

Victorian & Edwardian Children's Fiction

ENGL 479

Anatomy of a Book

This project entails investigating a book, including its materiality and the contexts in which it was created, produced, and used over time. You do not need to make an argument about the book but instead document your research and observations. The following handout will guide you through this process.

Authorship		Notes
QUESTIONS	<p>Who wrote the book?</p> <p>Who illustrated the book?</p> <p>Who edited the book?</p> <p>Was there anyone else involved in producing the book's contents?</p> <p>How is this book situated in a creator's life and body of work?</p> <p>What is the relationship between the author and others involved in creating the content of the book, such as the illustrator or editor?</p>	
WHAT YOU CAN LEARN	<p>Insight into an author's life and, when relevant, relationship with an illustrator or editor, illuminates the creative process and provides a richer understanding of how a book came to be.</p>	
Book Content		Notes
QUESTIONS	<p>Consider the book's content. What observations can you offer about the type of readings it offers to children? How might it compare to other similar books? Does it participate in a popular trend or fashion or is it an exception?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What kind of content does this book offer: Poetry? Fiction? Nursery rhymes? School exercises or readings? • Is it part of a series? • Can you compare its contents to other comparable texts in our collection or online? • Is it excerpted from an original, such as the Bible or <i>Gulliver's Travels</i>? If so, on what principle? 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If it is a collection (of poetry or rhymes, for example), what seems to be the principles of collection? • Is it a translation? Adaptation? How popular was the original? • If it is fiction, comment on the level of language, the narrative voice, the genre, and theme; if poetry, on level of language, diction, theme, form and speaker (s). 	
WHAT YOU CAN LEARN	Exploring the content of a book will suggest how a book was meant to be used (for instruction? For fun? Read by a child or read to a child?) and situates the book within the broader landscape of children’s literature from this historical period.	

Structure, Binding, and Design	<i>Notes</i>
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QUESTIONS	<p>How big is the book? How is it put together?</p> <p>Can you read the text?</p> <p>Are there illustrations? Where are they (any on the endpapers)?</p> <p>Take note of the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • size, weight • binding • colour • paper: colour, weight • decorations • illustrations • layout, typeface 	
WHAT YOU CAN LEARN	These features will give you an indication of the cost, intended audience, how the book was originally marketed, as well as insight into the tastes/sensibilities of a particular time period.	

Other Bibliographic Features	<i>Notes</i>
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QUESTIONS	<p>Does the book have any of the following features?:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction • blurbs from other authors • maps • timelines • glossaries • advertising 	
WHAT YOU CAN LEARN	Like the book’s structure, these features will give you an indication of the cost, intended audience, and how the book was originally	

	marketed. Introductions or blurbs from other authors can indicate intellectual circles as well as marketing.
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Production and Distribution	<i>Notes</i>
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QUESTIONS	<p>What can you find out about the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • publisher/printer • date of publication • edition, number of editions, size of print run • price point, sales, distribution, advertising
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WHAT YOU CAN LEARN	The production and distribution of a work indicates the commercial context and the real and intended audience of a publication.
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Ownership, Custodial History, and Readership	<i>Notes</i>
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QUESTIONS	<p>What signs of ownership or use are there? How many owners can you trace?</p> <p>Does the book have any of the following signs of ownership and/or readership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bookplate • inscription(s) • annotations/marginalia • a library plate • pages cut or intact • other, such as pressed flowers or squashed insects
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WHAT YOU CAN LEARN	Signs of ownership and readership give insight into who was reading a book and how those readers were responding to or using a book over time. Understanding the experience of readers also provides insight into how a book was received by its original audience.
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Finding a Book

In Special Collections:

To locate a book within Special Collections you can search the following catalogue:

<http://webapp.library.uvic.ca/scbrowse/index.php?submit=New+Search>. Use one of the call numbers from below as a keyword search and limit the dates to 1800 to 1910. For assistance with finding a book in Special Collections contact Heather Dean (hdean@uvic.ca).

In the Main Stacks:

To browse the Main Stacks go to the second floor of the McPherson Library. The majority of children's literature books are on the second floor of the library in the PZ call number range. For a floor plan of the second floor (that shows where the PZs are located) see here: <http://www.uvic.ca/library/use/floormaps/Second%20Floor--Nov2013.pdf>.

Here is a breakdown of the PZ call number range into more specific categories:

PZ5: Collections of children's literature

PZ6: Early children's literature to 1870

PZ7: Children's literature 1870-present

PZ7.5: Bible stories for children

PZ8: Fairy tales

PZ8.1: Folklore, legends, romance

PZ8.2: Fables

PZ8.3: Nursery rhymes, poetry

PN1009: General works on juvenile literature, including bibliographies, overviews etc.

Z1037: Children's books including lists, catalogs etc.

PS490: American Juvenile literature, includes criticism, bibliographies etc.

PR990: English Juvenile literature, includes criticism, bibliographies etc.

Research Resources

Book History

Casper, Scott E. *History of the Book in America; v. 3: The Industrial Book, 1840-1880*. Chapel Hill: Published in association with the American Antiquarian Society by the University of North Carolina Press, c2007.

Location: Basement Compact Shelving.

Call Number: Z473 H36 v. 3

Kaestle, Carl F. and Janice A. Radway, ed. *The History of the Book in the West; v. 4: 1800 – 1914. Print in Motion: The Expansion of Publishing and Reading in the United States, 1880-1940*. Chapel Hill : Published in association with the American Antiquarian Society by the University of North Carolina Press, c2009.

Location: Basement Compact Shelving.

Call Number: Z473 H36 v. 4

Price, Leah. *How to Do Things With Books In Victorian Britain*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2012.

Location: Basement Compact Shelving

Call Number: Z1003.5 G7P75; 2012

Raven,James, Helen Small and Naomi Tadmor, ed. *The Practice and Representation of Reading In England*. Cambridge [England] ; New York : Cambridge University Press, 1996.

Location:McPherson Library

Call Number: Z1003.5 G7P73

Illustrations

Buchanan-Brown, John. *Early Victorian Illustrated Books: Britain, France and Germany, 1820-1860*. London : British Library ; New Castle, DE : Oak Knoll Press, 2005.

Location: Special Collections

Call Number: NC977 B827 2005

Dyson, Anthony. *Pictures To Print: The Nineteenth Century Engraving Trade*. London: Farrand Press; Williamsburg, Virginia : Distributed in North America by The Book Press, c1984.

Location: McPherson Library

Call Number: NE628 D95

Ray, Gordon N. *The Illustrator and the Book in England From 1790 To 1914*. New York : Pierpont Morgan Library, c1976.

Location: Special Collections Oversize 12.

Call Number: NC978 R39 1976

Suriano, Gregory R. *The Pre-Raphaelite Illustrators: The Published Graphic Art of the English Pre-Raphaelites and Their Associates with Critical Biographical Essays and Illustrated Catalogues of the Artists' Engraved Works*. New Castle, Del.: Oak Knoll Press ; London : British Library, 2000.

Location: McPherson Library

Call Number: NC978 S855 2005

Wakeman, Geoffrey. *Victorian Book Illustration: The Technical Revolution*. Newton Abbot, David & Charles, 1988.

Location: McPherson Library

Call Number: NC978 D36

Publishing History

The British Book Trade Index: <http://www.bbti.bham.ac.uk/>

The Scottish Book Trade Index: <http://www.nls.uk/catalogues/scottish-book-trade-index> (NOTE: this resource only goes up to 1850).

Charvat, William. *Literary Publishing in America, 1790-1850*. Amherst : University of Massachusetts Press, c1993.

Location:McPherson Library

Call Number: PN155 C5

Hinks, John and Catherine Armstrong. *Book Trade Connections from the Seventeenth to the Twentieth Centuries*.

New Castle, DE : Oak Knoll Press ; London : British Library, 2008.

Location:Basement Compact Shelving

Call Number: Z329 C66 2005

Hinks, John and Catherine Armstrong. *Printing Places: Locations of Book Production & Distribution since 1500*. New Castle, DE : Oak Knoll Press ; London : British Library, 2005.

Location: Basement Compact Shelving

Call Number: Z325 P85 2005

Isaac, Peter and Barry McKay. *The Human Face of the Book Trade: Print Culture and Its Creators*. Winchester, Hampshire : St. Paul's Bibliographies ; New Castle, DE : Oak Knoll Press, 1999.

Location: Basement Compact Shelving

Call Number: Z325 H85

Myers, Robin and Michael Harris. *A Genius for Letters: Booksellers and Bookselling from the 16th to the 20th Century*. Winchester [England]: St. Paul's Bibliographies ; New Castle, Del. : Oak Knoll Press, 1995.

Location: Basement Compact Shelving

Call Number: Z325 G43 1995

Myers, Robin and Michael Harris. *Spreading the Word: The Distribution Networks of Print 1550-1850*. Winchester : St. Paul's Bibliographies ; Detroit : Omnigraphics, 1990.

Location: Basement Compact Shelving

Call Number: Z325 S577

Weedon, Alexis. *Victorian Publishing: The Economics of Book Production for a Mass Market, 1836-1916*. Aldershot, England ; Burlington, VT : Ashgate, c2003.

Location: Basement Compact Shelving

Call Number: Z325 W425

Biography

Biographical material can give insight into the creative process and publishing history. Look for a biography and/or autobiography about the author, illustrator, and/or publisher. For details on researching biographical information see the Biography and Autobiography Subject Guide: <http://libguides.uvic.ca/Biographies>.

Biography Databases:

To find biographical databases go to the following: Library Homepage>>Search and Find>>Databases>>Other Options>>Databases by Subject>>Select Biography from the dropdown list.