

# 《Enigmas and Riddles in Literature文学中的谜语》

## 书籍信息

版次：1

页数：291

字数：

印刷时间：2006年03月01日

开本：16开

纸张：胶版纸

包装：精装

是否套装：否

国际标准书号ISBN：9780521855105

## 内容简介

How do enigmas and riddles work in literature? This benchmark study investigates the literary trope of the riddle , and its relation to the broader term ' enigma ' , including enigma as large masterplot。 Cook argues for a revival of the old figure of speech known as ' enigma ' from Aristotle to the seventeenth century by demonstrating its usefulness。 The opening chapter surveys ' enigma personified ' as sphinx and griffin , resuscitating a lost Graeco-Latin pun on ' griffin ' used by Lewis Carroll。 The history and functions of enigma draw on classical and biblical through to modern writing。 Wide-ranging examples concentrate on literature in English , especially modern poetry , with three detailed case studies on Dante , Lewis Carroll , and Wallace Stevens。 An important contribution to studies of poetic thought and metaphor , this anatomy of the riddle will appeal particularly to readers and scholars of poetry , modern American and comparative literatures , rhetoric , and folk-riddles。

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