

## The Handmaids Tale By Margaret Atwood Read Online

Reading and romance, gardening tips, a farewell to a friend, even an opera retold make up this stellar collection from the bestselling author of *The Group* and *Memories of a Catholic Girlhood*. This intriguing nonfiction collection by Mary McCarthy is a cornucopia of literary delights that challenges the mind and captivates the senses. "On Rereading a Favorite Book" is McCarthy's reaction to returning to Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina* after more than thirty years. In "Politics and the Novel," she shatters a myth about the American versus European style of storytelling. Acts of reading, when consummated, are akin to "Acts of Love." And "Saying Good-bye to Hannah" is a poignant farewell to the author of *The Human Condition* and, in particular, *The Life of the Mind*, the book Hannah Arendt saw as her crowning achievement. Whether giving us the story of *La Traviata* in her own words or reviewing a charming and practical book on gardening, McCarthy imbues *Occasional Prose* with her powerful sense of time and place. Uninhibited and uncensored, it filters the world through her unique gifts of observation and novelist's masterful eye for detail. This is a book for anyone interested in the life of the mind—and heart. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Mary McCarthy including rare images from the author's estate.

The intimate focus of a family drama.

Seminar paper from the year 2008 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 2,7, RWTH Aachen University (Institut für Anglistik), course: Utopian and Dystopian Novels, SS 2008, 24 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: Margaret Atwood needs no longer an introduction in the common sense, because she is one of the most popular and productive writers in the world. Her works, especially her novels are taught at many universities worldwide. Her books are bestsellers and subjects of critical reviews and academical studies. Margaret Atwood wrote her novel *The Handmaid's Tale* in a time when religious fundamentalism had already been established in the United States. Through this historical background and her own experience with religious fundamentalism and the rising of feminism, it is not surprising that her novels also deal with such a thematic aspects. Moreover, Atwood copies her own experiences and imaginations of religious fundamentalism into the fictive and futuristic world of Gilead.

Seminar paper from the year 2007 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,3, University of Constance (Literaturwissenschaften), course: Margaret Atwood's Later Fiction, language: English, abstract: Margaret Atwood's novels *The Handmaid's Tale* (T.H.T., 1985) and *Oryx and Crake* (O. & C., 2003) are works of speculative fiction that are set in the near future. Both of the depicted scenarios take place in the U.S.A. and could be classified as "survivor's stories" as they are told from the perspective of a person that survived the new system or the catastrophe the books deal with. T.H.T. takes the reader into an oppressive system that has become reality in the year 2005. In this system women are divided into different kinds of "functional groups" according to their abilities. The story is told by the handmaid Offred who - as all handmaids - is still believed to be fertile. Thus she is solely good for childbearing and has not got any choice. This system however is confined to the United States so that

there is still hope for an escape to a better life for the people living under the system. The scenario in *O. & C.* on the other hand occurs around the year 2025 and depicts a world wide catastrophe where Snowman - the narrator of the story - is one of the few surviving human beings. This paper will compare the two novels according to some points of analysis. I had to confine myself to a few themes as it is impossible to include all topics that could be of importance. To start with, I will take a look at the social and political background of the time the novels were written in, followed by a generic analysis of the works. Secondly I will answer the question about the inspiration for these novels and I will deal with the epilogues Atwood added to her books. This will be followed by a chapter about the main topics of the novels which are reproduction, religion and sexuality. Last but not least I will compare the main characters and discuss

An instant classic and eerily prescient cultural phenomenon, from “the patron saint of feminist dystopian fiction” (New York Times). Now an award-winning Hulu series starring Elizabeth Moss. In this multi-award-winning, bestselling novel, Margaret Atwood has created a stunning Orwellian vision of the near future. This is the story of Offred, one of the unfortunate “Handmaids” under the new social order who have only one purpose: to breed. In Gilead, where women are prohibited from holding jobs, reading, and forming friendships, Offred’s persistent memories of life in the “time before” and her will to survive are acts of rebellion. Provocative, startling, prophetic, and with Margaret Atwood’s devastating irony, wit, and acute perceptive powers in full force, *The Handmaid’s Tale* is at once a mordant satire and a dire warning.

In her seventh inspirational novel in the bestselling Mitford series, Jan Karon delivers surprises of every kind, including the return of the man in the attic and an ending that no one in Mitford will ever forget. In the little town that’s home-away-from-home to millions of readers, life hums along as usual. Dooley looks toward his career as a vet; Joe Ivey and Fancy Skinner fight a haircut price war that takes no prisoners; and Percy steps out on a limb with a risky new menu item at the Main Street Grill. Though Father Tim dislikes change, he dislikes retirement even more. As he and Cynthia gear up for a year-long ministry across the state line, a series of events sends shock waves through his faith—and the whole town of Mitford.

From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Handmaid’s Tale* *Cat’s Eye* is the story of Elaine Risley, a controversial painter who returns to Toronto, the city of her youth, for a retrospective of her art. Engulfed by vivid images of the past, she reminisces about a trio of girls who initiated her into the fierce politics of childhood and its secret world of friendship, longing, and betrayal. Elaine must come to terms with her own identity as a daughter, a lover, an artist, and a woman—but above all she must seek release from her haunting memories. Disturbing, humorous, and compassionate—and a finalist for the Booker Prize—*Cat’s Eye* is a breathtaking novel of a woman grappling with the tangled knot of her life.

**NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • WINNER OF THE BOOKER PRIZE •** A modern masterpiece that “reminds us of the power of truth in the face of evil” (People)—and can be read on its own or as a sequel to Margaret Atwood’s classic, *The Handmaid’s Tale*. “Atwood’s powers are on full display” (Los Angeles Times) in this deeply compelling Booker Prize-winning novel, now updated with additional content that explores the historical sources, ideas, and material that inspired Atwood. More than fifteen

years after the events of *The Handmaid's Tale*, the theocratic regime of the Republic of Gilead maintains its grip on power, but there are signs it is beginning to rot from within. At this crucial moment, the lives of three radically different women converge, with potentially explosive results. Two have grown up as part of the first generation to come of age in the new order. The testimonies of these two young women are joined by a third: Aunt Lydia. Her complex past and uncertain future unfold in surprising and pivotal ways. With *The Testaments*, Margaret Atwood opens up the innermost workings of Gilead, as each woman is forced to come to terms with who she is, and how far she will go for what she believes.

“A haunting dystopian thriller” from the acclaimed author of *A Season for Martyrs*— “Fans of *The Handmaid's Tale* won't want to miss this one” (*Publishers Weekly*, starred review). In modern, beautiful Green City, the capital of Southwest Asia, gender selection, war, and disease have brought the ratio of men to women to alarmingly low levels. The government uses terror and technology to control its people, and now females must take multiple husbands to have children as quickly as possible. Yet there are some who resist, women who live in an underground collective and refuse to be part of the system. Secretly protected by the highest echelons of power, they emerge only at night to provide the rich and elite of Green City a type of commodity no one can buy: intimacy without sex. As it turns out, not even the most influential men can shield them from discovery and the dangers of ruthless punishment. This dystopian novel from one of Pakistan's most talented writers is a modern-day parable, *The Handmaid's Tale* for repressed women in Muslim countries everywhere. Before *She Sleeps* takes the patriarchal practices of female seclusion and veiling, gender selection, and control over women's bodies, amplifying and distorting them in a truly terrifying way to imagine a world of post-religious authoritarianism.

The stunning graphic novel adaptation • A must-read and collector's item for fans of “the patron saint of feminist dystopian fiction” (*New York Times*). Look for *The Testaments*, the sequel to *The Handmaid's Tale*, available now. In Margaret Atwood's dystopian future, environmental disasters and declining birthrates have led to a Second American Civil War. The result is the rise of the Republic of Gilead, a totalitarian regime that enforces rigid social roles and enslaves the few remaining fertile women. Offred is one of these, a Handmaid bound to produce children for one of Gilead's commanders. Deprived of her husband, her child, her freedom, and even her own name, Offred clings to her memories and her will to survive. Provocative, startling, prophetic, *The Handmaid's Tale* has long been a global phenomenon. With this beautiful graphic novel adaptation of Margaret Atwood's modern classic, beautifully realized by artist Renée Nault, the terrifying reality of Gilead has been brought to vivid life like never before.

The acclaimed first volume in feminist icon bell hooks' “Love Song to the Nation,” *All About Love* is a revelation about what causes a polarized society and how to heal the divisions that cause suffering. Here is the truth about love, and inspiration to help us instill caring, compassion, and strength in our homes, schools, and workplaces. “The word ‘love’ is most often defined as a noun, yet we would all love better if we used it as a verb,” writes bell hooks as she comes out fighting and on fire in *All About Love*. Here, at her most provocative and intensely personal, renowned scholar, cultural critic and feminist bell hooks offers a proactive new ethic for a society bereft with lovelessness--not the lack of romance, but the lack of care, compassion, and unity. People are divided, she declares, by society's failure to provide a model for learning to love. As bell hooks uses her incisive mind to explore the question “What is love?” her answers strike at both the mind and heart. Razing the cultural paradigm that the ideal love is infused with sex and desire, she provides a new path to love that is sacred, redemptive, and healing for individuals and for a nation. *The Utne Reader* declared bell hooks one of the “100 Visionaries Who Can

Change Your Life.” All About Love is a powerful, timely affirmation of just how profoundly her revelations can change hearts and minds for the better.

From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Handmaid's Tale* One of Margaret Atwood's most unforgettable characters lurks at the center of this intricate novel like a spider in a web. The glamorous, irresistible, unscrupulous Zenia is nothing less than a fairy-tale villain in the memories of her former friends. Roz, Charis, and Tony—university classmates decades ago—were reunited at Zenia's funeral and have met monthly for lunch ever since, obsessively retracing the destructive swath she once cut through their lives. A brilliantly inventive fabulist, Zenia had a talent for exploiting her friends' weaknesses, wielding intimacy as a weapon and cheating them of money, time, sympathy, and men. But one day, five years after her funeral, they are shocked to catch sight of Zenia: even her death appears to have been yet another fiction. As the three women plot to confront their larger-than-life nemesis, Atwood proves herself a gleefully acute observer of the treacherous shoals of friendship, trust, desire, and power.

Lauded novelist Margaret Atwood and acclaimed artist Johnnie Christmas collaborate on one of the most highly anticipated comic book and literary events of the year. On a dark night, young genetic engineer Strig Feleedus is accidentally mutated by his own experiment and merges with the DNA of a cat and an owl. What follows is a humorous, action-driven, pulp-inspired superhero adventure - with a lot of cat puns.

They

Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* captivates readers with its disturbingly prescient vision of the future and haunting insights into the world as we know it. Religion--especially elements of the Christian faith--pervades every inch of the world as Atwood imagines it. Gilead's leaders use perverse forms of Christianity to sustain their authority and privilege, making understanding religion an integral part of understanding Gilead. In the face of the inextricable role of religion in the novel, readers are left to puzzle out religious references and allusions on their own. From the significance of names to twisted uses of religion to the origins of the Ceremony, this book answers all the questions you might have about religion in this prophetic novel. For anyone who's ever googled a biblical precedent or religious phrase after encountering Atwood's dystopia, this essential guide explains it all and gives readers a fascinating look into the novel and its world. Read it and understand *The Handmaid's Tale* like never before.

Seminar paper from the year 2018 in the subject American Studies - Literature, grade: 1,3, Catholic University Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, language: English, abstract: Overall, Atwood utilized Gilead's oppressive manipulation of language in "*The Handmaid's Tale*" to reveal the hierarchical dynamics of power in the theocratic state. Therefore, it is vital to determine in how far Gilead's discourse is used to maintain the existing power structures, but also whether, and if so, in how far it is used to offer resistance against the state's rigid hierarchy. Therefore, it will first be analyzed what Gilead's social structure looks like, before the highly original thoughts of Pierre Bourdieu on the relations among language, power and politics will be introduced to facilitate a real understanding of the correlation of language and power. After that, a closer look at the concrete content of the novel and particular text passages will give an insight into how the Gileadean power structures are maintained through the use of language. Following this, it will then be analyzed how language also enables Gilead's opponents, in general, but mainly, the novel's first-person narrator Offred, in particular, to offer resistance. Therefore, it will first be described how the coexistence of two discourses can be a threat to the system, before it will be dealt with Offred's main means of resistance: her storytelling.

A box set of Margaret Atwood's bestselling companioned novels, *The Handmaid's Tale* and *The Testaments*. In *The Handmaid's Tale*, environmental disasters and declining birthrates have led to a Second American Civil War and the rise of the Republic of Gilead, a totalitarian

regime that enforces rigid social roles and enslaves the few remaining fertile women. Offred is one of these, a Handmaid bound to produce children for one of Gilead's Commanders. Deprived of her husband, her child, her freedom, and even her own name, Offred clings to her memories and her will to survive. In *The Testaments*, set more than fifteen years after the events of *The Handmaid's Tale*, the Republic of Gilead maintains its repressive grip on power, but it is beginning to rot from within. At this crucial moment, the lives of three radically different women come together, with potentially explosive results. This beautifully designed slipcase will make the perfect holiday and perennial gift. A stunning and provocative new novel by the internationally celebrated author of *The Blind Assassin*, winner of the Booker Prize. Margaret Atwood's new novel is so utterly compelling, so prescient, so relevant, so terrifyingly-all-too-likely-to-be-true, that readers may find their view of the world forever changed after reading it. This is Margaret Atwood at the absolute peak of her powers. For readers of *Oryx and Crake*, nothing will ever look the same again. The narrator of Atwood's riveting novel calls himself Snowman. When the story opens, he is sleeping in a tree, wearing an old bedsheet, mourning the loss of his beloved Oryx and his best friend Crake, and slowly starving to death. He searches for supplies in a wasteland where insects proliferate and pigeons and wolvogs ravage the pleeblands, where ordinary people once lived, and the Compounds that sheltered the extraordinary. As he tries to piece together what has taken place, the narrative shifts to decades earlier. How did everything fall apart so quickly? Why is he left with nothing but his haunting memories? Alone except for the green-eyed Children of Crake, who think of him as a kind of monster, he explores the answers to these questions in the double journey he takes - into his own past, and back to Crake's high-tech bubble-dome, where the Paradise Project unfolded and the world came to grief. With breathtaking command of her shocking material, and with her customary sharp wit and dark humour, Atwood projects us into an outlandish yet wholly believable realm populated by characters who will continue to inhabit our dreams long after the last chapter.

The most supportive, easy-to-use and focussed literature guides to help your students understand the texts they are studying at GCSE and A Level

Change has arrived in America. With it comes a new world order—the rise of a theocratic regime called the Republic of Gilead which takes the Old Testament at its every word. Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* is told through the eyes of Offred, one of the ill-fated Handmaids in the new Republic of Gilead. In the present world, Handmaids are stripped of their own names, their rights, their families, and even their ability to read and write. Now a mere possession of one of the new regime's formidable Commanders and his Wife, Offred's value lies only in her fertility and her capacity to bear a child. Gripping and grotesque, *The Handmaid's Tale* is a dystopian masterpiece that illustrates what could happen when the liberal transforms into the puritanical, and what people are capable of when the puritanical ultimately distorts into the radical.

As portrayed in Homer's *Odyssey*, Penelope - wife of Odysseus and cousin of the beautiful Helen of Troy - has become a symbol of wifely duty and devotion, enduring twenty years of waiting when her husband goes to fight in the Trojan War. As she fends off the attentions of a hundred greedy suitors, travelling minstrels regale her with news of Odysseus' epic adventures around the Mediterranean - slaying monsters and grappling with amorous goddesses. When Odysseus finally comes home, he kills her suitors and then, in an act that served as little more than a footnote in Homer's original story, inexplicably hangs Penelope's twelve maids. Now, Penelope and her chorus of wronged maids tell their side of the story in a new stage version by Margaret Atwood, adapted from her own wry, witty and wise novel. *The Penelopiad* premiered with the Royal Shakespeare Company in association with Canada's National Arts Centre at the Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, in July 2007.

From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Handmaid's Tale* In this extraordinary collection, Margaret Atwood gives us nine unforgettable tales that reveal the grotesque, delightfully wicked facets of humanity. "Alphinland," the first of three loosely linked tales, introduces us to a fantasy writer who is guided through a stormy winter evening by the voice of her late husband. In "Lusus Naturae," a young woman, monstrously transformed by a genetic defect, is mistaken for a vampire. And in the title story, a woman who has killed four husbands discovers an opportunity to exact vengeance on the first man who ever wronged her. By turns thrilling, funny, and thought-provoking, *Stone Mattress* affirms Atwood as our greatest creator of worlds—and as an incisive chronicler of our darkest impulses. Unlock the more straightforward side of *The Handmaid's Tale* with this concise and insightful summary and analysis! This engaging summary presents an analysis of *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood, which follows a young woman named Offred (the Handmaid of the title), who lives in the repressive Republic of Gilead and whose sole role is to conceive children for the powerful Commander she has been assigned to. Thanks to her friend Ofglen, she is introduced to the underground resistance movement, but soon discovers that escaping her position will not be easy. *The Handmaid's Tale* was nominated for the 1986 Man Booker Prize (Atwood has been nominated for the award on numerous occasions, and won it for her 2000 novel *The Blind Assassin*), and has recently been adapted into a critically acclaimed television series. Find out everything you need to know about *The Handmaid's Tale* in a fraction of the time! This in-depth and informative reading guide brings you: • A complete plot summary • Character studies • Key themes and symbols • Questions for further reflection Why choose BrightSummaries.com? Available in print and digital format, our publications are designed to accompany you on your reading journey. The clear and concise style makes for easy understanding, providing the perfect opportunity to improve your literary knowledge in no time. See the very best of literature in a whole new light with BrightSummaries.com!

Margaret Atwood puts the human heart to the ultimate test in an utterly brilliant new novel that is as visionary as *The Handmaid's Tale* and as richly imagined as *The Blind Assassin*. Stan and Charmaine are a married couple trying to stay afloat in the midst of an economic and social collapse. Job loss has forced them to live in their car, leaving them vulnerable to roving gangs. They desperately need to turn their situation around—and fast. The Positron Project in the town of Consilience seems to be the answer to their prayers. No one is unemployed and everyone gets a comfortable, clean house to live in . . . for six months out of the year. On alternating months, residents of Consilience must leave their homes and function as inmates in the Positron prison system. Once their month of service in the prison is completed, they can return to their "civilian" homes. At first, this doesn't seem like too much of a sacrifice to make in order to have a roof over one's head and food to eat. But when Charmaine becomes romantically involved with the man who lives in their house during the months when she and Stan are in the prison, a series of troubling events unfolds, putting Stan's life in danger. With each passing day, Positron looks less like a prayer answered and more like a chilling prophecy fulfilled.

The Handmaid's Tale Notes

Ce recueil bilingue consacré à l'écrivain canadien Margaret Atwood, reconnue comme l'une des figures dominantes de la littérature d'expression anglaise, contient l'intervention qu'elle a prononcée à Rennes en novembre 1998 sur son roman *The Handmaid's Tale* (*La Servante écarlate*) et sur le genre auquel il appartient. Le roman, inscrit aux programmes 1999 du CAPES et de l'Agrégation d'anglais, a été l'un des plus grands succès littéraires des années 80 aux États-Unis, au Canada et en Grande-Bretagne. Utopie, dystopie, satire, ou fiction spéculative, ce texte au scénario terrifiant s'inscrit à l'intérieur du courant postmoderne. Cet ouvrage rassemble des études du roman qui ont été présentées en décembre 1998 au Colloque Margaret Atwood organisé par le Centre d'Études Canadiennes de Rennes. Les auteurs

analysent le texte sous différents éclairages : ils explorent les rapports entre littérature et société, politique et poétique, langage et organisation de la cité, et examinent les stratégies de détournement mises en œuvre. This bilingual collection devoted to Canadian writer Margaret Atwood, one of the best-known figures in the field of English language literature, contains the address that she pronounced in Rennes in November 1998 on her novel *The Handmaid's Tale* - one of the greatest literary successes of the 80's in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain - as well as on the genre to which it belongs. Whether it be a utopia, dystopia, satire, or else speculative fiction, the text with its terrifying scenario belongs to the postmodernist movement. This volume brings together studies of the novel that were presented in December 1998 at the Margaret Atwood Conference organised by the Centre d'Etudes Canadiennes of Rennes. The authors analyse the work from different perspectives - they explore the relationship between literature and society, politics and poetics, communication and community, and they study the strategies of resistance and displacement set up by the writer.

Nominee: The Community of Literary Magazines and Presses, Firecracker Awards, Graphic Novel When the repulsively ugly Coddie unintentionally saves a fairy from a spell, she does not understand the poisonous nature of the wish granted her by the fairy. The village folk no longer see her as repulsive and stinking of fish—they now perceive her as magnetically beautiful—which does not help her in her village. A young local lord saves her, but it soon becomes apparent that Coddie's destiny may be far greater than anyone ever imagined. Caustic and flamboyant, this fairy tale offers grownups an engrossing take on the nature of beauty.

So much to read, so little time? This brief overview of *The Handmaid's Tale* tells you what you need to know—before or after you read Margaret Atwood's book. Crafted and edited with care, Worth Books set the standard for quality and give you the tools you need to be a well-informed reader. This short summary and analysis of *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood includes: Historical context Part-by-part summaries Analysis of the main characters Themes and symbols Important quotes Fascinating trivia Glossary of terms Supporting material to enhance your understanding of the original work About Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*: Margaret Atwood's dystopian literary masterpiece tells the story of Offred, a Handmaid living in the near future in what was once the United States. A new theocratic regime called the Republic of Gilead has come to power and changed life as she knew it. Once Offred had a her own name and a loving family—a husband and daughter—both of which were taken from her; now she belongs to the Commander and his hostile wife, and her only value lies in her ability to bear a child for them. She used to read books and learn; now such things are forbidden to all women. Gripping, disturbing, and so relevant today, *The Handmaid's Tale* is a brilliant novel and a chilling warning about what can happen when extreme ideas are taken to their logical conclusions. The summary and analysis in this ebook are intended to complement your reading experience and bring you closer to a great work of fiction.

Presents essays that discuss the cultural context and critical response to the Canadian author's controversial work.

Explore the world of Gilead with this behind-the-scenes look at the Emmy Award-winning show *The Handmaid's Tale*. *The Handmaid's Tale*—the groundbreaking show produced by MGM Television, and based on Margaret Atwood's best-selling novel—has drawn rave reviews and attention worldwide. Now, this comprehensive book details the process of bringing the story to the small screen with exclusive cast and crew interviews, backstage and set photography, concept art, costume design, and more. Delve deep into the world of the show's dystopian future as interviews with the show's cast and creators provide insight into the inspiration behind the characters, settings, and themes, as well as its parallels to the real-world political climate. Showcasing striking visuals and insightful commentary, *The Art and Making of The Handmaid's Tale* is the definitive exploration of one of television's most critically acclaimed shows.

A Study Guide for Margaret Atwood's "The Handmaid's Tale," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Novels for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Novels for Students for all of your research needs.

'With one's face in the wind you were almost burned with a shower of Firedrops' A selection from Pepys' startlingly vivid and candid diary, including his famous account of the Great Fire Introducing Little Black Classics: 80 books for Penguin's 80th birthday. Little Black Classics celebrate the huge range and diversity of Penguin Classics, with books from around the world and across many centuries. They take us from a balloon ride over Victorian London to a garden of blossom in Japan, from Tierra del Fuego to 16th century California and the Russian steppe. Here are stories lyrical and savage; poems epic and intimate; essays satirical and inspirational; and ideas that have shaped the lives of millions.

The Handmaid's Tale (1985) by Margaret Atwood is a dystopian novel set in a version of the United States that has been overthrown by religious fundamentalists. In what was once most likely Massachusetts, under the militaristic regime of the Republic of Gilead, women no longer have civil rights or autonomy... Purchase this in-depth summary to learn more.

From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of The Handmaid's Tale In this final volume of the internationally celebrated MaddAddam trilogy, the Waterless Flood pandemic has wiped out most of the population. Toby is part of a small band of survivors, along with the Children of Crake: the gentle, bioengineered quasi-human species who will inherit this new earth. As Toby explains their origins to the curious Crakers, her tales cohere into a luminous oral history that sets down humanity's past—and points toward its future. Blending action, humor, romance, and an imagination at once dazzlingly inventive and grounded in a recognizable world, MaddAddam is vintage Atwood—a moving and dramatic conclusion to her epic work of speculative fiction. A New York Times Notable Book A Washington Post Notable Book A Best Book of the Year: The Guardian, NPR, The Christian Science Monitor, The Globe and Mail A GoodReads Reader's Choice

Key Features: Study methods Introduction to the text Summaries with critical notes Themes and techniques Textual analysis of key passages Author biography Historical and literary background Modern and historical critical approaches Chronology Glossary of literary terms

**MOST LOVED. MOST RED.** Ten must-read modern classics. 'Nolite te bastardes carborundorum. Don't let the bastards grind you down.' Imagine a world where women's bodies are controlled by men. Where society has descended into religious patriarchy and censorship. Where the environment has been destroyed and a powerful few hold the reins to all wealth and freedom. Welcome to Gilead. This is the story of Offred, a Handmaid forced into sexual servitude, in the country once known as the USA. Atwood's Handmaids have become a symbol of feminist resistance. This masterpiece blurs the boundaries between fiction and news headlines. **WITH A NEW INTRODUCTION BY NAOMI ALDERMAN**

In this seminal work of speculative fiction, the Booker Prize-winning author asks: In the world of the near future, who will control women's bodies? Soon to be a 10-episode TV series produced by MGM Television, starring Elizabeth Moss (Madmen), Samira Wiley (Orange is the New Black), Joseph Fiennes, and Max Minghella Offred is a Handmaid in the Republic of Gilead. She may



leave the home of the Commander and his wife once a day to walk to food markets whose signs are now pictures instead of words because women are no longer allowed to read. She must lie on her back once a month and pray that the Commander makes her pregnant, because in an age of declining births, Offred and the other Handmaids are valued only if their ovaries are viable. Offred can remember the days before, when she lived and made love with her husband Luke; when she played with and protected her daughter; when she had a job, money of her own, and access to knowledge. But all of that is gone now.... Funny, unexpected, horrifying, and altogether convincing, *The Handmaid's Tale* is at once scathing satire, dire warning, and literary tour de force.

« *The Handmaid's Tale* » de Margaret Atwood nous rappelle la présence de la voix aux sources de la littérature première. En effet, le texte qu'elle nous livre se présente comme une transcription de bandes magnétiques enregistrées deux cents ans auparavant. Si Margaret Atwood s'emploie à rendre à l'écriture la force communicative du langage parlé, elle met également en avant le processus de reconstitution de son histoire. Récit de vie enregistré sur bandes séparées et non numérotées, le texte est un assemblage de morceaux épars, de pièces rapportées, dont l'agencement est arbitraire et réversible. Il se construit et se déconstruit sans cesse, se délite et se dérobe. Parce que le conte ressortit à une esthétique du fragment, Héliane Ventura s'est elle-même attachée à mettre en valeur les éclats, les morceaux, les pépites. Elle présente une série de six interprétations de textes (explications linéaires ou commentaires composés) qui, de l'incipit aux deux clausules, reconstitue la trame de l'existence de la Servante, livrée à la tyrannie, dans cet univers dystopique qui s'appelle ironiquement « la République de Galaad » et qui se situe à Boston sur la terre des anciens Puritains de la Nouvelle Angleterre à l'aube du vingt et unième siècle.

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