

## Susan Lynn Meyer

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Wellesley College  
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### Education:

Ph.D., English, Yale University, December, 1989.

M.Phil. and M.A., English, Yale University, December, 1985.

M.A., English, UCLA, September 1982.

B.A., English, Johns Hopkins University, General Honors and Departmental Honors, June 1980.

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### Teaching Positions:

Professor of English, Wellesley College, Sept. 2004-present.

Associate Professor of English, Wellesley College, Sept. 1995-Aug. 2004.

Assistant Professor of English, Wellesley College, Sept. 1989-Aug. 1995.

Instructor, Wellesley College, Sept. 1988-Aug. 1989.

Fields of Specialization: Victorian Literature, American Literature, Women's Literature, Creative Writing.

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### Writing for Children:

#### Novels:

*Black Radishes*. New York: Random House, 2010. (Novel about a Jewish boy in Nazi-occupied France.)

Published in Germany as: *Schwarzer Rettich*. Trans. Ulrike Nolte. Hamburg: Cecilie Dressler Verlag, 2011.

Soon to be published in China by Liaoning Children's Publishing House, 2015.

#### Picture Books:

*New Shoes*. Illus. Eric Velasquez. NY: Holiday House. February 2015. (About two African-American girls who find an inventive way to foil Jim Crow laws.)

*Matthew and Tall Rabbit Go Camping*. Illus. Amy Huntington. Camden, ME: Down East Books, 2008.

**Poetry:**

“Artist.” In *Ladybug, Ladybug and Other Favorite Poems*. Ed. Paula Morrow. Chicago, Cricket Books, 2006, n. pag.

“Hand-Me-Down,” *Highlights for Children* 61 no. 9 (September 2006), p. 38.

“Water Fountain,” *Ladybug* 16 no. 9 (May 2006), p. 35.

“Spring Haircut,” *Ladybug* 16 no. 8 (April 2006), pp. 20-21.

“Summer is Ending,” *Cricket* 33 no. 1 (September 2005), p. 4.

“The Trees Are Greening,” *Cricket* (March 2004), p. 4.

“In the Middle,” *Babybug* 9 no. 10 (December 2003), n. pag.

“Slippers,” *Babybug* 9 no. 8 (October 2003), n. pag.

“Artist,” *Ladybug* 13 no. 9 (May 2003), p. 7.

**Literary Awards:****For *Black Radishes*:**

Shortlisted for the 2013 South Korea Morning Calm Award.

Shortlisted for the 2013 Illinois Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Book Award.

Sydney Taylor Silver Medal (for most distinguished work of Jewish children’s literature), January 2011.

A Bank Street College of Education Best Children’s Book of 2011.

Finalist for Massachusetts Book Award, 2011. A Massachusetts Book Award “Must-Read” Book, 2011.

A Boston Authors’ Club “Highly Recommended” Book, 2011.

A Pennsylvania School Librarians Association Young Adult Top 40 book, 2011.

**For *New Shoes*:**

Utah School Librarians Kiss the Book Top 50 Books for Elementary Age, 2015. Rated “Essential.”

**For poetry:**

Society for Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators Magazine Merit Award for Poetry, 2005 (for the best children’s poem published in 2005), awarded to “Summer is Ending,” *Cricket*.

**Scholarly Writing:****Books:**

*Imperialism at Home: Race and Victorian Women’s Fiction*. (Ithaca: Cornell UP, 1996).

Ed., with Barbara Leah Harman, *The New Nineteenth Century: Feminist Readings of Underread Victorian Fiction*. (New York: Garland, 1996). Republished as an e-book in 2012.

**Articles:**

“Contamination, Modernity, Health, and Art in Edith Wharton and Willa Cather,” *Cather Studies* 10 (2015), pp. 164-183.

“Writing after *Anne*: L. M. Montgomery’s Influence on Canadian Children’s Literature,” in Jane Ledwell and Jean Mitchell, ed., *Anne around the World: L. M. Montgomery and Her Classic*. (Montreal: McGill-Queen’s UP, 2013), pp. 262-280.

“Sanitary Piggeries and Chaste Hens: Willa Cather and the Pure Food Movement,” *Willa Cather Newsletter and Review* 54 no. 2 (2010), pp. 38a-47b.

“The Fresh Air Controversy, Health, and Art in L. M. Montgomery’s Emily Novels,” in Jean Mitchell, ed., *Storm and Dissonance: L. M. Montgomery and Conflict* (Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008).

“Coughing Girls in *The Song of the Lark*: Willa Cather, Breathing, and the Health of the Artist,” *Willa Cather Newsletter and Review* 50 no. 2 (2006), pp. 27a-30b.

“On the Front and at Home: Wharton, Cather, the Jews, and the First World War,” *Cather Studies* 6 (2006), pp. 205-227.

“Antisemitism and Social Critique in Dickens’s *Oliver Twist*,” *Victorian Literature and Culture* 33: 1 (2005), pp. 239-52.

“Imagining the Jews Together: Shared Figures in Edith Wharton and Henry James,” *Prospects* 29 (2004), pp. 231-49.

“Cranometry, Race, and the Artist in Willa Cather,” *Prospects* 27 (2002), pp. 341-358.

“Words on ‘Great Vulgar Sheets’: Writing and Social Resistance in Anne Brontë’s *Agnes Grey*,” in *The New Nineteenth Century*, ed. Barbara Leah Harman and Susan Meyer (New York: Garland, 1996).

“Writing More Than ‘Papa Lent Me This Book’: Charlotte Brontë, Gilbert and Gubar, and the Heterosexual Romance of Literary History,” in *Making Feminist History*, ed. William E. Cain (New York: Garland, 1994), pp. 135-151.

“Lynne Sharon Schwartz,” in *Jewish American Women Writers*, ed. Ann R. Shapiro, Sara R. Horowitz, Ellen Schiff, and Miriyam Glazer. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1994. Pp. 376-386.

“‘Safely to Their Own Borders’: Proto-Zionism, Feminism, and Nationalism in *Daniel Deronda*,” *ELH* 60 (1993), pp. 733-758.

“In Anxious Celebration: Lewis Hine’s *Men at Work*,” *Prospects* 17 (1992), pp. 319-352.

Charlotte Brontë’s African Tales,” *South Central Review* 8:4 (Winter 1991), pp. 28-40.

“Colonialism and the Figurative Strategy of *Jane Eyre*,” *Victorian Studies* 33:2 (Winter 1990), pp. 247-268. (Widely reprinted.)

## Reprintings:

Excerpt from “Colonialism and the Figurative Strategy of *Jane Eyre*,” in *Women’s Search for Independence in Charlotte Brontë’s *Jane Eyre* (Social Issues in Literature)*, ed. Claudia Durst Johnson (NY: Gale Cengage, Greenhaven Press, 2011), pp. 54-62. [Chapter Two of *Imperialism at Home*.]

“Colonialism and the Figurative Strategy of *Jane Eyre*,” in *Charlotte Brontë’s *Jane Eyre*, Updated Edition*, ed. Harold Bloom (NY: Infobase Publishing, 2009). [Chapter Two of *Imperialism at Home*.]

“‘Your Father Was the Emperor of China and Your Mother an Indian Queen’: Reverse Imperialism in *Wuthering Heights*,” in *Wuthering Heights: Modern Critical Views*, ed. Harold Bloom (NY: Chelsea House, 2007), pp. 159-184. [Chapter Three of *Imperialism at Home*.]

“Colonialism and the Figurative Strategy of *Jane Eyre*,” in *Jane Eyre: Modern Critical Views*, ed. Harold Bloom (NY: Chelsea House, 2006), pp. 43-74. [Chapter Two of *Imperialism at Home*.]

“Words on ‘Great Vulgar Sheets’: Writing and Social Resistance in Anne Brontë’s *Agnes Grey*,” in *The Brontës*, ed. Patricia Ingham (London: Longman, 2003), pp. 132-44. [reprinting of *New Nineteenth Century* article above.]

Combining Critical Perspectives: Susan Meyer, “‘Your Father Was the Emperor of China and Your Mother an Indian Queen’: Reverse Imperialism in *Wuthering Heights*,” in *Wuthering Heights: A Case Study in Contemporary Criticism*, ed. Linda H. Peterson (Boston and New York: Bedford St. Martin’s, 2003), pp. 480-502. [From Chapter Three of *Imperialism at Home*.]

Extract from Susan Meyer, *Imperialism at Home*, in *The Victorian Novel*, ed. Francis O’Gorman (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2002), pp. 325-330. [From Chapter Two of *Imperialism at Home*.]

"Colonialism and the Figurative Strategy of *Jane Eyre*," in *The Nineteenth Century Novel: A Critical Reader*, ed. Stephan Regan (New York: Routledge, 2001), pp. 225-244.

From Susan L. Meyer, “Colonialism and the Figurative Strategy of *Jane Eyre*,” in *Post-Colonial Theory and English Literature: A Reader*, ed. Peter Childs (Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP, 1999), pp. 149-163.

“Colonialism and the Figurative Strategy of *Jane Eyre*,” in *Jane Eyre*, ed. Heather Glen (New York: St. Martin’s Press, 1997), pp. 92-129.

“Colonialism and the Figurative Strategy of *Jane Eyre*,” in *The Brontë Sisters: Critical Assessments*, ed. Eleanor McNeese (Mountfield: Helm Information, 1996), III, pp. 388-409.

“Colonialism and the Figurative Strategy of *Jane Eyre*,” in *Macropolitics of Nineteenth-Century Literature: Nationalism, Exoticism, Imperialism*, ed. Jonathan Arac and Harriet Ritvo (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1991), pp. 159-183.

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## **Work in Progress:**

*Skating with the Statue of Liberty*. (Provisional title, novel about Jewish war refugees in 1940s New York. Forthcoming from Delacorte, Penguin Random House on April 12, 2016.)

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## **Lectures (selected):**

“Willa Cather, Edith Wharton, and Pure Water.” Invited Plenary Lecture. 13<sup>th</sup> International Willa Cather Seminar. Smith College, Northampton MA, June 2011.

“Sanitary Piggeries and Chaste Hens: Willa Cather, Pure Food, and the Body of the Artist.” Invited keynote lecture for Willa Cather spring conference 2010, Food, Drink, and Willa Cather’s Writing, June 2010.

“Willa Cather, Pure Food, Ethnicity, and Sexuality,” Western Literature Association Conference, Boulder, Colorado, October 2008.

“Reading a Classic, Writing Like a Canadian: Jean Little, L. M. Montgomery, and Literary Influence,” Eighth International L. M. Montgomery Conference, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada, June 2008.

“Thea and the Coughing Girl in *The Song of the Lark*: Willa Cather, Breathing, Health, and the Artist,” Society for the Study of American Women Writers, Philadelphia, November 2006.

“The Fresh Air Controversy, Health, and Art in L. M. Montgomery’s *Emily* Novels,” Seventh International L. M. Montgomery Conference, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada, June 2006.

“A Son at the Front and the Jew at Home: Wharton, Cather, the Jews, and the First World War,” Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, April 2006.

“Race and Medicine in Willa Cather’s *Sapphira and the Slave Girl*,” International Cather Seminar, Red Cloud and Lincoln, Nebraska, June 2005.

“Willa Cather and the ‘Fresh-Air Cranks,’” International Cather Seminar, Bread Loaf, Vermont, May 2003.

“Cranio-metry, Race, and Art in Willa Cather’s *The Song of the Lark*,” International Cather Seminar, Nebraska City, Nebraska, June 2000.

“Sleeping with the Enemy: Jews, Sex, and Edith Wharton,” MLA Convention, Washington, D.C. 2000.

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### **Academic Honors and Fellowships:**

Academic Visitor, Somerville College, Oxford University. Hilary and Trinity terms, 2012.

Newhouse Fellow, Wellesley College Newhouse Center for the Humanities, 2007-8.

Bunting Fellow, Radcliffe College, 1992-93.