



Kiddie Lit: The Cultural Construction of Children's Literature in America

Professor Beverly Lyon Clark

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The popularity of the Harry Potter books among adults and the critical acclaim these young adult fantasies have received may seem like a novel literary phenomenon. In the nineteenth century, however, readers considered both Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn as works of literature equally for children and adults; only later was the former relegated to the category of "boys' books" while the latter, even as it was canonized, came frequently to be regarded as unsuitable for young readers. Adults -- women and men -- wept over Little Women. And America's most prestigious literary journals regularly reviewed books written for both children and their parents. This egalitarian approach to children's literature changed with the emergence of literary studies as a scholarly discipline at the turn of the twentieth century. Academics considered children's books an inferior literature and beneath serious consideration.

In *Kiddie Lit*, Beverly Lyon Clark explores the marginalization of children's literature in America -- and its recent possible reintegration -- both within the academy and by the mainstream critical establishment. Tracing the reception of works by Mark Twain, Louisa May Alcott, Lewis Carroll, Frances Hodgson Burnett, L. Frank Baum, Walt Disney, and J. K. Rowling, Clark reveals fundamental shifts in the assessment of the literary worth of books beloved by both children and adults, whether written for boys or girls. While uncovering the institutional underpinnings of this transition, Clark also attributes it to changing American attitudes toward childhood itself, a cultural resistance to the intrinsic value of childhood expressed through sentimentality, condescension, and moralizing.

Clark's engaging and enlightening study of the critical disregard for children's books since the end of the nineteenth century -- which draws on recent scholarship in gender, cultural, and literary studies -- offers provocative new insights into the history of both children's literature and American literature in general, and forcefully argues that the books our children read and love demand greater respect.

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A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them family or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity here is look different you can read the book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent the entire day to reading a publication. The book Kiddie Lit: The Cultural Construction of Children's Literature in America it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book possesses high quality.

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Reading can called imagination hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book mainly book entitled Kiddie Lit: The Cultural Construction of Children's Literature in America your brain will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe unknown for but surely might be your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a book then become one type conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get previous to. The Kiddie Lit: The Cultural Construction of Children's Literature in America giving you another experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful data for your better life on this era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

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