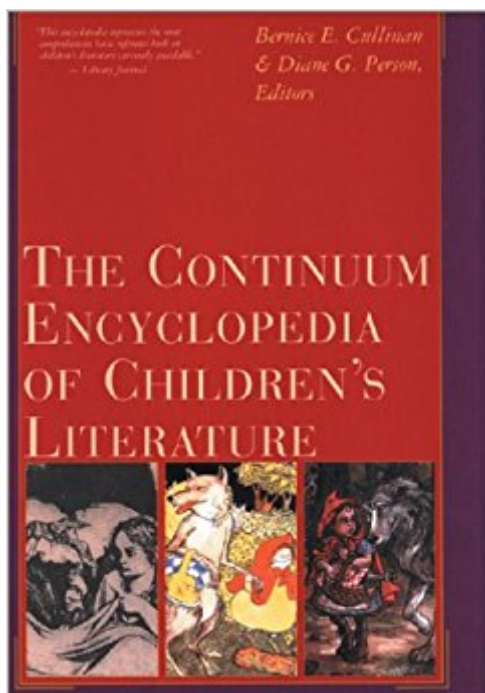


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The Continuum Encyclopedia Of Children's Literature



Synopsis

This encyclopaedia contains a listing of approximately 1100 authors and illustrators who have made a significant or historic contribution to children's literature. The main focus is on authors who have written in English (both UK and US), although children's authors writing in other languages are also included if their work has been translated into English. The period covered is from the late 19th century to the present day. In addition to authors and illustrators, the encyclopaedia has entries for editors, publishers, small presses, best-known characters, genres, books, series books, children's magazines, literary terms, religious books, major awards and other topics. Genres and topics covered include: adventure stories; African-American literature; alphabet books; animal stories; Asians in literature; bible stories; biography; board books; book design; Canadian literature; censorship; Chinese-Americans in literature; classic novels; comic books; concept books; critical theorists; death and dying; Disney; fairy tales; family and friends in stories; fantasy; fine arts; folklore; historical fiction; Holocaust fiction; Holocaust literature; how-to books for children; humour; illustration; interactive books; Latino children's books; media and technology; multicultural literature; Native-American literature; nursery rhymes; picture books; poetry; realistic fiction; school stories; science fiction; sports stories; survival and war; translations; and young adult editors.

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Customer Reviews

The reference work *The Continuum Encyclopedia of Children's Literature*, edited by Bernice E.

Cullinan and Diane G. Person, includes 1,200 entries, from "Aardema, Verna" to "Zwerger, Lisbeth." Topical articles treat such themes as "High-Interest Easy-Reading Book Series" and "Indian (East) Literature." Groups of b&w author photos are interspersed. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Make room on your shelves for this encyclopedia. It is thick and pricey, but its goal is lofty: "a comprehensive single-volume reference source describing the development and current trends in children's literature throughout the world." The 1200 author/illustrator and 97 topical entries focus on books available in English and deemed "significant" by an advisory panel of luminaries in the field. All entries are cross-referenced. Most author/illustrator entries run from 100 to 300 words, but those for major figures, especially contemporary ones, are much longer. Each entry includes date of birth and death; some biographical information; a brief, critical discussion; and citation of major works, notable achievements, and significant awards. Each signed entry concludes with the resources used. Topical essays include genres, themes, formats, trends, awards, and others that defy category (Editors of Note, Australian Literature). Each one ranges from 1200 to 1800 words. The book picks up the idea behind Anita Silvey's *Children's Books and Their Creators* (Houghton, 1995), emphasizing 20th-century American authors and illustrators, and broadens the scope. It does not have the "Voices of the Creators" sections that personalize Silvey's book, but black-and-white photos of 130 authors and illustrators and a color art section provide visual interest. This volume fills a real need for many libraries. Sue Burgess, Framingham State College, MA Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

This comprehensive reference will find a place on library reference shelves; particularly those with strong holdings in children's literature and children's studies. Over 1,200 biographical and critical entries and nearly 100 articles by experts in the field covers 150 years of children's literature around the world, with chapters blending biographies with topical articles in an easily-accessed format. Not every children's author can be included here; but the mainstays of the genre are represented.

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