Paper: Beware The Cat in the Hat: How Children’s Literature is a Reflection of a Bleak Society

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Genre
Appropriation and Reciprocity

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Abstract
Children’s literature is full of messages that are relayed to children. Unfortunately, many of these messages involve cultural appropriation. Others involve harmful interpretations of sexuality, consent, and identity. This essay explores why classics such as Roald Dahl’s Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Dr. Seuss’s The Cat in the Hat, and Laura Ingalls Wilder’s Little House on the Prairie. All these books present different problematic material, which must not only be revaluated based on content, but also on the way it is taught and relayed to children. Along with the books listed above, this essay also looks to improve the future of children’s literature by drawing attention to several exams of progressive books. These include I am Jazz by Jazz Jennings and Jessica Herthel, The Three Pigs by Bobbi Salinas, and Can I Touch Your Hair? By Irene Latham and Charles Waters.

Recommended Citation

The Cat in the Hat is a 1957 children’s book written and illustrated by Theodor Geisel under the pen name Dr. Seuss. The story centers on a tall anthropomorphic cat who wears a red and white-striped hat and a red bow tie. The Cat shows up at the house of Sally and her brother one rainy day when their mother is away. Despite the repeated objections of the children's fish, the Cat shows the children a few of his tricks in an attempt to entertain them. In the process, he and his companions, Thing One and The Cat can rescue them from a dull rainy day, but it means lots of thrills and spills along the way. Book Author: Dr. Seuss. See More Books from this author. Teaching Ideas and Resources: English. Make a list of all of the rhyming words in the story. Count how many syllables can be found in different lines in the story. Is there a pattern? How many connectives can you find in the story? Can you try to
might ask the Cat in the Hat if you met him. How might he respond? Write a new story about a different cat in a hat. Find out more about the author, Dr. Seuss by exploring his official site. If you could interview him, what would you say to him? C The great subversive works of children's literature suggest that there are other views of human life besides those of the shopping mall and the corporation. They mock current assumptions and express the imaginative, unconventional, noncommercial view of the world in its simplest and purest form. They appeal to the imaginative, questioning, rebellious child within all of us, renew our instinctive energy, and act as a force for change. If they are really unpleasant, the only thing that can rescue them is the natural goodness of a child. Here again, Mrs. Burnett provides the classic example, in Little Lord Fauntleroy. (Scrooge's somewhat similar change of heart in Dickens's A Christmas Carol, however, is due mainly to regret for his past and terror of the future. The Cat in the Hat is a children's book by Dr. Seuss, featuring a tall, anthropomorphic, mischievous cat, wearing a tall, red and white striped hat. With the series of Beginner Books that The Cat inaugurated, Seuss promoted both his name and the cause of elementary literacy in the United States. The eponymous cat appears in six of Seuss's rhymed children's books. This book has an iOS and Android app by Oceanhouse Media.