The Legacy of the Moral Tale: Children s Literature and the English Novel, 1744-1859 (Hardback)

By Patrick C. Fleming

University of Tennessee Press, United States, 2016. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 2nd ed.. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. The moral tale was foremost among the new genres of children s literature that emerged in Britain during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Written expressly to impart moral lessons to their young readers, such tales had a profound impact on the generation we now know as the Victorians, including such esteemed novelists as Charles Dickens, William Thackeray, and George Eliot. In this original and discerning study, Patrick Fleming traces the rise and subsequent impact of the moral tale through the works of representative authors like Thomas Day, whose Sandford and Merton was a perennial best-seller, and Maria Edgeworth, whose stories Queen Victoria herself was reading on the eve of her coronation. We then see how the popular Newgate novels of the 1830s, a genre portraying the lives of criminals, adapted the moral tale s narrative conventions to guide readers reactions to the characters vices, and how Dickens, from Oliver Twist (1837) through such later writings as Hard Times (1854) and Great Expectations (1860), developed his own brand of experiential didacticism, which clearly had roots in...

READ ONLINE
[1.83 MB]

Reviews

DMCA Notice | Terms