
**Recommended edition**

**Primary Sources – Ben Okri**

**Novels**

**Collections of Short Stories**

**Collections of Poems**
Non-fiction


Interviews

- Deandrea, Pietro, 'An Interview with Ben Okri', *Africa America Asia Australia* 16 (1994), pp. 55-82. (p.80-82: on *The Famished Road*)
- Enfield, Lizzie, 'My hols - A fortress in France, a train through the Rockies, the vigour of Lagos and the inner heartbeat of England — they've all inspired Ben Okri', *Sunday Times*, 20 June 2010, p. 23.
- Newton, Carolyn, 'An Interview with Ben Okri', *South African Literary Review* 2.3 (September 1992), pp. 5-6.

Other Primary Sources


**Secondary Sources**

**Books**

• (Adegbeke, Oluwasegun Samuel, *The Transformation of Realism in Selected Works of Ben Okri: The Famished Road, Songs of Enchantment and Infinites Riches* (Saarbrücken, Verlag, 2011). [print on demand])
• (Akingbe, Niyi. *Myth, Orality and Tradition in Ben Okri’s Literary Landscape: Fagunwa, Tutuola, Soyinka and Ben Okri’s Literary Landscape* (Saarbrücken, LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2011) [print on demand])
• *Costantini, Mariaconcetta*, *Behind the Mask: A Study of Ben Okri’s Fiction* (Rome: Carocci, 2002). (Chapter 3, p.149-240: “The ‘Spirit-child’ novels”: on the three volumes of the trilogy)
• *Fraser, Robert*, *Ben Okri: Towards the Invisible City* (Horndon: Northcote House, 2002). 121p. (Chapter 6, p. 66-82: “‘When the road waits, famished’, 1991-1998”: on the three volumes of the trilogy)
• (Kehinde, Owoeye Durojaiye, *Intertextuality and the Novels of Amos Tutuola and Ben Okri* (Saarbrücken, LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2011). (pp.43-51: on *The Famished Road*) [print on demand])
• O’Connor, Maurice, *The Writings of Ben Okri: Transcending the Local and the National* (New Delhi: Prestige Books, 2008). See also his PhD
dissertation, From Lagos to London and back again: The road from mimicry to hybridity in the novels of Ben Okri (University of Cadiz, Spain, 2005). [pp. 197-266: The Famished Road]


• ** Ying, Zhu,** Fiction and the Incompleteness of History: Toni Morrison, V.S. Naipaul, and Ben Okri (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2006). (Chapter 4, pp.107-140: “An Undiscovered Continent: Ben Okri's The Famished Road and the Enlargement of Historical Reality").

**Articles & Essays**

• Adéeko, Adélékè, 'Specterless Spirits/Spiritless Specters: Magical Realism's Two Faces', European Legacy 12.4 (July 2007), pp. 469-480. [Ben Okri's The Famished Road and Alejo Carpentier's The Kingdom of this World]


• Aizenberg, Edna, "'I Walked with a Zombie": The Pleasures and Perils of Postcolonial Hybridity', World Literature Today, 73.3 (Summer 1999), pp. 461-466.


• ** Cooper, Brenda,** 'Out of the centre of my forehead, an eye opened': Ben Okri's The Famished Road, Magical Realism in West African Fiction: Seeing with a Third Eye (London: Routledge, 1998), pp. 67-114.


• Dandy, Jo, 'Magic and Realism in Ben Okri’s *The Famished Road, Songs of Enchantment* and *Astonishing the Gods*: An Examination of Conflicting Cultural Influences and Narrative Traditions', in Stewart Brown (ed.), *Kiss and Quarrel: Yoruba/English, Strategies of Mediation* (Birmingham University African Studies Series No.5; Birmingham: Centre of West African Studies, 2000), pp. 45-63.


** Fernández Vázquez, José Santiago, 'Recharting the Geography of Genre: Ben Okri's The Famished Road as a Postcolonial Bildungsroman', Journal of Commonwealth Literature 37.2 (2002), pp. 85-107. PDF [SAGE]


• Garnier, Xavier, 'L'Invisible dans The Famished Road de Ben Okri', Commonwealth 15.2 (Spring 1993), pp. 50-57.


• Green, Matthew, 'Dreams of Freedom: Magical Realism and Visionary Materialism in Okri and Blake', Romanticism 15.1 (January 2009), pp. 18-32.


• López Rodríguez, Marta Sofia, 'Ben Okri: Politics in the World of Spirits', in Fernando Galván and Mercedes Bengoechea (eds.), On Writing (and) Race in Contemporary Britain (Alcalá de Henares: Servicio de Publicaciones de la Universidad de Alcalá, 1999), pp. 101-105. (on The Famished Road)


• Murphy, Laura T. 'Geographies of Memory: Mapping Slavery’s Recurrence in Ben Okri’s The Famished Road', in her Metaphor and the Slave Trade in West Africa Fiction (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 2012), pp. 75-105. (forthcoming in May 2012)


• Oliva, Renato, 'Re-Dreaming the World: Ben Okri’s Shamanic Realism', in Elsa Linguanti, Francesco Casotti and Carmen Concilio (eds.), Coterrinous Worlds: Magical Realism and Contemporary Post-Colonial Literature in English (Amsterdam: Rodopi, Cross/Cultures Series, 1999), pp. 171-196. [on The Famished Road and Songs of Enchantment]


• Smith, Andrew, 'Ben Okri and the freedom whose walls are closing in', Race & Class 47.1 (2005), pp. 1-13.


• **Ten Kortenaar, Neil**, 'Fictive States and the State of Fiction in Africa', *Comparative Literature* 52.3 (2000), pp. 228-245. (pp. 241-242: *The Famished Road*)

• **Upstone, Sara**, 'Writing the Post-Colonial Space: Ben Okri’s Magical City and the Subversion of Imperialism', *Partial Answers* 2.2 (June 2004), pp. 139-159. (on *Infinities Riches*)

• **Waliaula, Ken Walibora**, 'Disenchantment with the State of the Nation in Ben Okri's *The Famished Road*, Orhan Pamuk's *Snow* and Rashid al Daif's *Passage to Dus*, *JALA: Journal of the African Literature Association* 3.1 (Winter 2008 - Spring 2009), pp. 49-64.


• **Wright, Derek**, 'Postmodernism as Realism: Magic History in Recent West African Fiction', in Derek Wright (ed.), *Contemporary African Fiction* (Bayreuth: Eckard Breitinger, 1997), pp. 181-207. (quelques pages sur Okri)

• * Wright, Derek, *Pre- and Post-Modernity in Recent West African Fiction*, *Commonwealth* 21.2 (Spring 1999), pp. 5-17.

**A selection of reviews on *The Famished Road*, Booker Prize and brief profiles**


- **Chisholm, Anne**, 'Ben Okri's Journey', *Age*, 1 May 1993, p. 7. (interview and profile)
- **Fraser, Robert**, 'Carrion Comfort and Magical Strains', *Independent* (Weekend Books), 1 June 1991, p. 28. (rev. of FR)
- **Naparstek, Ben**, 'Driven to abstraction', *South China Morning Post*, 2 September 2007, p. 5. Also published as 'Prince of the planet', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 September 2007, p. 30. (profile and Starbook)
- **Osundare, Niyi**, 'Of Prizes and Messianism', *West Africa* 3874 (9-15 December 1991), pp. 2053-2054. (Booker Prize)
- **Stenhouse, Davis**, 'It came to him like a dream', *Sunday Times*, 19 August 2007, p. 7. (profile)
- **Taylor, Alan**, 'The art of creation', *Sunday Herald*, 19 August 2007, p. 42. (profile and Starbook)
• Wilhelmus, Tom, 'Time and Distance', *Hudson Review* 46.1 (Spring 1993), pp. 247-254 (pp. 247-249 on *The Famished Road*).

**Postcolonial literature and theory**


**Magic realism**


• Hegerfeldt, Anne, Lies that Tell the Truth: Magic Realism Seen Through Contemporary Fiction from Britain (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2005).

• Schroeder, Shannin, Rediscovering Magical Realism in the Americas (Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2004).

• Warnes, Christopher, Magical Realism and the Postcolonial Novel: Between Faith and Irreverence (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009).


Forthcoming


• Special issue of Commonwealth Essays and Studies, Spring 2013.

• 18 October 2012, international conference on The Famished Road, with BEN OKRI, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon.
  For more information, contact : vanessaguignery@wanadoo.fr