



Ann Petry's Short Fiction: Critical Essays (Contributions in Afro-American and African Studies)

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This collection of critical essays is the first work to examine the short stories of Ann Petry, a noted African American writer. While best known for her best-selling debut novel, *The Street*, the focus of this text is her equally important, but less familiar, volume of short stories *Miss Muriel and Other Stories*. Within *Ann Petry's Short Fiction: Critical Essays*, contributors from a variety of disciplines, from literary studies to philosophy, analyze and comment on stories such as *Mother Africa*, *In Darkness and Confusion*, and *The Witness*.

Organized into three parts, the first section provides an overview of Petry's short fiction from different theoretical perspectives. In the following two segments, essays are arranged in chronological order, beginning with Petry's work from the 1940s. Contributors discuss her portrayal of characters and conflict as well as thematic threads that run through Petry's work. Taken together, these 14 essays constitute an invaluable companion to Petry's work. This illuminating collection will interest scholars of literature, history, and culture, as well as anyone interested in the fiction of Ann Petry.

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