When I finished the book, I suspected that I might at last have written something good, but I was not sure if anyone else would agree, and I told myself that if the book were generally disliked it would mean that I probably didn’t know what a good book was and should stop wasting my time trying to write one. So there was a lot riding on the novel’s reception, and, fortunately, the reviews were good; hence the high spirits in Covent Garden that spring night. In the West people tended to read Midnight’s Children as a fantasy, while in India people thought of it as pretty realistic, almost a hist Like all novels, Midnight’s Children is a product of its moment in history, touched and shaped by its time in ways that its author cannot wholly know. I am very glad that it still seems like a book worth reading in this very different time. If it can pass the test of another generation or two, it may endure. I will not be around to see that. But I am happy that I saw it leap the first hurdle. December 25, 2005. London. Midnight’s Children, allegorical novel by Salman Rushdie, published in 1981. It is a historical chronicle of modern India centring on the inextricably linked fates of two children who were born within the first hour of independence from Great Britain. Exactly at midnight on Aug. 15, 1947, two boys. Encyclopaedia Britannica’s editors oversee subject areas in which they have extensive knowledge, whether from years of experience gained by working on that content or via study for an advanced degree. See Article History. Midnight’s Children, allegorical novel by Salman Rushdie, published in 1981. It is a historical chronicle of modern India centring on the inextricably linked fates of two children who were born within the first hour of independence from Great Britain. Britannica Quiz. Midnight's Children is a novel by Salman Rushdie that was first published in 1981. Summary. Read a Plot Overview of the entire book or a chapter by chapter Summary and Analysis. Plot Overview. Summary & Analysis. Book One: The Perforated Sheet, Mercurochrome. See a complete list of the characters in Midnight's Children and in-depth analyses of Saleem Sinai, Padma, Shiva, The Widow, and The Brass Monkey (Jamila Singer). Main Ideas. Here's where you'll find analysis about the book as a whole. Themes. Motifs. Midnight's Children book. Read 6,544 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. Saleem Sinai was born at midnight, the midnight of India's i... Through this process he has discovered that Rushdie's book is the most ejaculative British novel of all time, racking up 2,131 exclamation marks per 100,000 words. My reaction to that is, who cares???? Midnight's Children is one of the best books ever written - and Rushdie can add as many exclamation marks as he likes! ...more. flag 195 likes Â- Like Â- see review. View all 55 comments.