



Norah Hoult's 'Poor Women!'

A Critical Edition

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Introduces Norah Hoult's (1898–1984) short story collection 'Poor Women!' to a new generation of readers

'This long overdue critical edition of Hoult's *Poor Women!*, meticulously edited and thoughtfully contextualized, gives scholars of Irish and modern literature a go-to edition of an increasingly important text. The introduction, which situates Hoult's work relative to more established figures in the Irish canon, will be especially helpful for both students and scholars.' –Dr Nels Pearson, Professor of English and Director of Irish Studies, Fairfield University, USA

'What a gift to encounter the vividly realized women of Norah Hoult's long-neglected short stories, written nearly a century ago, intended to expose, in her own words, the "unequal state of affairs" between men and women. Hoult sympathetically and unflinchingly portrays the straitened lives of women marginalized by class, age, and widowhood [...] This collection marks an important retrieval of an Irish woman writer, admired in her time by James Stephens, Oliver St John Gogarty, and W. B. Yeats. Her powerful stories respect and attend to the lives of marginalized women and speak to us in a world that continues to rest on unjust social arrangements.' –Maureen O'Connor, Lecturer in English, School of English, University College Cork, UK

"Norah Hoult's 'Poor Women!': A Critical Edition" reintroduces a significant yet critically-neglected 20th-century Irish author. Hoult's stories capture the restrictions imposed on women by society and its institutions. Often compared to writers such as Sean O'Faolain, Frank O'Connor, Kate O'Brien and Edna O'Brien, her work also shares characteristics with James Joyce and Mary Lavin.

About the Author

Kathleen Costello-Sullivan is a professor and dean at Le Moyne College and a scholar of Modern Irish literature. She has previously published two book-length works, 'Mother/Country: Politics of the Personal in the Fiction of Colm Tóibín' (2012) and a critical edition of J. Sheridan Le Fanu's novella 'Carmilla' (2013).

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