

Michelle Anya Anjirbag

michelleanjirbag.com

August 2020

Education

University of Cambridge, present

PhD Candidate in Children's Literature, Faculty of Education

Dissertation Title: *Race and the Renaissance: The legacy of diversity in Disney fairy-tale and folkloresque film adaptations*; submitted for examination August 2020

University of Edinburgh, 2014

MSc Literature and Society: Enlightenment, Romantic, Victorian

Dissertation Title: *Liminality, Transgression, and Moralizing in the Original Fairy Tales of George MacDonald, E. Nesbit, Angela Carter, and Neil Gaiman*

University of Connecticut, 2012

Bachelor of Arts: English, creative writing concentration, Anthropology Minor, Native American and Indigenous Studies Minor

Research and Publications

Articles

Anjirbag, M.A. "Enter the Castle: Reiterating Medievalism in the Framing of Disney's Fantasyscapes". *Children's Literature Association Quarterly Special Issue on The Medieval in Modern Children's Literature*, (forthcoming).

Anjirbag, M.A. "'Endless wonder' for Whom?: Adaptation, Transformation, and Magical Libraries". *Adaptation*, apaa005, 10 March 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1093/adaptation/apaa005>

Anjirbag, M.A. "Reforming Borders of the Imagination: Diversity, Adaptation, Transmediation, and Incorporation in the Global Disney Film Landscape." *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures special issue on Borders*, vol. 11, no. 2, 2019, pp. 151-76.

Anjirbag, M.A. "Mulan and Moana: Embedded Coloniality and the Search for Authenticity in Disney Animated Film". *Soc. Sci.* 2018, 7(11), 230; <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci7110230>

Book Chapters

Anjirbag, M.A. "That's So Raven's Home and Boy Meets Girl Meets World: Recursion, Revival, and Multi-generational Dialogues in Disney Channel Original Programming." *Kids Inc. to Andi Mack: The Disney Channel's Tween Programming*. Edited by Chris E. Bell. (forthcoming 2020)

Anjirbag, M.A. and Madeleine Hunter. "A Twist in or out of Time? – Adapting the Disney Classic for a YA Audience." *Adaptation in Young Adult Novels: Critically Engaging Past and Present*. Edited by Dana Lawrence and Amy L. Montz. (forthcoming 2020)

Book Reviews

Anjirbag, M.A. (review) "Reading Children's Literature: A Critical Introduction, Second Edition by Carrie Hintz and Eric Tribunella." *International Research in Children's Literature* (forthcoming autumn 2020)

Anjirbag, M.A. (review) "Intermedial Borders and Global Fairy-Tale Cultures". *Jeunesse: Young People, Text, Cultures*, Vol. 11, no. 1, 2019, pp. 172-8,
<http://jeunessejournal.ca/index.php/yptc/article/view/462>.

Conferences

Anjirbag, M.A. "Lullabies and trauma in Disney film." Presented at IRSCL Congress 2019, *The Implications and Impact of Silencing Narratives*, 16 August 2019, Stockholm, Sweden.

Anjirbag, M.A. "Endless Wonder: libraries as portals to urban fantasy." Presented at Glasgow International Fantasy Conversations (GIFCON) 2019, *Panel 9: Border crossing in the Mythosphere*, 23 May 2019, University of Glasgow, UK.

Anjirbag, M.A. "Replication or Reiteration: Disney's adaptation of its own fairy-tale properties." Presented at the English Department Flash Forum, 15 March 2019, University of Cambridge, UK.

Anjirbag, M.A. "Moving from Coloniality to Representational Diversity in Animated Film." Presented at Reading YA Fiction, 24 May 2018, University of Birmingham, UK.

Anjirbag, M.A. "Intertextuality and intergenerational dialogues in the re-iteration of Disney Classic films." Presented at the International Symposium on Intergenerational Solidarity in Children's Literature and Culture, 28 April 2018, Children's Literature Research Centre, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, UK.

Anjirbag, M.A. "Space for Change: Reshaping Societal Ideals through Liminality in Original Fairy Tales." Presented at Northeastern Modern Language Association Annual Conference, *Fairy Tales in Society and Culture 1: Psychology of Fairy Tales*, 18 March 2016, Hartford, CT

Online Publications, Public Lectures, Appearances

Anjirbag, M.A. "Whose Magic Mirrors Are These?: fairy-tale wonder and representation" Presented at "Discovering Children's Literature" Study Morning for U3A, British Library, 23 July 2020, remote, UK.

Guest on “Cambridge Quaranchats with Simone Eringfeld” (podcast), 23 April 2020.

<https://anchor.fm/quaranchats/episodes/6--In-Quarantine-with-Michelle-Anjirbag-The-home-office-and-the-future-of-humanities-ed5l73/a-a1v5mg9>

Anjirbag, M.A. “Maleficent: Mistress of Evil (Joachim Rønning, 2019) and the Construction of Fantasy Spaces.” *Fantasy/Animation Research Blog*, 7 February 2020, <https://www.fantasy-animation.org/current-posts/2020/1/17/maleficent-mistress-of-evil-joachim-rnning-2019-and-the-construction-of-fantasy-spaces>

Anjirbag, M.A. “Unlocking the Cabinet of Stories: Fairy Tales, Subversion, and Representation.” Presented at *Study Day: Fairy Tales*, British Library, 18 January 2020, London, UK.

Anjirbag, M.A. “Beyond Finding Roots, Glimpsing Who You Might Have Become.” *World Kid Lit Blog*, 21 September 2018, <https://worldkidlit.wordpress.com/2018/09/15/beyond-finding-roots-glimpsing-who-you-might-have-become/amp/>

Anjirbag, M.A. “Dealing with Dragons, or Learning to Become One?” *Scotland’s Early Literature for Children Initiative (SELICIE) Blog*, 21 September 2018. <https://www.blogs.hss.ed.ac.uk/selcie/2018/09/21/dealing-with-dragons-or-learning-to-become-one/>

Panel moderator, *Lost Voices and Hidden Histories: Expanding the Story of Connecticut*, hosted by the Connecticut River Museum, 18 September 2017.

Panelist on *The Watkinson School Presents, Freshly Squeezed with Colin McEnroe: “A Very Exciting Time to Be a Word”*, recorded 5 April 2017 at the Watkinson School. Broadcast on WNPR 19 April 2017.

Teaching Experience

Children and Literature paper, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge

- Delivered “Myth, Folklore, Fairy Tale” lecture October 2019
- Supervised four undergraduate coursework essays 2019-2020 on female Disney villains, the infantilization of the male in post-feminist fairy-tale retellings, orientalism in various productions of Aladdin, and multiculturalism in Disney film production
- Supervised two students for the duration of the paper, both examination preparation and coursework essays 2018-2019

Critical Approaches to Children’s Literature Masters Writing Seminar

- Co-developed and ran a series of writing seminars to help new masters students adjust to graduate writing at Cambridge

Track Specific Dissertation, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge

- Supervised an undergraduate dissertation on the ‘Beauty and the Beast’ (ATU-425) tale-type in Lithuanian fairy tales

Disability in American Literature and Culture, University of Connecticut, teaching assistant

- co-taught under Professor Lynn Bloom 2011-2012
- Assisted in reading selection and syllabus development ahead of the Spring 2012 course
- Designed weekly reflection questions with Professor Bloom and graded weekly reading responses
- Handled communication with students and maintenance of Blackboard course site

Experiential Educator/COPE Facilitator, Deer Lake Scout Reservation, Killingworth, CT

- Led outdoor education and leadership programming through the Cooperative/Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience framework of the Boy Scouts of America
- Led teambuilding and mediation sessions for school groups, corporate groups, scouts, and sports teams

Professional Memberships

International Research Society for Children's Literature (IRSCL)

Children's Literature Association (ChLA)

YA Studies Association (YASA)

International Board for Books for Young People (IBBY) UK – board member

Clare Hall Education Group (CHEG) – co-convenor

Awards

2017-2018 Rotary International Global Grant recipient

2017-2018 Vakhshoori Scholarship recipient

2017 Society of Professional Journalists, Connecticut Chapter, Excellence in Journalism Award

First Place, Diversity coverage, Hyperlocal division, *Valley Courier*/Shore Publishing

“Painting with Finer Brush Strokes: Finding a More Complete Local History”

2013-2014 Rotary International Service Above Self Scholar

2012 AWP Intro Journal Prize nominee in creative nonfiction by the University of Connecticut

English Department

2009-2012 Dean's List, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Connecticut

2008 Girl Scout Silver Award

Professional Service

Faculty of Education Research Student Association Blog

- Blog co-editor 2018-2020

Centre for Research in Children's Literature at Cambridge, 2017-2018

- Managed website and social media
- Coordinated redesign of CRCLC website, logo, and social media strategy

James Tait Black Memorial Prize 2013, LLC, University of Edinburgh. November 2013 – February 2014

Nonfiction/Biography Reader

- Read a selection of submitted nonfiction, biography, and autobiographical works to aid in construction of prize short list. Read for coherency, quality of writing, quality of dissemination of facts, and overall satisfaction with the book to either recommend to short list, or to recommend throwing title out of the competition.
- Successfully designated a title for placement on the shortlist: *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown

FORUM Postgraduate Journal, LLC, University of Edinburgh. September 2013 – October 2014
Peer Reviewer, Article Editor, Social Media Manager

Work Experience

Shelf Awareness, shelfawareness.com 2019 – present

- Reviewed assigned titles for publication online and in a regular newsletter, mainly focusing on adult nonfiction

BookBrowse, bookbrowse.com 2016 – present

- Wrote reviews and accompanying articles for a to-the-trade website, mainly focusing on children's and young adult literature, fabulism, magical realism, and retellings of myth, legend, fairy tale, and folklore

Shore Publishing, 724 Boston Post Road #202, Madison, CT. September 2016 – October 2017

- Staff Writer for *The Valley Courier*, a weekly paper covering Deep River, Essex, and Chester

Day Camp Adventure at Deer Lake, 101 Paper Mill Road, Killingworth, CT. June 2015 – August 2015

Program Director

- Created and implemented Counselor-in-Training leadership curriculum for summer 2015 to focus on developing both personal and interpersonal skills.
- Wrote 2015 Staff Manual based on past editions and experiential education research.

The Editor at Large, 135 W 29th St. Suite 600, New York, NY. February 2015 – April 2015

Interim Staff Writer

BookNotes and FootMarks, Online literature and culture journal. January 2015 – present

Founder and Editor

- Developed and maintained an international network of contributors and editors.
- Developed and implemented publication procedures and standards, and edited pieces for daily publication.
- Designed and implemented social media strategies to promote the journal and extend its reach.

Tantor Media, 2 Business Park Road, Old Saybrook, CT. October 2012 – August 2013

Audiobook Proofreader

- Used proprietary software to compare narrator recordings to written text and mark discrepancies for correction, edited audio to remove background noise

- Created language glossaries and pronunciation guides for narrators in several languages, including Navajo, Lakota, and Scots-Gaelic based on IPA charts and research with native speakers
- Created training binders and resources for new proofreaders and narrators outlining processes and production procedures

Writing Intern, *Aetna Chair in Writing*, August 2011 – May 2012

- Produced and distributed PR material for author events
- Maintained and updated contest submission procedures and event information
- Duties as teaching assistant (outlined under ‘teaching experience’)
- Updated MLA bibliography for Dr. Lynn Bloom
- Began archiving project for Aetna website to record all Aetna Chair sponsored and co-sponsored authors
- Re-edited *The Essay Connection Tenth Edition* for errors inserted during publication process

Deer Lake Scout Reservation, 101 Paper Mill Road, Killingworth, CT. March 2006 – September 2017, seasonally

C.O.P.E. facilitator

- Mediated leadership programs with girl and boy scout troops, school groups, sports teams, and inner city or special needs groups, as well as other organizations, through teambuilding activities and low and high ropes challenges

Long River Review, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. Spring 2012 semester

Fiction Editor

The Daily Campus, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. August 2009 – May 2012

Page Designer, August 2011 – May 2012

Copy Editor, August 2009 – May 2012

Editorial Board, August 2009 – May 2012

Weekly Columnist, August 2009 – May 2012

Skills

Computer Skills: PC, Mac and Internet proficiency, Wordpress.

Software: Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe InDesign.