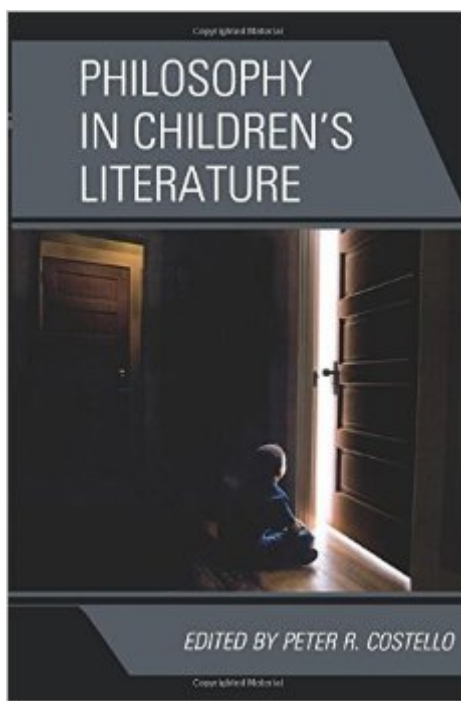


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Philosophy In Children's Literature



Synopsis

This book allows philosophers, literary theorists, and education specialists to come together to offer a series of readings on works of children's literature. Each of their readings is focused on pairing a particular, popular picture book or a chapter book with philosophical texts or themes. The book has three sections—the first, on picturebooks; the second, on chapter books; and the third, on two sets of paired readings of two very popular picturebooks. By means of its three sections, the book sets forth as its goal to show how philosophy can be helpful in reappraising books aimed at children from early childhood on. Particularly in the third section, the book emphasizes how philosophy can help to multiply the type of interpretative stances that are possible when readers listen again to what they thought they knew so well. The kinds of questions this book raises are the following: How are children's books already anticipating or articulating philosophical problems and discussions? How does children's literature work by means of philosophical puzzles or language games? What do children's books reveal about the existential situation the child reader faces? In posing and answering these kinds of questions, the readings within the book thus intersect with recent, developing scholarship in children's literature studies as well as in the psychology and philosophy of childhood.

Book Information

Paperback: 354 pages

Publisher: Lexington Books (June 15, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0739184423

ISBN-13: 978-0739184424

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 1.2 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (2 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I would like to recommend this scholarly work for all who are interested in understanding the impact that children's literature can have on youngsters. In this age of declining appreciation for ethical

behavior and moral principles it is worthwhile to see how well written stories can impact children. The influence of nonsensical and often violent video games can pull down the moral fibre of the next generation. I hope everyone who reads this book will make sure their children and grandchildren read the books and stories discussed. Nathaniel Roberts

This is an interesting approach to understanding both philosophy and children's literature. Many of the earliest and most compelling examples of written language incorporate devices such as those that appear in children's stories i.e. Bible, Aesopica. If we think about it as deeply as this book suggests, we can discover a plethora of existential ideas that are seemingly vague but in reality meaningless.

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