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Sommario/riassunto

Literary Cultures and Nineteenth-Century Childhoods explores the construction of the child and the development of texts for children in the nineteenth century through the application of fresh theoretical approaches and attention to aspects of literary childhoods that have only recently begun to be illuminated. This scope enables examination of the child in canonical nineteenth-century novels by Charles Dickens, Elizabeth Gaskell, Charlotte Brontë, and Thomas Hardy alongside well-known fiction intended for young readers by George MacDonald, Christabel Coleridge, and Kate Greenaway. The century was also distinctive for the rise of the children's magazine, and this book broadens the definition of literary cultures to include magazines produced both by, and for, young people. The volume examines how the child and family are conceptualised, how children are positioned as readers in genres including the domestic novel, school story, Robinsonade, and fantasy fiction, how literary childhoods are written and politicised, and how childhood intersects with perceptions of animals and the natural environment. The range of chapters in this collection and the texts they consider demonstrate the variability and fluidity of literary cultures and nineteenth-century childhoods. Kristine Moruzi is an Associate Professor in the School of Communication and Creative Arts at Deakin University, Australia. She has written two monographs, *Constructing Girlhood through the Periodical Press, 1850-1915* (2012) and *From Colonial to Modern: Transnational Girlhood in Canadian, Australian, and New Zealand Children's Literature, 1840-1940* (with Michelle J. Smith and Clare Bradford, 2018). She is co-editor (with Nell Musgrove and Carla Pascoe Leahy) of *Children's Voices from the Past: New Historical and Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (2019). Michelle J. Smith is an Associate Professor in Literary Studies at Monash University, Australia. Her most recent

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