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The editorial board of the Quarterly will consider articles on all aspects of children's literature at any time. Send two copies of your article and either return canadian postage or international postal coupons to Professor Roderick McGillis, Editor, ChLA Quarterly, University of Calgary, Dept. of English, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 1N4.

Issues of the Quarterly frequently focus on special topics; articles on these topics should be submitted directly to the guest editors of such issues. Special topics have been announced for the following forthcoming issues.

Winter 1988 (deadline March 1, 1988): Socialization and Children's Literature. Guest Editor is Jack Zipes, German Dept., University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611.

Spring 1989 (deadline May 1, 1988): Religion and Children's Literature. Guest Editor is Frank P. Riga, Dept. of English, Canisius College, Buffalo, NY 14208.

Summer 1989 (deadline Dec. 1, 1988): Historical Children's Literature. Edited by Sylvia Iskander, Dept. of English, Box 44691, University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana 70504-4691.

Winter 1989 (deadline March 1, 1989): Series Books. Edited by Gary Schmidt, Dept. of English, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

Articles submitted for publication in the ChLA Quarterly must follow the format outlined in the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, second edition by Joseph Gibaldi and Walter S. Achtert (New York: MLA, 1984).

All inquiries about the ChLA Quarterly except those regarding submissions of articles should be directed to Jill P. May, ChLA Publications Chair, 210 Education, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA 47907. This includes requests for information about advertising in the Quarterly and all information about meetings, paper calls, grants awards, prizes and special publications to be published in the Quarterly's "Bulletin Board."

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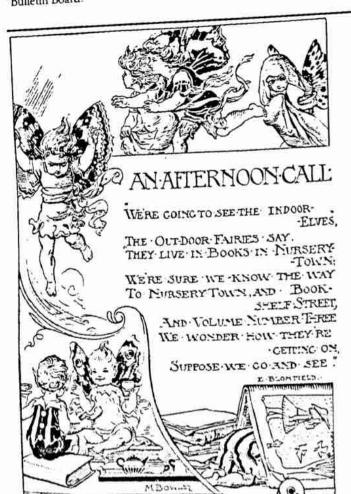
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# About the Cover

This Fall's Special Section holds papers talking about childhood addres. In Nagara II. readers. In Nancy Huse's paper she tells us the My Book House had strong influence on house had a strong influence had a strong influence had a strong influen strong influence on her adult life. In the 1800's future authors were equally molded by the strong influence on her adult life. equally molded by their reading of another ritualistic series. So Nicholas contains Nicholas contained stories in series, nonfiction information, poetri, and comments from and comments from its youthful subscribers. Our illustrations in this issue come from the 1907 issue come from the 1897 issues of St. Nicholas, an important periodical which periodical which once shaped the thoughts of children.

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# Anne Frank's Reading

by Sylvia Patterson Iskander

Anne Frank's Diary of a Young Girl unfolds the story of a sensitive teenager in the throes of transition to womanhood, reveals an intimate portrait of eight people hiding in Amsterdam during World War II, fearful for their very lives, and offers a glimpse of some sincere, faithful Dutch men and women willing to risk their lives to aid their Jewish friends living in

what Anne called het achterhuis or the "secret annex."

Miep Gies (pseudonym Miep Van Santen), perhaps the greatest source of comfort, supplies, and business assistance to the group in hiding had the foresight to save the orange plaid-covered diary and Anne's later papers, a revision of her work with an eye to publication, all of which were tossed in

disarray from Mr. Frank's briefcase on that fateful day of 4 August 1944 when the Green Police stormed into the annex, removed the occupants, and confiscated everything they believed to be of value. Miep's own account, published in 1986, of those war-torn years when death and starvation were the norm, complements Anne's diary and in a sense completes the unfinished journal. Miep tells of gathering the diary, storing it unread in her desk, hoping to return it to Anne one day, 1 and of her husband Henk retrieving the library books, among others, from the annex the day their friends were arrested (198-99). Miep later presented the diary to Mr. Frank, the only survivor from the secret annex. Concerned for his daughter's memory and the privacy of others still living, Frank at first refused to publish the manuscript, but later reversed his decision when friends prevailed upon him because of the uniqueness of its account of the war from the perspective of a young girl. The Diary soon became a great success (Gies 247). Upon his death in 1980, Otto Frank willed all his daughter's papers to the Dutch National Institute for War Documentation.

The complete, unexpurgated Diary, now available in Dutch, will be published in English for the first time by Doubleday in the fall of 1988. Undoubtedly, it will reveal more of Anneliese Marie Frank's autobiographical talent, a product of her education and learning experiences which resulted in large measure from her reading, both for recreational and for study purposes. I have used both versions currently available to trace Anne's reading, as well as Brinkman's Catalogue to verify which books or editions were in print in Holland prior to 1945.

On 11 July 1943, almost a year to the day after the family entered their hiding place in the unused laboratory and storehouse of Mr. Frank's office, Anne writes to Kitty, her fictional diary correspondent: "Ordinary people simply don't know what books mean to us, shut up here. Reading, learning, and the radio are our amusements" (97). Reading relieved the long hours of silence imposed on the Franks, the Van Daans, and Mr. Dussel for fear of being overheard by employees carrying on their daily business in the front of the house on the Prinsengracht Canal. Since the group frequently read the same books, they could discuss them in the evenings and late afternoons when, according to Anne, they "pass the time in all sorts of crazy ways: asking riddles, physical training in the dark, talking English and French, criticizing books" (66). Anne often discusses books with sixteen year old Peter Van Daan in their solitary talks in the attic room, and Otto Frank frequently reads aloud to the children from Dickens and from plays by Goethe and Schiller, such as Don Carlos. Mr. Frank's emphasis on books is attested to by his request that Anne and her sister, Margot, keep a card file of titles and authors of books which they read.

Anne compares the residents of the secret annex to little children receiving a present when new books arrive on Saturdays, brought by friends and employees of Mr. Frank's firm, for whom Anne invented the pseudonyms of Mr. Koophuis, Mr. Kraler, and Miep and Henk Van Santen. Some books are gifts for birthdays and other holidays; others are loaned from the library or from friends. Occasionally, a library due date challenges Anne to complete a book (11 May 1944). Once, 10 August 1943, a forbidden book incites Anne's criticism of Dussel for "indirectly endangering our lives" because Miep obtains a book for him "which abuses Mussolini and Hitler" (116).

Annuals, magazines, and newspapers are welcome gifts. On 11 July 1942, Mr. Koophuis presents Anne with the Young Peoble's Annual, containing fairy tales, stories, and poems by such writers as Hans Christian Andersen, the Brothers Grimm. lack London, Jules Verne, and H. G. Wells. (See Appendix for the complete reference to the Young People's Annual, as well as all other works mentioned in the Diary.) Afine loves to read Cinema and Theater, a movie magazine which Mr. Kraler delivers on Mondays, enabling her to keep current with the latest films and stars (Gies 104). The collection of cut-out photographs hanging on the walls of her small room, measuring approximately 7 feet by 16 feet, reflects her interest in such famous people as Deanna Durbin, Robert Stack, Rudy Vallee. Norma Shearer, Greta Garbo, Ray Milland, Ginger Rogers, and even skating great Sonji Henie. Other visitors to the hiding place, such as Mr. Koophuis and Henk, bring newspapers and books which they discuss with the young people (28 January 1944). Anne even dreams about a book, one of drawings by Mary Bos (6 January 1944), the only author not identified in this study.

One article Anne discusses just with Kitty, not visitors. however, is about blushing by Sis Heyster, who authored several books on child and adolescent psychology. Anne believes the article might have been addressed to her personally, for its discussion of pubescent girls' feelings coincides with her experiences (5 January 1944). Her strong emotions about certain books elicit the comment of 8 November 1943, "If I read a book that impresses me, I have to take myself firmly in hand, before I mix with other people; otherwise they would think my mind rather queer" (127). Her frequent identification with books she reads can have negative results as well. For example, her dislike of math makes her algebra text her most loathed book; when a vase breaks, spilling water over her books and papers on 20 May 1944, she is disappointed that the algebra book is not ruined and threatens its destruction: "If I'm ever in a really very wicked mood, I'll tear the blasted thing to pieces!" (251)

In addition to algebra, Anne studies under Otto Frank's tutelage languages, history, science, religion, art, and geography. She frequently refers to Koenen, a Dutch dictionary. Relating her program of study for a single day, 27 April 1944, she states:

First, I translated a piece from Dutch into English about Nelson's last battle. After that, I went through some more of Peter the Great's war against Norway (1700-1721). Charles XII, Augustus the Strong, Stanislavs Leczinsky. Mazeppa, Von Görz, Brandenburg, Pomerania and Denmark, plus the usual dates.

After that I landed up in Brazil, read about Bahia tobacco, the abundance of coffee and the one and a half million inhabitants of Rio de Janeiro, of Pernambuco and Sao Paulo, not forgetting the river Amazon; about Negroes. Mulattos, Mestizos, Whites, more than fifty percent of the population being illiterate, and the malaria. As there was still some time left, I quickly ran through a family tree. Jan the Elder, Willem Lodewijk, Ernst Casimir I, Hendrik Casimir I, ... Margriet Franciska (born in 1943 in Ottawa).

Twelve o'clock: In the attic, I continued my program with the history of the Church - Phew! Till one o clock Just after two, the poor child sat working (hm, 'hm')

again, this time studying narrow- and broad-nosed

monkeys. Kitty, tell me quickly how many toes a hippopotamus has! Then followed the Bible, Noah and the Ark, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. After that Charles V. Then with Peter: The Colonel, in English, by Thackeray. Heard my French verbs and then compared the Mississippi with the Missouri. (230)

Under this program of study, Anne advances rapidly, yet the Franks maintain that Margot is the real student of the family. In conjunction with her study of French and English, Anne keeps a notebook for foreign words and reads in French Alphonse Daudet's delightful La Belle Nivernaise: Histoire d'un vieux bateau et son équipage and in English Oscar Wilde's four-act comedy The Ideal Husband, as well as the book by Thackeray mentioned above, which perhaps may be The History of Henry Esmond, Esq.: A Colonel in the Service of Her

Majesty Queen Anne.

Clearly Anne learns much history, music, and science from reading biographies, such as Emperor Charles V, which took Professor Karl Brandi forty years to write, Maria Theresa by Karl Tschuppik, who also wrote biographies on Franz Joseph and Elizabeth of Austria, Hungarian Rhapsody, the life of Franz Liszt by Zsolt Harsányi, who authored as well a biography of Galileo Galilei, and perhaps Knut Hagberg's Carl Linnaeus, a book Mr. Frank received for his birthday on 12 May 1944 from Koophuis, which Anne may not have read. She does read contemporary history, however, such as Palestine at the Crossroads, and her strong interest in the genealogy of many royal families evokes the reference to genealogy on 6 April 1944 as her number two hobby (number one being writing); this interest, furthered by her reading in biography and history, is attested to by her copying the long genealogical tables found in Emperor Charles V and by her posting on her bedroom wall pictures of the youthful Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose. She even states on 21 April 1944 her wish that Margaret might marry Prince Baudouin of Belgium.

Another of Anne's interests, religion, apparently increases with time. On 29 October 1942, Mrs. Frank gives her prayer book in German to Anne to read, but the prayers do not have much meaning for Anne. A year later, her father requests a copy of a children's Bible from Mr. Koophuis so that she can learn about the New Testament. When Margot asks on 3 November 1943 if Anne will receive the book for Chanukah, Mr. Frank suggests St. Nicholas' Day as more appropriate. Although Anne clearly recognizes her Jewish heritage and daily confronts the problems of being Jewish in Hitler's reign of terror, she also posts on her wall a picture of Jesus from

Michaelangelo's famous Pietà.

Her fondness for art, perhaps accounting for the Pietà picture and a copy of Rembrandt's Portrait of an Old Man on her wall is strengthened by the gift of Anton Springer's five-volume

History of Art for Anne's fifteenth birthday.

Vivid illustrations enhance Tales and Legends of the Netherlands by Joseph Cohen, a book Anne receives for her thirteenth birthday along with money with which she hopes to purchase The Myths of Greece and Rome by H. A. Guerber, who collected myths about the Norsemen and the Middle Ages as well. Anne's interest in mythology, hobby number four and not a part of her regular program of study, is confirmed by a picture of an unidentified Greek god in her room and sparked by Guerber's book, which she does not purchase, but instead receives on her fourteenth birthday.

The Franks obviously oversee their children's reading, occasionally restricting it. On 2 September 1942, Anne says, "Margot and Peter can read nearly all the books Mr. Koophuis lends us" (36), but they are forbidden to read a certain book (unnamed) about women. Peter's quite normal curiosity urges him to disobey and continue reading the book until he is caught by his parents and punished. Margot is allowed to read one book, forbidden to Anne because of her younger age (21 September 1942): Heeren, knechten en vrouwen, or Gentlemen, Servants and Women (39). In this first book of a trilogy about a burgemeester or mayor of Amsterdam and his family, the mayor considers betraying his country's alliance with England by assisting the French in sending arms to the American colonies in their fight for independence. Whether the issues of patriotism and betrayal, or sexual issues which also appear, or all of them made the Franks censor the book for their thirteen year old is impossible to say. To the Franks' credit, however, is the fact that a year and a half later on 17 March 1944, Anne reveals that although all books she reads are "inspected," her parents "are not at all strict, and I'm allowed to read nearly everything" (192).

Three books mentioned in the Diary (13 May 1944) not expressly forbidden to Anne, but which she may not have read are Arend Tael's Little Martin, a birthday gift to Dussel from Kraler; a nature book (title and author not stated), a gift to Otto Frank from Kraler; and Gerhard Werkman's Amsterdam by the Water, a book containing numerous photographs of the waterways of Amsterdam, some depicting such sports activities as

swimming, boating, and fishing.

Other adult fiction which Anne reads are Eric Lowe's Cloudless Morn, the first in a trilogy on the History of Robin Stuart, a book everyone in the annex enjoys (12 January 1944) and Mrs. Frank particularly likes because of its presentation of the problems of youth; and Ina Boudier-Bakker's The Knock at the Door, a story of four generations from 1860 to 1920, including philosophical ideas prevalent at the time. Anne's mixed emotions about the latter are reflected in her comments of 12 March 1943 when she first says that she cannot "drag herself away from [it]," and then reveals that the "story of the family is exceptionally well-written. Apart from that, it is about war, writers, the emancipation of women; and quite honestly I'm not

awfully interested" (82).

Contrasting with the textbooks and adult works are those which might be classified as young-adult fiction: Niklaus Bolt's Daisy's Mountain Holiday, described by Anne as "terrific" when she received it for her thirteenth birthday (1); Nico van Suchtelen's Eva's Youth, a romantic story about the youth of a small girl Eva, whose monthly period is discussed and which is perhaps the source of Anne's forthright discussion of hers (29 October 1942); Helene Haluschka's What Do You Think of the Modern Young Girl?, a library book criticizing the youth of the time and evoking one of Anne's most insightful discussions about herself, her relationship with her parents and with Peter Van Daan, and finally her belief in the goodness of people and her hope for peace and tranquillity (15 July 1944); and last, Marianne Philips's Henry from the Other Side, a book Dussel likes enough to recommend, but then criticizes Anne's dislike of it by complaining (29 July 1943) that she cannot "understand the psychology of a man!" (105). Although this book and others ostensibly appear to be the source of arguments, in reality the source is the inevitable tension resulting from such differing

personality types in extremely close quarters over an extended period of time.

No one argued, however, with Anne about her favorite author, Cissy van Marxveldt, a prolific writer who composed in Anne's lifetime four of the five books in the Joop ter Heul series, still popular in Holland. The series about a young girl growing to maturity with a most unusual name for a female "thrilled" Anne when she read it in September and October of 1942, and she claims that she enjoyed "very much" all of van Marxveldt's works, having read Een Zomerzotheid, roughly translated as Summer Antics, four times (38). She did not like De Stormes (The Assault) as well as the Joop series, but refers to the young-adult author not only as "first-rate," but also as one whom she will let her own children read one day (51). The fun-loving Joop, who corresponds with her friend Net until her father limits her letter writing and she turns to keeping a diary, also has a friend named Kitty2, perhaps Anne's inspiration for her imaginary correspondent.

These then are the twenty-six books, two plays, one article, and one magazine specifically named in the Diary. The importance of reading cannot be overstated, for the role it played in the education, as well as the recreation of Anne and the others. Mr. Frank should be credited not only with a most appropriate selection of birthday gifts for his daughters, but also, and more importantly, with encouraging them to read, discuss, and think critically. Surprisingly, almost all the books they read were at the time very recent publications. Authored by writers from Germany, England, France, Sweden, Australia, Hungary, Switzerland, as well as The Netherlands, they represent a wide diversity and a broad spectrum and reflect Anne's reading in Dutch, German, French, and English. Perhaps they contributed to her tolerance for others and her hope for the future in the midst of undeniable fear and horror, for Anne wished to publish her diary to achieve her desire for peace, as well as her longing for fame as a writer.

The untimely death of Anne Frank from typhus at Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp just two months prior to the end of the war adds a poignancy to the Diary, whose universality is confirmed by the sale of more than fifteen million copies and by its translation into more than fifty languages. Exhibitions, plays, films, even art work attest to the success of this youthful writer, who certainly has achieved her desire for fame, although not yet her desire for peace in the world.

### NOTES

<sup>1</sup>Simon Wiesenthal disagrees with Miep's account, stating that Anne's father found the diary on the floor when he returned to the annex a year later (172). Wiesenthal also reports that Kraler recalled that he, not Miep, intervened on behalf of the Franks at Gestapo headquarters shortly after their capture (176). Miep describes her unsuccessful intervention in some detail with no mention of Kraler's (202-204).

<sup>2</sup>Translated for me by Charles "Dutch" Spekschate of Eunice, LA.

### APPENDIX

Books Mentioned in the Diary

\*\*Ammers-Küller, Jo van. Heeren, knechten en vrouwen [Gentlemen, Male Servants and Women]. Amsterdam: J. M. Meulenhoff, 1934/1935. (Referred to by Anne as Heeren, vrouwen en kneckten. Later Heeren becomes Vol. I of The Tavelincks: The History of Amsterdam's Governing Families in the Stressful Years 1778 to 1813. Amsterdam: J. M. Meulenhoff, 1942.)

Bible.

Het boek voor de jeugd [Young People's Annual]. Comp. C. Bruyn, A. Pleysier, A. Scheffer, Th. J. Thijssen and P. Schuhmacher. Introd. R. Casimir. Amsterdam: Amsterdam Boek and Newspaper, 1938.

Bolt, Niklaus. Daisy's bergvacantie [Daisy's Mountain Holiday]. Trans. Frida Brinkman based on Swiss publication Daisy auf der Gemmernalp. Zeist: J. Ploegsma, 1940.

Boudier-Bakker, Ina. De klop op de deur [The Knock at the Door]. Amsterdam: P. N. van Kampen & Zoon, 1930.

Brandi, Karl. Keizer Karel V [Emperor Charles V: Formation and Destiny of a Personality and of a World Empire]. Trans. of Kaiser Karl V: Werden und Schicksal einer Persönlichkeit und eines Weltreiches under the supervision of and with a foreword by N. B. Tenhaeff. Amsterdam: H. Meulenhoff 1943/1945.

Cohen, Joseph. Nederlandsche sagen en legenden [Tales and Legends of the Netherlands]. With 32 illust. Zutphen: W. J. Thieme, 1922.

Daudet, Alphonse. La Belle Nivernaise: Histoire d'un vieux bateau et son équipage [La Belle Nivernaise: The Story of an Old Boat and Its Crew]. Ed. W. Bartels. 16th to 18th eds. Groningen: J. B. Wolters, 1936/1940.

Faragó, László. Palestina op de tweesprong [Palestine at the Crossroads]. Trans. E. Straat from the English Palestine on the Eve. Amsterdam: Nederlandsche Keurboekerij, 1937.

Guerber, H[elene] A[deline]. De mythen van Griekenland en Rome [The Myths of Greece and Rome]. Ed. B. C. Goudsmit. Zutphen: W. J. Thieme, 1934.

\*Hagberg, Knut. Carl Linnaeus, de bloemenkonig [Carl Linnaeus, King of Flowers]. Trans. Marie Vos from the Swedish. Amsterdam: A. J. G. Strengholt, 1944.

Haluschka, Helene. Hoe vindt u het moderne jonge meisje? [What Do You Think of the Modern Young Girl?]. Trans. Annie Salomons of Was sagst du zu unsrem Euchen? Cover and illus. Rudolf Wirth. Heemstede: De Toorts, 1937.

Harsányi, Zsolt. Een hemelbestormer: De roman van Galilei's leven [The Star-gazer: The Story of Galilei's Life]. Trans. A. M. de Jong from Mégis mozog a föld. Amsterdam: A. J. G. Strengholt, 1941.

Koenen, [Matthijs Jacobus]. Verklarend zakwoordenboekje der Nederlandse [Pocket Dictionary of the Dutch Language] 9th-10th eds. Groningen: J. B. Wolters, 1942/1943. (Anne may have used any of Koenen's many Dutch dictionaries.)

Lowe, Eric. Ochtend zonder wolken [Cloudless Morn]. Vol. 1 of De geschiedenis van Robin Stuart [The History of Robin Stuart]. Trans. S. Vestdijk from the English. Cultuur Serie. The Hague. Zuid-Holl. 1940.

Marxveldt, Cissy van [pseud. Setske van Beek-de Haan]. De Stormes [The Assault]. Amersfoort: Valkhoff, 1925.

. Een Zomerzotheid [Summer Antics] Amersfoort: Valkhoff, 1927.

Joop ter Heul series: Der H.B.S. – tijd van Joop ter Heul [The High School Years of Joop ter Heul], 1919; Joop ter Heuls problemen [Joop ter Heul's Problem], 1921; Joop van Dil-ter Heul [Joop of Dil-ter Heul], 1923; Joop en haar jongen [Joop and Her Baby Son], 1925; and De dochter van Joop ter Heul [The Daughter of Joop ter Heul], 1946. Amersfoort: Valkhoff, 1919/1946.

Philips, Marianne. Henri van den overkant [Henry from the Other Side]. Bussum: C. A. J. van Dishoeck, 1936.

Springer, Anton Heinrich. Geschiedenis der beeledende kunst [History of Art, author cited as Sprenger in English version of the Diary]. Ed. A. W. Weissman. 4 vols. Leiden: A. W. Sijthoff, 1896-1898. (Anne claims to have received a 5 vol. version, perhaps the German Handbuch der Kunstgeschicht. 5 vols. Leipzig: E. A. Seaman, 1898-1906.)

Suchtelen, Nico[laas Johannes] van. Eva's jeugd [Eva's Youth]. Serie Nieuwe romans. Amsterdam: Maatschappij voor goede en goedkoope lectuur, 1925.

\*Tael, Arend. Martijntje [Little Martin]. Amsterdam: Amsterdam Boeken Courantmij, 1941.

Thackeray, W. M. De kolonel [The Colonel] (probably De Lotgevallen van Henry Esmond [Henry Esmond, Esq.: A Colonel in the Services of Her Majesty Queen Anne]). Trans. Dutric Doetinchem. n.p.: C. Misset, 1917.

Tschuppik, Karl. Maria Theresia: Biographie [Maria Theresa: Biography]. Amsterdam: Allert de Lange, 1934.

\*Werkman, Gerhard. Amsterdam: Stad te water [Amsterdam: City by the Water but translated Amsterdam by the Water in English edition of the Diary]. Illus. Jan Reinders. Photographs J. Berkhout. Bussum: F. G. Kroonder, 1944.

Wilde, Oscar. An Ideal Husband: A Play. Explanatory notes by D. H. Meyer. 5th edition. Stories and Sketches, No. 13. Zwolle: W. E. J. Tjeenk Willink, 1926. (Later editions, which Anne may have read, 6th-8th rev. W. van Maanen. Zwolle: W. E. J. Tjeenk Willink, 1932/1938/1944.)

\*Books Anne may not have read.

\*\*Book expressly forbidden for Anne to read.

Incomplete References to Authors/Works
Mentioned in the Diary

Dickens

Prayerbook in German belonging to Mrs. Frank Forbidden book criticizing Mussolini and Hitler Book about women that Peter read when forbidden to do so

Plays of Goethe and Schiller, including Don Carlos

Mary Bos, a book of drawings

Article on blushing by Sis Heyster, author of several books on child psychology

Algebra book

Nature book given to Anne's father from Kraler

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