



Twice-Told Children's Tales: The Influence of Childhood Reading on Writers for Adults (Children's Literature and Culture)

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"It is only in childhood that books have any deep influence on our lives"--Graham Greene

"The luminous books of our childhood will remain the luminous books of our lives."--Joyce Carol Oates

Writers, as they often attest, are deeply influenced by their childhood reading. Salman Rushdie, for example, has said that *The Wizard of Oz* "made a writer of me." *Twice-Told Tales* is a collection of essays on the way the works of adult writers have been influenced by their childhood reading. This fascinating volume includes theoretical essays on Salman Rushdie and the *Oz* books, "Beauty and the Beast" retold as *Jane Eyre*, the childhood reading of Jorge Luis Borges, and the remnants of nursery rhymes in Sylvia Plath's poetry. It is supplemented with a number of brief commentaries on children's books by major creative writers, including Maxine Hong Kingston and Maxine Kumin.

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