

*The Arne Nixon Center
for the Study of Children's Literature*

California State University, Fresno, Henry Madden Library
5200 North Barton Avenue M/S ML34
Fresno CA 93740-8014

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A conference to be held at
California State University, Fresno

April 25–27, 2003

*Frances Hodgson Burnett:
Beyond The Secret Garden*

Frances Hodgson Burnett is renowned for her classic children's books: *The Secret Garden*, *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, and *A Little Princess*. The fact that most of her 60+ bestselling novels were written for adults is not so well known. These books, with subjects like working women, single motherhood, abusive marriages, and the interaction of cultures, are sparking new, international interest.

The Arne Nixon Center for the Study of Children's Literature at California State University, Fresno, will host the first conference ever to examine the life and works of this famous author. The conference program is attracting international attention. Speakers will come from England, Ireland, Japan, and many parts of the United States. Curator Angelica Carpenter is the conference organizer.

The conference will include plenary sessions with featured speakers, and at other times will divide into two special interest tracks, one for academics and one for teachers and librarians. Participants are welcome to attend any session of either track. An optional unit of university credit will be available.

A children's track will be offered for children (ages 6-12) of conference participants.

Participants will stay at the Piccadilly Inn—University, across the street from the campus (phone 559-224-4200; ask for "Burnett Conference" rates). Conference meetings will take place on campus and at the hotel. The conference will conclude with brunch in a beautiful Fresno garden. Fresno, located in the San Joaquin Valley, is near King's Canyon, Sequoia, and Yosemite National Parks. It is accessible by many airlines and by Amtrak.

Featured speakers for plenary sessions:

Phyllis Bixler, author of *Frances Hodgson Burnett* (Twayne's English Authors Series).



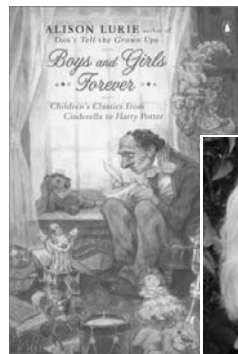
Angelica Shirley Carpenter, Curator of the Arne Nixon Center and author of *Frances Hodgson Burnett: Beyond the Secret Garden*.

Michael Cart, librarian, teacher, *Booklist* columnist, and author of *From Romance to Realism, a history of young adult literature*.



Penny Deupree, Frances Hodgson Burnett's great-granddaughter.

Gretchen Holbrook Gerzina, Professor of English, Vassar University, author of *Black London: Life Before Emancipation and Carrington*. Her new biography of Burnett will be published in 2003 by Rutgers University Press.



Alison Lurie, Professor of English, Cornell University, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, author of *Foreign Affairs*, *Boys and Girls Forever: Children's Classics from Cinderella to Harry Potter*, and *Don't Tell the Grown-Ups: The Subversive Power of Children's Literature*.



Ann Thwaite, Burnett's principal biographer, author of *Waiting for the Party: The Life of Frances Hodgson Burnett, 1849-1924*. Thwaite, author of *A. A. Milne: The Man Behind Winnie-the-Pooh* and *The Brilliant Career of Winnie-the-Pooh: The Definitive History of the Best Bear in All the World*, will deliver a pre-conference lecture, "Who Wrote Winnie-the-Pooh?" at the Satellite Student Union at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 24, as part of the University Lecture Series.

