

Celebrating Children's Books by Renee Shea



Every year, England sets aside the first week of October as Children's Literature Month. When I learned that fact, I began to think about the books of my childhood which brought on a desire to revisit some of my favorite tomes of youth.

I was blessed to have grown up in a house where books were important. As the youngest of four children, my parents and siblings constantly read to me until I was old enough to read on my own. I still receive the occasional book as a Christmas or birthday gift.

My favorite children's book of all time is "A Little Princess" which was first published in 1904 by Frances Hodgson Burnett. It is the story of Sara Crewe who at age 11 goes from great riches to being orphaned, penniless, and forced into child slave labor. No matter what indignity and hardship Sara suffers, she always remains kind to others.

We are blessed in this country to have free and unlimited access to books through the public library. We are also blessed at The Villa to have biweekly visits from the bookmobile. If you ask, the nice librarians will bring you any book you desire. Why not request your favorite childhood book and take a trip back in time with heroes and heroines you once admired?

Need a library card? Our receptionist, Bev Perner, can help you get one.

Invite a friend for lunch at The Villa to discuss favorite childhood books. It could make for a very enjoyable afternoon. If your friend moves in, you get \$1,000.00 off your next month's rent. Now that's a story with a happy ending!