

british literature orphan

british literature orphan is a fascinating and enduring theme that has shaped the landscape of English storytelling for centuries. From the earliest novels to contemporary works, the orphan figure often serves as a powerful symbol of resilience, transformation, and social critique. Exploring the role of orphans in British literature reveals deep connections to historical realities, societal attitudes, and literary innovation. This article delves into the origins of the orphan motif, examines its evolution across literary periods, highlights iconic orphan characters, and analyzes the cultural impact of their stories. Readers will discover why orphans occupy such a central place in British literary tradition, how their journeys reflect broader themes of identity and belonging, and what makes these characters so memorable. Whether you are a student, educator, or literature enthusiast, this comprehensive guide offers valuable insights into the orphan's role in British literature—encouraging a deeper appreciation of these timeless tales.

- Origins and Historical Context of Orphans in British Literature
- The Orphan Motif in Classic British Novels
- Iconic Orphan Characters and Their Significance
- Social Commentary and the Orphan Experience
- Evolution of the Orphan Figure in Modern British Literature
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Origins and Historical Context of Orphans in British Literature

British literature orphan narratives have their roots in the complex social and historical realities of England. Orphanhood was a prevalent concern during the 18th and 19th centuries, when poverty, disease, and war frequently left children without parents. The orphan's plight became a literary device to explore issues of class disparity, morality, and the search for identity. Early British writers often used orphan characters to reflect societal anxieties and to critique the treatment of vulnerable children. By embedding orphan figures into their stories, authors connected fiction to real-world struggles, making their works both poignant and relevant.

Societal Factors Influencing Orphan Narratives

The rise of urbanization, industrialization, and the Poor Laws significantly affected children and

families in Britain. Literature mirrored these changes, with orphans representing the marginalized and the dispossessed. The Victorian era, in particular, saw a surge in orphan figures as reforms highlighted child welfare and education. Authors used the orphan motif to draw attention to the harsh realities faced by many in society and to advocate for social change.

Early Literary Examples

Works such as Daniel Defoe's "Moll Flanders" and Henry Fielding's "Tom Jones" introduced orphan protagonists whose journeys encapsulated themes of survival and redemption. These early narratives set the stage for later, more nuanced depictions of orphans throughout British literature.

The Orphan Motif in Classic British Novels

The orphan motif became especially prominent in classic British novels of the 19th century. Writers like Charles Dickens, Charlotte Brontë, and Emily Brontë crafted stories where orphaned children navigated adversity and transformed their destinies. These tales not only entertained readers but also offered incisive commentary on social structures, education, and family.

Charles Dickens and the Orphan Experience

Charles Dickens is perhaps the most influential figure in the portrayal of orphans within British literature. His novels frequently center on orphaned protagonists, such as Oliver Twist and David Copperfield. Dickens used their stories to expose the cruelty of workhouses, the indifference of the upper classes, and the resilience of the human spirit. His vivid descriptions and empathetic characterization helped shape public perception of orphanhood.

Brontë Sisters: Orphans and Identity

Both Charlotte and Emily Brontë explored themes of isolation, self-discovery, and social exclusion through their orphan characters. Jane Eyre, the eponymous heroine of Charlotte's novel, overcomes a traumatic childhood to achieve independence and love. In "Wuthering Heights," Heathcliff's orphan status drives much of the novel's emotional intensity and conflict. These works highlight the psychological depth and transformative journeys of orphan protagonists.

Iconic Orphan Characters and Their Significance

British literature is rich with memorable orphan characters whose stories have inspired generations of readers. Their journeys often serve as allegories for personal growth, societal critique, and the struggle for acceptance.

- **Oliver Twist:** Dickens's young orphan who exposes the grim realities of Victorian London.
- **Jane Eyre:** Brontë's resilient heroine who triumphs over adversity.
- **Heathcliff:** "Wuthering Heights" protagonist whose orphan status shapes his tragic fate.
- **Pip:** The orphan in "Great Expectations" who navigates ambition and disappointment.
- **Harry Potter:** J.K. Rowling's modern orphan hero, bridging tradition and contemporary themes.

The Symbolic Power of Orphanhood

Orphan characters often symbolize innocence, vulnerability, and the quest for belonging. Their lack of familial ties allows authors to explore themes of independence, social mobility, and moral development. The orphan's journey is frequently a microcosm of human struggle, resonating across cultures and historical periods.

Social Commentary and the Orphan Experience

The portrayal of orphans in British literature is closely linked to social issues and reform. Authors use orphan narratives to critique institutions such as the workhouse, foster care, and boarding schools. These stories serve as powerful vehicles for social commentary, drawing attention to the need for compassion, justice, and reform.

Literature as Advocacy

Dickens, among others, leveraged his fiction to campaign for improved conditions for orphans and impoverished children. By depicting the hardships faced by his characters, he galvanized public support for policy changes and encouraged empathy among readers.

Changing Attitudes Toward Orphanhood

As British society evolved, so did literary representations of orphans. Victorian works often depicted orphans as objects of pity; later novels emphasized their agency, resilience, and potential for success. This shift reflects broader changes in social attitudes toward childhood, welfare, and individual worth.

Evolution of the Orphan Figure in Modern British

Literature

The orphan motif remains relevant in modern British literature, though its depiction has grown more complex. Contemporary writers build upon traditional narratives, introducing new dimensions such as ethnicity, gender, and psychological realism. The orphan's journey now often intersects with issues of identity politics, globalization, and trauma.

Contemporary Orphan Narratives

J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" series revitalized the British orphan archetype for a new generation. Harry's story echoes classic themes of loss, resilience, and self-discovery while addressing contemporary concerns such as prejudice, friendship, and the search for community. Other modern works continue to explore the orphan's place in society, adapting the motif to reflect current realities.

Intersections with Other Literary Themes

Modern orphan stories often intersect with themes such as migration, displacement, and multiculturalism. Authors explore how orphanhood affects personal identity, belonging, and the formation of family outside traditional boundaries.

Recurring Themes and Literary Devices

Orphan narratives in British literature employ a range of recurring themes and literary devices to deepen their emotional and symbolic impact. These elements contribute to the enduring popularity and relevance of orphan stories.

- Identity and self-discovery
- Social mobility and class struggle
- Isolation and longing for belonging
- Transformation and redemption
- Use of first-person narrative for intimacy
- Symbolic settings (workhouses, schools, remote estates)
- Motifs of loss and hope

Symbolism and Allegory

Orphanhood often serves as an allegory for universal human experiences—loss, growth, and the search for meaning. Authors use symbolism, such as the “empty home” or “unknown parentage,” to highlight emotional and psychological themes central to British literature.

Impact of British Literature Orphan Narratives

Orphan stories in British literature have left a lasting mark on both literary tradition and popular culture. Their enduring appeal stems from the emotional resonance and social relevance of their journeys. These narratives continue to inspire adaptations in film, theater, and television, ensuring their place in the public imagination.

Influence on Global Storytelling

The British literature orphan motif has influenced writers worldwide, shaping the depiction of orphan characters in diverse genres and cultures. The universal themes explored through these stories guarantee their continued relevance and popularity.

Why Readers Connect with Orphan Characters

Readers are drawn to orphan narratives because they reflect fundamental human experiences: overcoming adversity, seeking love and acceptance, and forging one’s own path. The orphan’s story resonates with anyone who has ever felt alone or struggled to find their place in the world.

Frequently Asked Questions about british literature orphan

Q: Why are orphans such a common theme in British literature?

A: Orphans are a prevalent theme because they allow authors to explore issues of identity, social inequality, and resilience. Their lack of family ties makes them ideal protagonists for stories about personal growth and societal critique.

Q: Which British authors are best known for writing about

orphans?

A: Charles Dickens, Charlotte Brontë, Emily Brontë, and J.K. Rowling are among the most notable British authors who have created memorable orphan characters in their works.

Q: How does the orphan motif reflect historical realities in Britain?

A: The orphan motif mirrors real historical challenges such as poverty, disease, and social reform, especially during the Victorian era when orphanhood was a widespread concern.

Q: What are some of the most famous orphan characters in British literature?

A: Notable orphan characters include Oliver Twist, Jane Eyre, Heathcliff, Pip from "Great Expectations," and Harry Potter.

Q: How do orphan narratives provide social commentary?

A: Orphan stories often critique institutions like workhouses and foster care, highlighting the need for social reform and greater empathy toward vulnerable children.

Q: Has the depiction of orphans changed in modern British literature?

A: Yes, modern literature portrays orphans with greater psychological depth and complexity, addressing issues such as identity, trauma, and multiculturalism.

Q: What recurring themes are found in British literature orphan stories?

A: Recurring themes include identity, isolation, social mobility, transformation, and the quest for belonging.

Q: Why do readers find orphan characters so relatable?

A: Orphan characters embody universal struggles such as overcoming hardship and searching for acceptance, making their stories emotionally resonant for readers of all backgrounds.

Q: How have British literature orphan stories influenced

global storytelling?

A: The orphan motif has inspired writers across the world, shaping character development and plot structures in a variety of genres and cultures.

Q: What literary devices are commonly used in orphan narratives?

A: Authors often use symbolism, allegory, first-person narration, and evocative settings to enhance the emotional impact of orphan stories.

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British Literature Orphan: Exploring the Enduring Power of Orphans in British Literary Canon

The image of the orphaned child, vulnerable yet resilient, resonates deeply within the human psyche. British literature, a rich tapestry woven with social commentary and emotional depth, frequently features orphans as central characters, providing insightful explorations of societal structures, individual identity, and the enduring power of human spirit. This post delves into the pervasive presence of the orphan archetype in British literature, examining how these characters function as narrative devices, societal reflections, and compelling protagonists. We'll explore notable examples across various periods, analyzing the distinct ways authors utilize the orphan motif to illuminate broader themes and capture the reader's imagination.

H2: The Orphan as a Symbol of Social Commentary

Many British literary orphans are not merely isolated figures but potent symbols reflecting the societal anxieties and inequalities of their respective eras. The Victorian era, with its stark class divisions and burgeoning industrialization, saw a surge in narratives featuring orphaned children navigating a harsh and unforgiving world. Dickens, in particular, masterfully used orphan characters – like Oliver Twist or Pip in Great Expectations – to highlight the plight of the poor and the systemic failures that condemned vulnerable children to lives of hardship and exploitation. These characters weren't simply tragic figures; they served as powerful indictments of societal structures and a call

for reform. Their struggles highlighted the lack of social safety nets and the vulnerability of those without family support.

H2: The Orphan's Journey: Identity and Self-Discovery

The orphan's journey often becomes a compelling narrative arc centered around self-discovery and the forging of identity. Deprived of familial roots and established heritage, these characters are forced to construct their own sense of self, often through challenging circumstances and transformative experiences. Jane Eyre in Charlotte Brontë's novel undergoes a relentless quest for self-respect and independence, her orphan status shaping her determination and resilience. Similarly, the unnamed narrator in Jane Eyre grapples with questions of identity and belonging, shaped profoundly by her early experiences of neglect and social isolation. The orphan's quest for belonging becomes a microcosm of the larger human need for connection and acceptance.

H3: Beyond the Dickensian Model: Exploring Nuances

While Dickens solidified the image of the impoverished, downtrodden orphan, subsequent authors explored the archetype with greater nuance. Modern British literature portrays orphans with more complex motivations and psychological depths. The orphan character is no longer solely a symbol of social injustice but also a vessel for exploring themes of trauma, resilience, and the search for meaning in a seemingly chaotic world. These portrayals move beyond the simplistic "rags-to-riches" narrative, examining the lasting psychological impact of early adversity.

H2: The Orphan and the Gothic Tradition

The gothic genre, a staple of British literature, frequently utilizes the orphan figure to heighten feelings of isolation, vulnerability, and supernatural dread. The desolate landscapes and crumbling mansions often associated with gothic narratives amplify the orphan's sense of alienation and precarious position. The mysterious circumstances surrounding their parentage and the potential for hidden secrets further contribute to the gothic atmosphere, adding layers of suspense and psychological intrigue. The orphan becomes a conduit for exploring themes of darkness, mystery, and the unsettling aspects of the human psyche.

H2: Contemporary Representations of the Orphan

Contemporary British literature continues to engage with the orphan archetype, but with a fresh perspective. Modern authors often explore the emotional consequences of adoption and foster care, highlighting the complexities of creating family bonds and navigating identity formation in non-

traditional family structures. These narratives offer a more nuanced understanding of the challenges faced by orphans in contemporary society, moving beyond the romanticized or solely pitiable depictions of earlier eras. They explore themes of trauma, attachment, and the resilience of the human spirit in the face of adversity.

H3: The Enduring Appeal of the Orphan Narrative

The enduring appeal of the orphan narrative in British literature stems from its ability to tap into universal human experiences. Themes of loss, belonging, identity, and resilience are timeless and resonate deeply with readers regardless of their background. The orphan character, in its various iterations, serves as a powerful reminder of the human capacity for both suffering and triumph, offering a compelling exploration of the human condition. The orphan's journey, often filled with adversity, ultimately becomes a testament to the enduring strength of the human spirit.

Conclusion

The orphan archetype in British literature provides a rich and multifaceted lens through which to explore social commentary, identity formation, and the complexities of the human condition. From the stark portrayals of Victorian-era novels to the nuanced depictions in contemporary literature, the orphan continues to resonate with readers, serving as a potent symbol of resilience, vulnerability, and the enduring search for belonging. The evolving portrayal of this figure across centuries reflects the changing societal landscape and the persistent human need to understand the impact of loss and the power of human connection.

FAQs

1. Are all British literary orphans depicted as impoverished? No, while many classic examples highlight poverty, contemporary literature presents a broader range, including orphans from varying socioeconomic backgrounds.
2. How does the orphan figure differ across different literary genres? The orphan's role varies; in gothic literature, they often contribute to the atmosphere of suspense, while in realistic fiction, they serve as vehicles for social commentary.
3. What are some key themes explored through the orphan narrative? Key themes include identity, resilience, loss, belonging, social injustice, and the search for meaning.
4. Are there any contemporary British authors who prominently feature orphans in their work? While not always central, many contemporary authors touch upon themes of adoption and foster care, indirectly exploring aspects of the orphan experience. Researching contemporary British novels focusing on family dynamics and childhood trauma would reveal relevant examples.

5. How does the portrayal of orphans evolve throughout British literary history? Early depictions often focused on poverty and social injustice, while later portrayals delve into the psychological impact of loss and the complexities of identity formation within non-traditional family structures.

british literature orphan: *The Orphan in Fiction and Comics since the 19th Century* Marion Gymnich, Barbara Puschmann-Nalenz, Gerold Sedlmayr, 2018-07-27 The orphan has turned out to be an extraordinarily versatile literary figure. By juxtaposing diverse fictional representations of orphans, this volume sheds light on the development of cultural concepts such as childhood, family, the status of parental legacy, individualism, identity and charity. The first chapter argues that the figure of the orphan was suitable for negotiating a remarkable range of cultural anxieties and discourses in novels from the Victorian period. This is followed by a discussion of both the (rare) examples of novels from the first half of the 20th century in which main characters are orphaned at a young age and Anglophone narratives written from the 1980s onward, when the figure of the orphan proliferated once more. The trope of the picaresque, the theme of absence and the problem of parental substitutes are among the issues addressed in contemporary orphan narratives. The book also looks at the orphan motif in three popular fantasy series, namely Rowling's Harry Potter septology, Pullman's His Dark Materials trilogy and Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire series. It then traces the development of the orphan motif from the end of the 19th century to the present in a range of different types of comics, including funnies and gag-a-day strips, superhero comics, underground comix, and autobiographical comics.

british literature orphan: *The Orphan in Eighteenth-Century Law and Literature* Cheryl L. Nixon, 2016-02-17 Cheryl Nixon's book is the first to connect the eighteenth-century fictional orphan and factual orphan, emphasizing the legal concepts of estate, blood, and body. Examining novels by authors such as Eliza Haywood, Tobias Smollett, and Elizabeth Inchbald, and referencing never-before analyzed case records, Nixon reconstructs the narratives of real orphans in the British parliamentary, equity, and common law courts and compares them to the narratives of fictional orphans. The orphan's uncertain economic, familial, and bodily status creates opportunities to plot his or her future according to new ideologies of the social individual. Nixon demonstrates that the orphan encourages both fact and fiction to re-imagine structures of estate (property and inheritance), blood (familial origins and marriage), and body (gender and class mobility). Whereas studies of the orphan typically emphasize the poor urban foundling, Nixon focuses on the orphaned heir or heiress and his or her need to be situated in a domestic space. Arguing that the eighteenth century constructs the valued orphan, Nixon shows how the wealthy orphan became associated with new understandings of the individual. New archival research encompassing print and manuscript records from Parliament, Chancery, Exchequer, and King's Bench demonstrate the law's interest in the propertied orphan. The novel uses this figure to question the formulaic structures of narrative sub-genres such as the picaresque and romance and ultimately encourage the hybridization of such plots. As Nixon traces the orphan's contribution to the developing novel and developing ideology of the individual, she shows how the orphan creates factual and fictional understandings of class, family, and gender.

british literature orphan: *When We Were Orphans* Kazuo Ishiguro, 2015-03-03 From the winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature and author of the Booker Prize-winning novel *The Remains of the Day* comes this stunning work of soaring imagination. Born in early twentieth-century Shanghai, Banks was orphaned at the age of nine after the separate disappearances of his parents. Now, more than twenty years later, he is a celebrated figure in London society; yet the investigative expertise that has garnered him fame has done little to illuminate the circumstances of his parents' alleged kidnappings. Banks travels to the seething, labyrinthine city of his memory in hopes of solving the mystery of his own painful past, only to find that war is ravaging Shanghai beyond recognition—and that his own recollections are proving as difficult to trust as the people around him. Masterful, suspenseful and psychologically acute, *When We Were Orphans* offers a profound

meditation on the shifting quality of memory, and the possibility of avenging one's past.

british literature orphan: Orphan at My Door Jean Little, 2001 Through the diary of 10-year-old Victoria Cope, we learn about the arrival of ragged Mary Anna, one of the thousands of impoverished British children who were sent to Canada at the beginning of the century. Mary Anna joins the Cope family as a servant and is treated well, but she has to cope with the initial apprehension of the family members and the loss of her brother, Jasper, who was placed with another family. Victoria vows to help Mary Anna find her brother, so they can be a family once again.

british literature orphan: Call of the Curlew Elizabeth Brooks, 2018-06-28 'Unforgettable' - ROSAMUND LUPTON Virginia Wrathmell has always known she will meet her death on the marsh. One snowy New Year's Eve, at the age of eighty-six, Virginia feels the time has finally come. New Year's Eve, 1939. Virginia is ten, an orphan arriving to meet her new parents at their mysterious house, Salt Winds. Her new home sits on the edge of a vast marsh, a beautiful but dangerous place. War feels far away out here amongst the birds and shifting sands - until the day a German fighter plane crashes into the marsh. The people at Salt Winds are the only ones to see it. What happens next is something Virginia will regret for the next seventy-five years, and which will change the whole course of her life.

british literature orphan: Orphan Texts Laura Peters, 2000 The study argues that the prevalence of the orphan figure can be explained by considering the family. The family and all it came to represent - legitimacy, race and national belonging - was in crisis. In order to reaffirm itself the family needed a scapegoat: it found one in the orphan figure. As one who embodied the loss of the family, the orphan figure came to represent a dangerous threat to the family; and the family reaffirmed itself through the expulsion of this threatening difference. The vulnerable and miserable condition of the orphan, as one without rights, enabled it to be conceived of, and treated as such, by the very institutions responsible for its care. Orphan Texts will of interest to final year undergraduates, postgraduates, academics and those interested in the areas of Victorian literature, Victorian studies, postcolonial studies, history and popular culture.--BOOK JACKET.

british literature orphan: A Critical Dictionary of English Literature and British and American Authors Samuel Austin Allibone, 1897

british literature orphan: A Critical Dictionary of English Literature and British and American Authors, Living and Deceased, from the Earliest Account to the Latter Half of the Nineteenth Century Samuel Austin Allibone, 1881

british literature orphan: Orphan of Asia Zhuoliu Wu, 2008-03-22 Born in Taiwan, raised in the scholarly traditions of ancient China but forced into the Japanese educational system, Hu Taiming, the protagonist of Orphan of Asia, ultimately finds himself estranged from all three cultures. Taiming eventually makes his mark in the colonial Japanese educational system and graduates from a prestigious college. However, he finds that his Japanese education and his adoption of modern ways have alienated him from his family and native village. He becomes a teacher in the Japanese colonial system but soon quits his post and finds that, having repudiated his roots, he doesn't seem to belong anywhere. Thus begins the long journey for Taiming to find his rightful place, during which he is accused of spying for both China and Japan and witnesses the effects of Japanese imperial expansion, the horrors of war, and the sense of anger and powerlessness felt by those living under colonial rule. Zhuoliu Wu's autobiographical novel is widely regarded as a classic of modern Asian literature and a groundbreaking expression of the postwar Taiwanese national consciousness.

british literature orphan: A Critical Dictionary of English Literature and British and American Authors, Living and Deceased Samuel Austin Allibone, 1870

british literature orphan: Cultural Orphans in America Diana Loercher Pazicky, 2008-10-01 Images of orphanhood have pervaded American fiction since the colonial period. Common in British literature, the orphan figure in American texts serves a unique cultural purpose, representing marginalized racial, ethnic, and religious groups that have been scapegoated by the dominant culture. Among these groups are the Native Americans, the African Americans, immigrants, and

Catholics. In keeping with their ideological function, images of orphanhood occur within the context of family metaphors in which children represent those who belong to the family, or the dominant culture, and orphans represent those who are excluded from it. In short, the family as an institution provides the symbolic stage on which the drama of American identity formation is played out. Applying aspects of psychoanalytic theory that pertain to identity formation, specifically René Girard's theory of the scapegoat, *Cultural Orphans in America* examines the orphan trope in early American texts and the antebellum nineteenth-century American novel as a reaction to the social upheaval and internal tensions generated by three major episodes in American history: the Great Migration, the American Revolution, and the rise of the republic. In Puritan religious texts and Anne Bradstreet's poetry, orphan imagery expresses the doubt and uncertainty that shrouded the mission to the New World. During the Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary periods, the separation of the colony from England inspired an identification with orphanhood in Thomas Paine's writings, and novels by Charles Brockden Brown and James Fenimore Cooper encode in orphan imagery the distinction between Native Americans and the new Americans who have usurped their position as children of the land. In women's sentimental fiction of the 1850s, images of orphanhood mirror class and ethnic conflict, and *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, like Frederick Douglass's autobiographies, employs orphan imagery to suggest the slave's orphanhood from the human as well as the national family.

british literature orphan: Chambers's Cyclopaedia of English Literature Robert Chambers, Robert Carruthers, 1894

british literature orphan: The Unseen World: A Novel Liz Moore, 2016-07-26 From the New York Times bestselling author of *Long Bright River*: The moving story of a daughter's quest to discover the truth about her beloved father's hidden past. Ada Sibelius is raised by David, her brilliant, eccentric, socially inept single father, who directs a computer science lab in 1980s-era Boston. Home-schooled, Ada accompanies David to work every day; by twelve, she is a painfully shy prodigy. The lab begins to gain acclaim at the same time that David's mysterious history comes into question. When his mind begins to falter, leaving Ada virtually an orphan, she is taken in by one of David's colleagues. Soon she embarks on a mission to uncover her father's secrets: a process that carries her from childhood to adulthood. What Ada discovers on her journey into a virtual universe will keep the reader riveted until *The Unseen World's* heart-stopping, fascinating conclusion.

british literature orphan: Charles Dickens and the Street Children of London Andrea Warren, 2011 The motivations behind Dickens' novels and the poverty-stricken world of 19th century London.

british literature orphan: The Little White Bird J. M. Barrie, 2009-05-01 *The Little White Bird* is a series of short episodes, narratives and day-to-day accounts of J M Barrie's life in London. The tone oscillates from whimsical to social comedy to darkly aggressive. Part of the book's continuing popularity was due to the couple of softer chapters telling the story of Peter Pan, later to become the hero of Barrie's most famous work.

british literature orphan: The Thief Lord Cornelia Funke, 2013-10-03 Amid the crumbling splendour of wintertime Venice, two orphans are on the run. The mysterious Thief Lord offers shelter, but a terrible danger is gathering force...

british literature orphan: Never Let Me Go Kazuo Ishiguro, 2009-03-19 NOBEL PRIZE WINNER • The moving, suspenseful, beautifully atmospheric modern classic from the acclaimed author of *The Remains of the Day* and *Klara and the Sun*—"a Gothic tour de force (*The New York Times*) with an extraordinary twist. "Brilliantly executed." —Margaret Atwood "A page-turner and a heartbreaker." —TIME "Masterly." —Sunday Times As children, Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy were students at Hailsham, an exclusive boarding school secluded in the English countryside. It was a place of mercurial cliques and mysterious rules where teachers were constantly reminding their charges of how special they were. Now, years later, Kathy is a young woman. Ruth and Tommy have reentered her life. And for the first time she is beginning to look back at their shared past and understand just what it is that makes them special—and how that gift will shape the rest of their time together.

british literature orphan: Let's Write a Short Story! Joe Bunting, 2012-11-30

british literature orphan: **A Critical Dictionary of English Literature and British and American Authors** S. Austin Allibone, 1874

british literature orphan: The Secret Garden Hodgson B.F., «Таинственный сад» – любимая классика для читателей всех возрастов, жемчужина творчества Фрэнсис Ходжсон Бернетт, роман о заново открытой радости жизни и магии силы. Мэри Леннокс, жестокое и испорченное дитя высшего света, потеряв родителей в Индии, возвращается в Англию, на воспитание к дяде-затворнику в его поместье. Однако дядя находится в постоянных отъездах, и Мэри начинает исследовать округу, в ходе чего делает много открытий, в том числе находит удивительный маленький сад, огороженный стеной, вход в который почему-то запрещен. Отыскав ключ и потайную дверцу, девочка попадает внутрь. Но чьи тайны хранит этот загадочный садик? И нужно ли знать то, что находится под запретом?.. Впрочем, это не единственный секрет в поместье...

british literature orphan: **A Critical Dictionary of English Literature and British and American Authors, Living and Deceased, from the Earliest Accounts to the Latter Half of the Nineteenth Century** Samuel Austin Allibone, 1871

british literature orphan: *Chambers's Cyclopædia of English Literature* Robert Chambers, Robert Carruthers, 1876

british literature orphan: **A Critical Dictionary of English Literature** Samuel Austin Allibone, 1870

british literature orphan: *Orphan Girl* Maggie Hope, 2015-01-01 She's no more than an unpaid servant... Lorinda is only a child when tragedy deprives her of her true family and, sent to live with her aunt in her boarding house, she grows up desperately craving affection. And although she finds friendship - and even love - in the boarding house, she finally sees a chance to escape her drab surroundings and unkind family. But is a marriage of convenience better than a love that's true?

british literature orphan: **A Critical Dictionary of English Literature and British and American Authors Living and Deceased from the Earliest Accounts to the Latter Half of the Nineteenth Century by S. Austin Allibone** , 1870

british literature orphan: **Andrew Marvell, Orphan of the Hurricane** Derek Hirst, Steven N. Zwicker, 2012-06-14 This text studies the poetry and polemics of early modern writer Andrew Marvell. It situates Marvell and his writings within the patronage networks and political upheavals of mid-17th century England.

british literature orphan: Cyclopaedia of English Literature ... Ed. by Robert Chambers Robert Chambers, 1844

british literature orphan: **The Orphan** Thomas Otway, 1751

british literature orphan: Polish Culture in Britain Maggie Ann Bowers, Ben Dew, 2023-09-07 This edited volume explores the historical, cultural and literary legacies of Polish Britain, and their significance for both the British and Polish nations. The focus of the book is twofold. First, it investigates the history of Polish immigration and the ways in which Polish immigrants have conceptualised their own experiences and encounters with Britain and the British. Second, it examines how Poles and Poland have been represented by Anglophone writers in both fictional and non-fictional forms of discourse. Inevitably, these issues are intertwined. Polish experiences of Britain have been shaped, in part, by British ideas about Poland, just as British notions of Poland have been transformed by the emergence of large and culturally active Polish communities in the UK. By studying these issues together, this volume develops a wide-ranging and original analysis of Polish Britain.

british literature orphan: *The Orphan in the Peacock Shawl* AnneMarie Brear, 2022-01-27 'Mesmerising from beginning to end' Lizzie Lane Yorkshire Dales 1850 As a terrible storm rages, Annabelle Wallis is shocked to find a distressed young woman at her cottage door, heavy with child. Moments later a baby girl is born. But by dawn, the mother has vanished, leaving behind the

helpless child wrapped only in a silk peacock shawl. When news spreads that Lady Eliza Hartley, sister to wealthy estate owner, John Hartley, has been found dead, Annabelle realises the terrible secret she has stumbled on. Terrified she'll be blamed for Eliza's death, Annabelle flees to the filthy slums of York, where she plans to raise the precious orphan as her own. The cobbled streets of York's slums are no place for a young woman like Annabelle or a Hartley babe and John Hartley is determined to bring them both home. But Annabelle proves impossible to find. Annabelle can't hide forever from the wealthy Hartley family, but can she ever give up the baby she loves? Praise for AnneMarie Brear: 'AnneMarie Brear writes gritty, compelling sagas that grip from the first page.' Fenella J Miller 'Poignant, powerful and searingly emotional, AnneMarie Brear stands shoulder to shoulder with the finest works by some of the genre's greatest writers such as Catherine Cookson, Audrey Howard and Rosamunde Pilcher.'

british literature orphan: Cyclopaedia of English Literature Robert Chambers, 2023-04-21 Reprint of the original, first published in 1858. The publishing house Anatiposi publishes historical books as reprints. Due to their age, these books may have missing pages or inferior quality. Our aim is to preserve these books and make them available to the public so that they do not get lost.

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