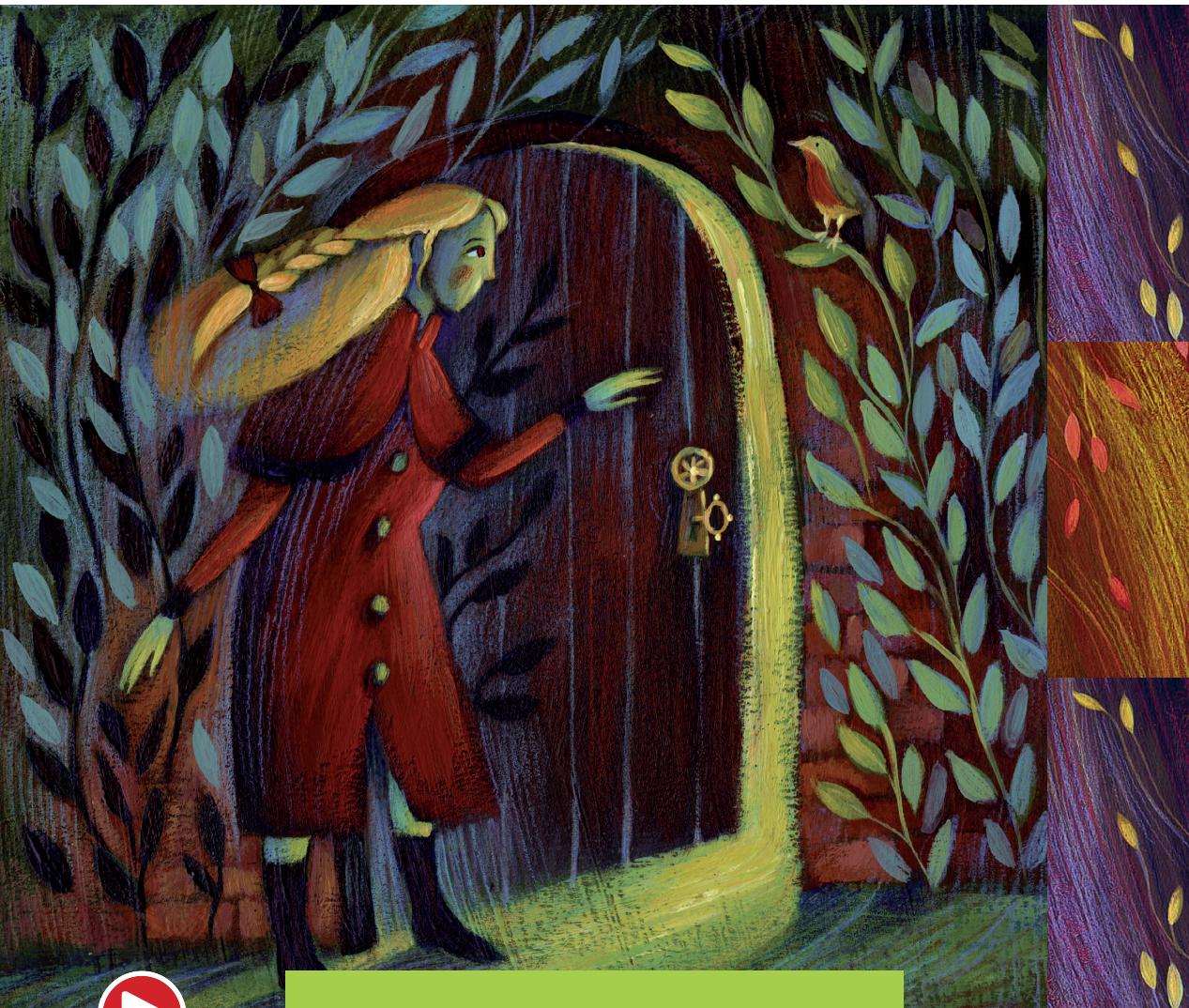




The Secret Garden

Frances Hodgson **Burnett**



free Audiobook



The Secret Garden

Frances **Hodgson Burnett**



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The CD contains an audio section (the recording of the text) and a CD-ROM section (additional games and activities practising the four skills).

- To listen to the recording, insert the CD into your CD player and it will play as normal.
You can also listen to the recording on your computer, by opening your usual CD player program.
- If you put the CD directly into the CD-ROM drive, the software will open automatically.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS for CD-ROM

PC:

- Pentium III processor
- Windows 98, 2000 or XP
- 64 Mb RAM (128Mb RAM recommended)
- 800x600 screen resolution 16 bit
- 12X CD-ROM drive
- Audio card with speakers or headphones

Macintosh:

- Power PC G3 or above
(G4 recommended)
- Mac OS 10.1.5
- 128 Mb RAM free for the application

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Special Features:

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The text is recorded in full.

 These symbols indicate the beginning and end of the passages linked to the listening activities.



Frances Hodgson Burnett (1849-1924).

About the author

Name: Frances Hodgson Burnett

Born: 24 November 1849, in Manchester, England

Most famous book: *The Secret Garden* (1909)

Other books: *Little Lord Fauntleroy* (1886), *A Little Princess* (1905)

Countries: The United States of America, Great Britain

Dies: 29 October 1924

The Characters



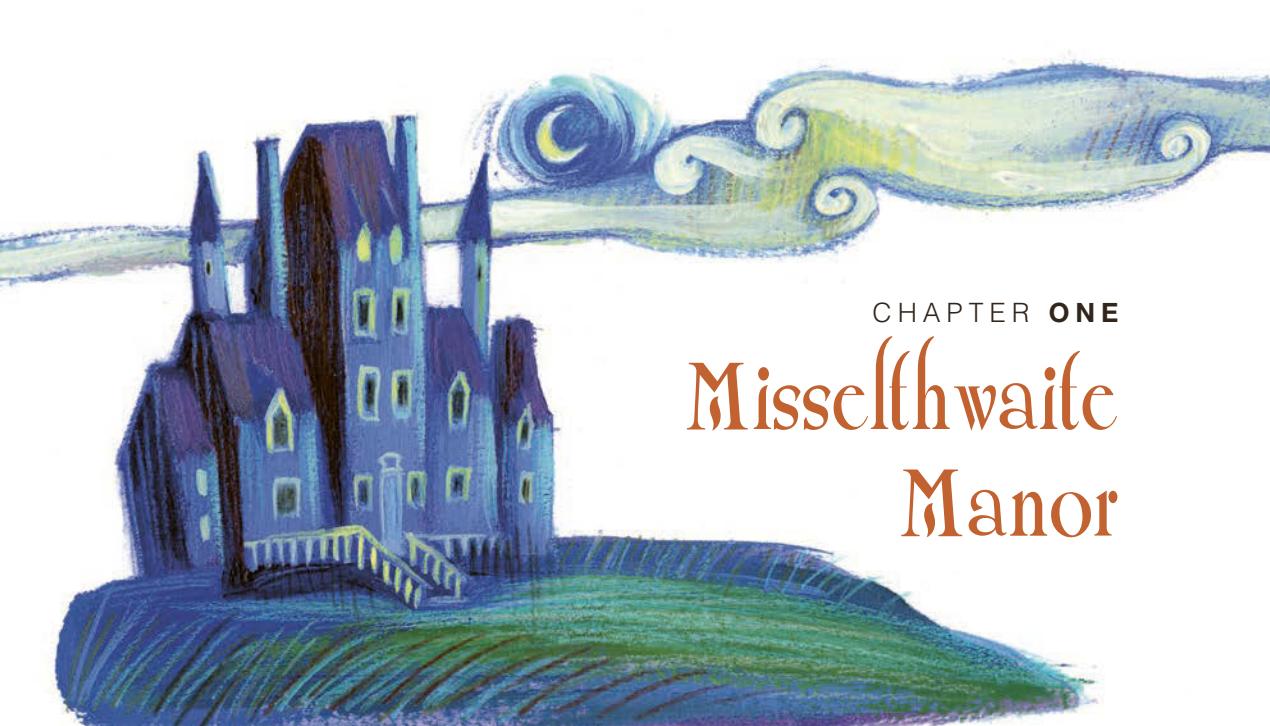
From left to right, back row: Mr Craven, Ben Weatherstaff, Mrs Medlock, Martha
From left to right, front row: Mary, Dickon, Colin

1 SETTING

Do you know these words? Match them to the animals, things and person in the picture. Use a dictionary to help you.

1 moor	3 robin	5 nest	7 spade	9 seeds
2 lamb	4 fox	6 crow	8 squirrel	10 gardener





CHAPTER ONE

Misselthwaite Manor

Mary Lennox is an English girl. She is nine years old and lives  in India with her mother and father. She has got blonde hair and a thin white face. She is often ill.

Her father is always busy with his work. Her mother is a beautiful woman, and she is always busy with parties and friends. No one has got time for Mary.

A lot of Indian servants ¹ look after Mary. She is not a nice child, because she only thinks about herself. She is unkind to her servants. No one loves Mary and Mary loves no one.

One hot morning she wakes up and hears a lot of people talking in her house. Then everything is silent.

‘What’s happening?’ thinks Mary. ‘Why isn’t my servant here? Who’s going to dress me?’

She waits a long time but no one comes.

1. **servants** : these people look after a house and sometimes children.



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Suddenly two Englishmen come into her room. She looks at them angrily.

‘Look,’ says Barney, ‘there’s a child here.’

‘A child in this house!’ says the other man. ‘What’s your name?’

‘I’m Mary Lennox. Why am I alone this morning?’

‘Poor¹ little girl!’ says Barney. ‘A lot of people in this house are very ill. And some are dead.’

‘Are my mother and father dead?’ asks Mary.

‘I’m very sorry, Mary,’ says Barney, ‘they are.’

Now Mary is all alone. She hasn’t got any family in India. She must go to England and live with her uncle, Mr Craven. He lives at Misselthwaite Manor in Yorkshire in the north of England.

‘Why am I always alone?’ thinks Mary. ‘Other children have got a family and they’re happy. Why can’t I have a family? Why doesn’t anyone love me?’

Mrs Medlock meets Mary in London. She is one of Mary’s uncle’s servants. She is a big woman with a red face and little black eyes. Mary doesn’t like her and Mrs Medlock doesn’t like Mary. During the trip on the train Mary is sad and silent. She looks out of the window at the English countryside.

‘Do you know your uncle, Archibald Craven?’ asks Mrs Medlock.

‘No, I don’t,’ says Mary.

‘Well,’ says Mrs Medlock, ‘he’s a strange man. He’s a hunchback² and he’s very unhappy because his wife is dead. He can’t look after you because he’s always away.’

1. **Poor** : (here) you use this word because you feel sorry for someone.

2. **hunchback** : this person’s back is not straight.





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Mary doesn't say a word.

'You're going to live in an old house with one hundred rooms,' says Mrs Medlock. 'It's near the moor and there are gardens and trees round it.'

When they get to Misselthwaite Manor it is dark. A servant opens a big door and Mrs Medlock takes Mary to her rooms.

'Mary,' says Mrs Medlock, 'these are your two rooms. You must stay here. Don't go to other parts of the house. Remember that!'

Mary feels sad because she is alone.

The next morning Mary wakes up and a pretty servant comes into her room. Her name is Martha and she is young and friendly.

Mary looks out of the window and asks, 'What's that?'

'That's the moor,' says Martha. 'Do you like it?'

'No,' says Mary. 'I don't like it because it's ugly.'

'The moor is beautiful in the spring and the summer when the flowers and plants grow,' says Martha. Mary likes Martha.

'There are twelve children in my family,' says Martha, 'and we're poor. My brothers and sisters play on the moor. My brother Dickon is always there. He loves animals, he talks to them.'

Mary likes animals too and she is interested in Dickon.

After breakfast Martha says, 'Go outside and play in the gardens. There are lots of gardens but one of them is closed – it's poor Mrs Craven's garden.'

'Why is it closed?' asks Mary.

'Because Mr Craven is very sad about that garden,' Martha replies.

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT



1 COMPREHENSION CHECK

Are these sentences 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B)? If there is not enough information to answer 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B), choose 'Doesn't say' (C). There is an example at the beginning (0).

- 0 Mary Lennox is nine years old.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 1 Her father's name is John Lennox.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 2 Her mother is often ill.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 3 Mary is not kind to her servants.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 4 A lot of people become ill in Mary's house.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 5 She has to go to England and live with her aunt.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 6 Mrs Medlock is fifty-five years old.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 7 Archibald Craven is very sad because his wife is dead.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 8 Mary is going to live in a new house with gardens and trees.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 9 Martha has got eleven brothers and sisters.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say
- 10 Mary's brother is called Dickon.
A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say

2 VOCABULARY

Circle the word in each group which is different from the others.

- 1 thin fat tall sad
- 2 trees room flowers plants
- 3 train boat horse car
- 4 month summer spring winter
- 5 servant doctor teacher uncle

3 CHARACTERS

Look at the pictures and write the correct name under each one. Then use the words in the box to describe each character.

young unkind red face friendly happy sad
big blonde hair pretty black eyes white face



T: GRADE 1

4 SPEAKING: PERSONAL INFORMATION

Look at the descriptions of the characters in activity 3. Now talk about yourself. Use these questions to help you.

- 1 What's your name?
- 2 How old are you?
- 3 What colour is your hair?
- 4 What colour are your eyes?
- 5 Point to your face, ears, eyes and hair. Say *This is...* or *These are...* .

BEFORE YOU READ

1 READING PICTURES

Look at the picture on page 15 and talk about the following questions.

- 1 Where is Mary?
- 2 What is she wearing?
- 3 What is the man doing?
- 4 Who do you think he is?