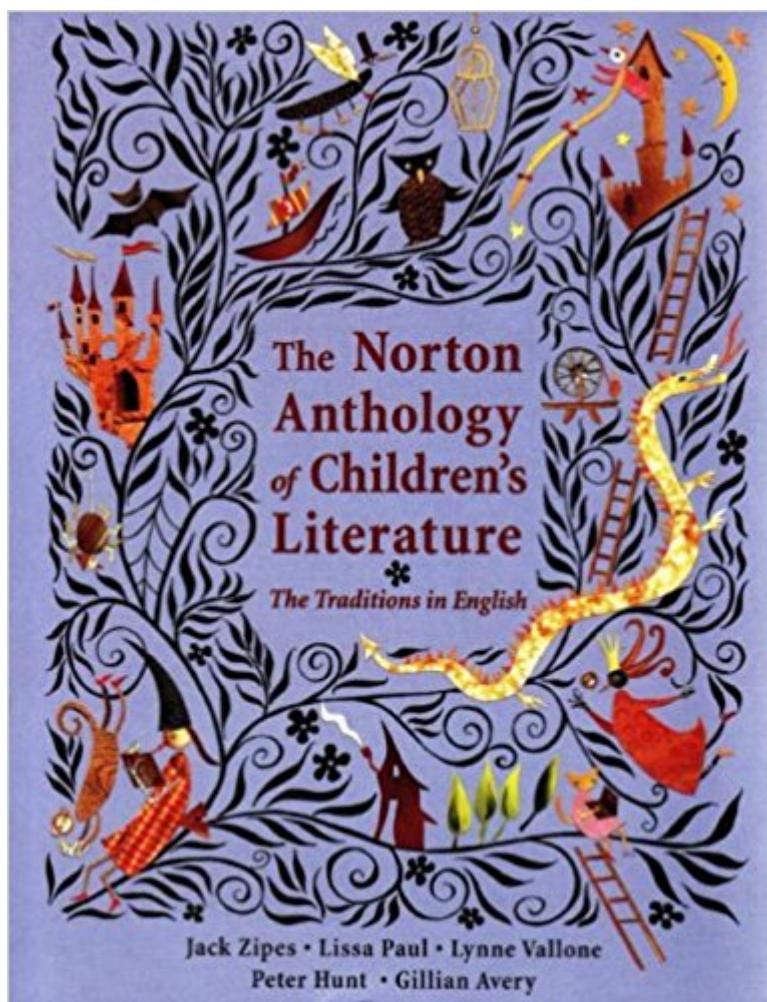


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# The Norton Anthology Of Children's Literature: The Traditions In English (College Edition)



## **Synopsis**

Comprehensive and visually rich, this new Norton Anthology, in a beautiful slipcased gift edition, traces the remarkable innovation and enduring pleasures of children's literature. The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature brings together the work of 170 writers and illustrators, tracing the historical development of genres and traditions over 350 years of children's literature in English. Drawing on new scholarship exploring the social and cultural contexts of children's literature, this flexible core anthology provides a teachable collection for a wide range of courses—the historical survey and period courses; theme- or topic-based courses; and interdisciplinary courses. 60 color, 375 black-and-white illustrations

## **Book Information**

Series: Norton Anthology

Paperback: 2512 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; 1 edition (March 10, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 039397538X

ISBN-13: 978-0393975383

Product Dimensions: 7.1 x 2.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #113,327 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Fairy Tales & Folklore > Anthologies #43 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Genres & Styles > Children's Literature #238 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Classics

## **Customer Reviews**

Starred Review. To give an idea of the breadth of this sampling from children's literature through the ages, consider that the volume's "timeline" begins in the Eighth Century—B.C. The bulk of the material in this slipcased paperback, however (and bulk is used here in the most complimentary way possible), spans the past four centuries. The delights are abundant. A facsimile image of a 1777 version of The New-England Primer, America's original schoolbook, is reprinted in its entirety (sample vocabulary words: humiliation, mortification, purification). John Newbery, who "excelled at collecting materials that could be assembled cheaply and attractively to be marketed" (and for whom the Newbery Medal is named), is represented by an excerpt from his book on "Epistolary

Writing." In addition to instructing children on how to correspond with church and government officials, he includes Anne Boleyn's last missive to Henry VIII as an example of an "important" letter. Zipes and his collaborators cull from fables, nursery rhymes, comics, poetry, plays, science fiction and fantasy, providing a lens through which the evolution of childhood itself can be viewed. The scope is expansive— the fairy tales hail from Grimm and Perrault, but also from Francesca Lia Block and Julius Lester. Headnotes introduce authors and illustrators, often tracing the lineage between them: Lear's Yonghy-Bonghy-Bo as grandfather to Seuss's Sneetches, for instance. The volume contains dozens of complete works and hundreds of illustrations, including a 32-page color inset of seminal artwork from the likes of Greenaway, Brunhoff and Sendak. A mile wide and very deep, this is an invaluable resource for professionals, but fun for casual perusing, too. All ages.

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This addition to the highly respected Norton Library is impressive for many reasons. A wealth of material is provided with 170 authors and illustrators represented. Eighty works are presented in their entirety, including The New-England Primer, Robert Louis Stevenson's A Child's Garden of Verses, J. M. Barrie's play of Peter Pan, and Eleanor Estes's The Hundred Dresses. Less familiar but equally interesting selections, such as those by Robert Baden-Powell and Shannon Garst, are also present. The range of material covers a span of 350 years, with the copious but very readable explanatory material provided in terms of introductions, headnotes, etc., tracing not just the historical development of children's literature, but the impact of changing religious, educational, cultural, and social philosophies as well. While the editors state that the book is intended as an introduction to children's literature for students primarily at colleges and universities (and it will be a boon to those charged with designing such courses), it also serves to advance the scholarly study of children's literature as a serious and worthwhile enterprise. Resources for both students and instructors are included on the W.W. Norton Web site. —Grace Oliff, Ann Blanche Smith School, Hillsdale, NJ Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Any student or person interested in the wide wealth of children's literature would adore this book. In terms of format, content, and quality, this book is consistent with all Norton Anthology books. Includes useful and illuminating biographical information on authors as well as historical context of each piece. If you've never owned a Norton Anthology, you should know that the pages are really

thin and the text is small. Makes no difference to me and doesn't detract from the enjoyment. And Jack Zipes is a wonderful editor and author of other texts. Great, great, great.

So much about Literature, and this book really helps to understand children's literature. Many stories and poems too!

This is a great gift to anyone with small children. There is nothing better for children than to be read to, daily. This is an inexhaustible anthology of fantastic stories that both children & parents will love. My wife and I have taken to giving this as a gift to every set of first-time parents. The feedback has been amazing, as every gift is well-received.

Quite wrinkly pages and folded covers, but definitely useable. I'm sure it's hard to keep such a big paperback book in good condition. Glad we're just renting it!

Any Norton's Anthology of Literature is wonderfully extensive, and this Children's Literature edition is no exception. The book ranges from early Puritan literature to modern stories that are great for children. I would recommend this book for parents who wish to pass a tradition of reading to their kids.(The reviewer was compensated for posting this review. However, the opinion stated in the review is that of the reviewer and the reviewer alone. Further, the reviewer independently selected this product to review and has no affiliation with the product maker/distributor, or the review requester.)

A beautiful book that comes in a hard cover slipcase. The stories are well written and I am impressed with how well put together this anthology is. Some of the stories even have pictures!

This book should be in everyone's collection

I've found NACL an outstanding reference book for specialists and students. I had never come across such complete collection of samples often hard, if not many times impossible, to find in my country. An uncommon added feature is the after purchase support offered by Norton and Norton which can be accessed via internet. Most helpful and useful for planning classes.Maria C. ThomsonArgentina

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