



Expletives Deleted: Selected Writings

Angela Carter

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WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY MICHAEL MOORCOCK

Angela Carter was one of the most important and influential writers of our time: a novelist of extraordinary power and a searching critic and essayist. This selection of her writing, which she made herself, covers more than a decade of her thought and ranges over a diversity of subjects giving a true measure of the wide focus of her interests: the brothers Grimm; William Burroughs; food writing, Elizabeth David; British writing: American writing; sexuality, from Josephine Baker to the history of the corset; and appreciations of the work of Joyce and Christina Stead.

Expletives Deleted: Selected Writings Details

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Gardy (Elisa G) says

Recuperato per la curiosità di leggere il breve articolo dedicato a Jane Eyre (di cui la Carter stava stendendo un seguito dedicato ad Adele quando morì di cancro), sono stata intrattenuta e annoiata dal libro, a seconda del saggio letto.

Essendo una raccolta di articoli che, con alcune eccezioni, è dedicata a libri abbastanza conosciuti ma spesso riferiti all'area geografica prettamente inglese, alcuni capitoli annoiano perchè non si conosce la materia prima di cui la Carter parla. Per quanto il suo stile sia accattivante e la sua prosa convincente (anche se un tantino sostenuta), specie nella prima parte annoia. Consiglierei il libro ai fan di questa Oriana Fallaci inglese o a chi è interessato allo spunto "culinario" suggerito dal titolo scelto da Fazi editore, in realtà presente solo nella parte centrale del libro, a mio parere la migliore. Ottima l'idea dell'editore italiano di incorporare a fine volume i titoli dell'edizione nostrana dei libri presi in esame dall'autrice, ma il libro presenta qualche svista e refuso di troppo per andare oltre le due stelline.

Jeanne Thornton says

I was getting sour on Angela Carter, but turns out it was only EARLY Angela Carter! I'm a sucker for cool mean British book reviews, and these deliver--not just in a goofy "Consumer Reports" way, but showing the way Carter's enthusiasms and interests intersect and feed off of one another: Borges, Christina Stead, storytelling, folktales, hating on Bloomsburies, Japan. The Paul Theroux "My Secret History" review is perfect, and IIRC it's the only really negative review besides the cookbook reviews--which are honestly kind of a heavy slog, esp. if you bear no grudge against Elizabeth David--and it's refreshing to see a collection of reviews by an openly Mean Person that doesn't Make A Meal of taking down trash books. I like that; it is aspirational. I like a lot of this, not least the clear injunction to read Christina Stead now. If you don't just basically like sitting down to read a lot of book reviews, your time is maybe more productively spent elsewhere, I think, but if you do, this is good stuff.

Daphne says

I do love Angela Carter, but by the gods if I have to read yet another review about a dated cookbook I will throw the book out the window.

Hollis says

An interesting selections of reviews and articles.

Dannii Elle says

Every bit as insightful as I thought it would be. Every book reviewer should read this!

Lisa says

Loved the chapters on Ballard, Berger, Louise Erdrich and Elizabeth David. Very clever, erudite amazingly well read writer and this book has prompted me to look for other Carter books. Enjoying these English writers at the moment.

Els (Tragic Romantic) says

I think I would have enjoyed this more if it had been essays rather than reviews; but I still love Angela Carter and I love the insight into her reading. As well as her piece on Jane Eyre which was fascinating.

Fountaingirl says

WANT SO BAD

Pamster says

A collection of book reviews she wrote for *Guardian*, *London Review of Books*, and other places. Loved some of them. Some don't mention the book in question until the last para. Which is awesome. Great how much she loves Louise Erdrich, awesome piece on *Jane Eyre*, waaay ahead of her time with a 1988 essay appreciating Gilbert Hernandez (an intro for his book), and really made me want to read Christina Stead.
