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978-0-521-19144-9 - Troilus and Criseyde: A Reader's Guide

Jenni Nuttall

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TROILUS AND CRISEYDE
A READER'S GUIDE

Troilus and Criseyde, Geoffrey Chaucer's most substantial completed work, is a long historical romance; its famous tale of love and betrayal in the Trojan War later inspired William Shakespeare. This reader's guide, written specifically for students of medieval literature, provides a scene-by-scene paraphrase and commentary on the whole text. Each section explains matters of meaning, interpretation, plot structure and character development, the role of the first-person narrating voice, Chaucer's use of his source materials and elements of the poem's style. Brief and accessible discussions of key themes and sources (for example the art of love, the holy bond of things, Fortune, and Thebes) are provided in separate textboxes. An ideal starting point for studying the text, this book helps students through the initial language barrier and allows readers to enjoy and understand this medieval masterpiece.

JENNI NUTTALL is College Lecturer in English at St Edmund Hall and a Research Fellow of Wolfson College, University of Oxford. She is the author of *The Creation of Lancastrian Kingship: Literature, Language and Politics in Late Medieval England* (Cambridge, 2007).

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