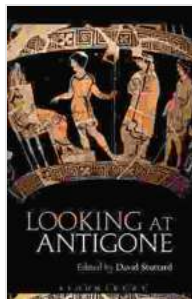


# Looking at Antigone David Stuttard: A Critical Analysis

In the annals of literature and drama, the story of *Antigone* has resonated with audiences for centuries. The original play by Sophocles, written in the 5th century BCE, explores timeless themes of morality, rebellion, and the tension between individual conscience and the demands of society. In recent times, David Stuttard's 2005 adaptation of *Antigone* has garnered significant attention, offering a contemporary interpretation that raises thought-provoking questions about justice, authority, and the limits of dissent.



## Looking at Antigone by David Stuttard

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1262 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 245 pages



## Themes: Exploring Morality and Rebellion

Stuttard's adaptation retains the core themes of Sophocles' original while infusing them with a distinctly modern perspective. The play delves into the fundamental question of what constitutes right and wrong, as Antigone's refusal to obey the unjust laws of King Creon sparks a conflict that pits personal morality against the demands of the state. Antigone's unwavering

resolve to bury her brother Polyneices, despite the prohibition, highlights the power of individual conscience and the moral imperative to act according to one's beliefs, even in the face of adversity.

The play also explores the nature of rebellion and the consequences of defying unjust authority. Antigone's defiance of Creon's edict is ultimately a rebellion against tyranny and the suppression of human rights. Stuttard's adaptation brings this theme into sharp focus by setting the play in a contemporary context, where Antigone's actions take on a new resonance in the face of modern-day authoritarian regimes and the erosion of civil liberties.

### **Characters: Nuanced Portrayals and Modern Resonances**

Stuttard's adaptation features a cast of characters that are both familiar and distinctly modern in their portrayal. Antigone remains a symbol of unwavering courage and principle, but her character is given added depth through her portrayal as a passionate and complex young woman grappling with the complexities of her beliefs. Creon, the tyrannical king, is presented as a flawed and conflicted leader, torn between his desire for order and the moral implications of his actions.

The adaptation introduces new characters that add to the play's contemporary relevance. Haemon, Creon's son and Antigone's betrothed, becomes a representative of the younger generation who yearn for change and challenge the status quo. Ismene, Antigone's sister, takes on a more prominent role, representing the voice of caution and the consequences of conforming to societal norms.

### **Contemporary Relevance: A Mirror to Our Times**

Stuttard's adaptation of *Antigone* is not merely a retelling of the classic tale; it is a play that speaks directly to the concerns and challenges of our time. The themes of morality, rebellion, and the tension between individual conscience and societal demands resonate strongly with contemporary audiences, who are confronted with similar dilemmas in the face of oppressive regimes, political polarization, and the erosion of rights.

The play's focus on the power of dissent and the importance of standing up for one's beliefs has particular relevance in the current political climate. Antigone's defiance serves as a reminder that even in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds, one must not remain silent in the face of injustice.

### **: A Thought-Provoking and Timely Adaptation**

David Stuttard's adaptation of *Antigone* is a masterful reinterpretation of the classic play, one that both honors the original while offering a fresh and compelling perspective for modern audiences. Through its exploration of morality, rebellion, and contemporary relevance, the play invites us to question our own beliefs, challenge authority, and stand up for what we believe in.

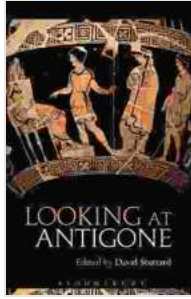
By holding a mirror to our current political and social landscape, *Antigone David Stuttard* serves as a timely reminder of the importance of individual conscience, the power of dissent, and the ongoing struggle for justice and the rule of law. It is a play that will continue to provoke thought, inspire debate, and challenge audiences for generations to come.

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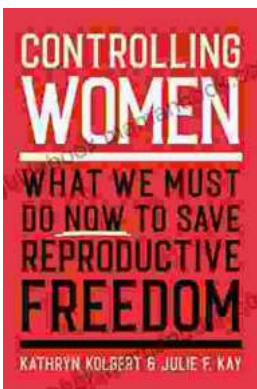


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