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0521812933 - The Child Writer from Austen to Woolf  
Edited by Christine Alexander and Juliet McMaster  
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## THE CHILD WRITER FROM AUSTEN TO WOOLF

In this highly original collection leading scholars address the largely overlooked genre of childhood writings by major authors, and explore the genesis of genius. The book includes essays on the first writings of Jane Austen, Lord Byron, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Charlotte and Branwell Brontë, Louisa May Alcott, George Eliot, John Ruskin, Lewis Carroll, and Virginia Woolf. All began writing for pleasure as children, and later developed their professional ambitions. In bursts of creative energy, these young authors, as well as those like Daisy Ashford, who wrote only as a child, produced prose, verse, imitation and parody, wild romance, and down-to-earth daily records. Their juvenile writings are fascinating both in themselves, and for the promise of greater works to come. The volume includes an invaluable and thorough annotated bibliography of juvenilia, and will stimulate many new directions for research in this lively and fascinating topic.

CHRISTINE ALEXANDER is Professor of English at the University of New South Wales and General Editor of the *Juvenilia Press*. She is co-author of the *Oxford Companion to the Brontës* (2003), and has published extensively on the juvenilia and art of the Brontës, as well as on gothic literature, Jane Austen, landscape gardening, and critical editing.

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Some dozens of students have worked with the *Juvenilia* Press over the years, learning editing skills and gaining practice in annotation, textual notes, writing critical introductions, and sometimes providing illustrations too. As General Editors we have learned from them while working with them. Christine would like to thank Kathryn Nedeljkovic for her research assistance; and Juliet is particularly grateful to Leslie Robertson and Lesley Peterson, who having done yeoman service as research assistants and Assistant Editors of the Press have now collaborated in producing the final essay in this volume. They have been salient examples of that part of the Press's project which is to promote student editors to the professional level.

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CHRISTINE ALEXANDER AND  
JULIET MCMASTER