women, black-hearted villains, wily animals and incredible transformations. In these seven stories, bristling with frank, earthy humour and gothic imagination, nothing is as it seems. One of our most imaginative and accomplished writers, Angela Carter left behind a dazzling array of work: essays, criticism, and fiction. But it is in her short stories that her extraordinary talents – as a fabulist, feminist, social critic, and weaver of tales – are most penetratingly evident.