



Take Up Thy Bed and Walk: Death, Disability and Cure in Classic Fiction for Girls, Lois Keith, Routledge, 2001, 041593740X, 9780415937405, 274 pages. Heidi, The Secret Garden, and Pollyanna are all classic "girls' books," featuring a miracle cure of an invalid character who literally gets up and walks away from illness or paralysis. Such stories were common in Victorian novels and they implicitly conveyed the idea that disability and physical suffering were punishment for wrongdoing: unruly girls could not enter womanhood unless they were tamed, and an accident was the perfect plot device for this transformation. Other characters, like Helen Burns in Jane Eyre or Beth in Little Women, were just too good to live, and died so that another character could be redeemed by their example. Lois Keith points out in this study that the temptation to either cure or kill off disabled characters has surprising tenacity. The widespread belief that a disabled life isn't a full life and that patients can cure themselves through force of will endures to the present day. In Take Up Thy Bed & Walk, Lois Keith brings her lively and observant eye to the classic books of childhood from Jane Eyre, Heidi, and Pollyanna, to modern American classics such as Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House on the Prairie and Judy Blume's Deenie. Keith explores the recurring images of impairment and ill health in literature and asks the reader to reconsider the messages they send to a devoted young audience. This book is also a testament to the singular passion with which these books are read by younger readers and reminds us of the intensity of our own reading experience as children..

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A Different Life , Lois Keith, 1997, , 357 pages. In this moving novel, 15-year-old Libby adjusts to a crippling disease with the help of a handicapped social worker, a school chum named Jesse, & her own fortitude..

Seven little Australians , Ethel Turner, , , . .

"What Happened to You?" Writing by Disabled Women, Lois Keith, Jun 1, 1996, , 223 pages. A collection of fiction, essays, and poetry by physically handicapped women relates their varied experiences and struggle to overcome prejudice and achieve independence.

Take Up Thy Bed and Walk , David Hinshaw, Jan 1, 1980, Social Science, 262 pages. .

What Katy Read Feminist Re-readings of "classic" Stories for Girls, Shirley Foster, 1995, Literary Criticism, 223 pages. What exactly is girls' fiction? What makes it distinctive? Do classic books for girls promote significant aspects of women's culture in an attempt to bridge the divide

The Sleeping Beauty , Margaret Hughes, K. Forsse, 1986, Fiction, 26 pages. .

Next to nothing collected poems, 1926-1977, Paul Bowles, 1981, Fiction, 73 pages. .

Not Now, Bernard , David McKee, Oct 1, 1996, Boys, 25 pages. The classic story of Bernard whose

parents are too busy to understand that there is a monster in the garden waiting to eat him!.

From Brown to Bunter the life and death of the school story, Peter William Musgrave, 1985, Education, 275 pages. Traces the history of the boys' school story in Britain, suggests reasons for its origins and demise, and examines typical examples of the genre.

The Politics of Disablement A Sociological Approach, Michael Oliver, 1990, Philosophy, 152 pages. Dominant views of disability as an individual and medical problems have been vigorously challenged by disabled people in recent years. This book, by an author who is himself

How to Change the World Marx and Marxism 1840-2011, Eric J. Hobsbawm, Mar 1, 2011, , 470 pages. In the century and a half since Karl Marx's communist manifesto was published, the doctrine that bears his name has been embraced by millions in the name of equality, and just

Good Girl Messages How Young Women Were Misled by Their Favorite Books, Deborah O'Keefe, Aug 1, 2001, Literary Criticism, 212 pages. Looks at the traditional portrayals of fictional girls as submissive, fearful, and dependent in works published before 1950 and examines how these images have changed..

What Katy Did , Susan M. Coolidge, 1999, Fiction, 184 pages. The adventures of twelve-year-old Katy, who always planned to do many wonderful things and in the end does something she'd never planned at all. And when Katy and her sister

Pollyanna , Eleanor H. Porter, Mar 1, 2008, Aunts, 148 pages. Please visit www.ArcManor.com for other great books.

Johanna Spyri's Heidi , Johanna Spyri, 1982, Travel, 57 pages. An orphan sent to live with her grandfather learns to love both the old man and the Swiss Alps and is homesick when she goes to the city to be a companion to an invalid..

What Katy Did What Katy Did at School, Susan Coolidge, Jan 1, 1986, Fiction, 271 pages. .

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