

Frances Hodgson Burnett

The Secret Garden



Audio CD-ROM



Vicens Vives - The Secret Garden (Blackcat. Reading & Training)
- ISBN: 9788853006899

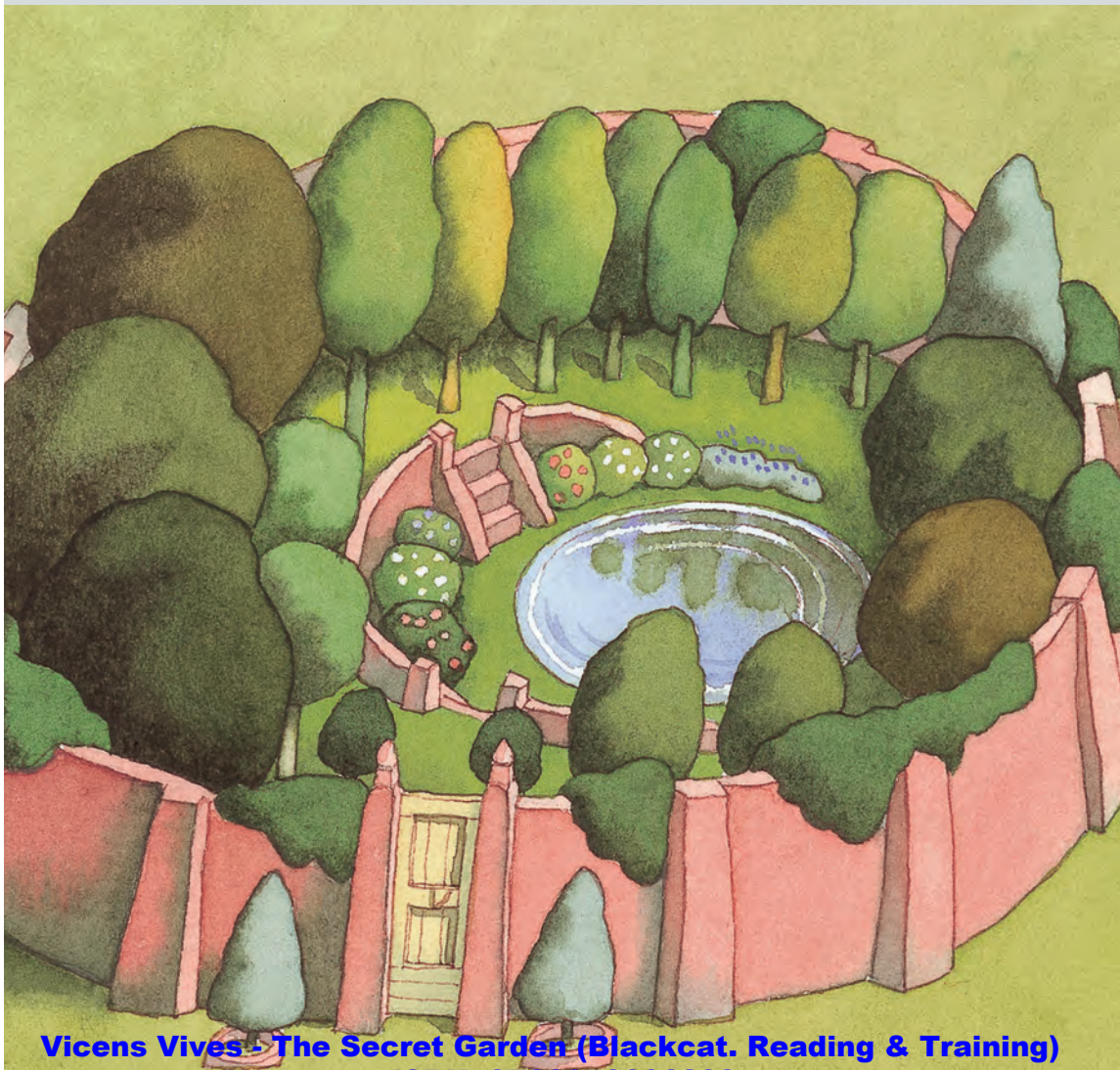
Frances Hodgson Burnett

The Secret Garden

Retold by Jenny Pereira

Activities by Jenny Pereira and Kenneth Brodey

Illustrated by Giovanni Manna



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The CD contains an audio section (the recording of the text) and a CD-ROM section (additional fun games and activities that practise 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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This story is recorded in full.



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



Frances Hodgson Burnett

Frances Hodgson Burnett (1849-1924) was born in Manchester, England. When she was sixteen years old, she and her family moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, USA. She wrote a lot of very popular books for children. Her most famous novel, *Little Lord Fauntleroy* (1886), started a fashion in velvet suits¹ for small boys!

The Secret Garden (1911) describes how two sad, lonely children find happiness by looking after an abandoned garden. This very popular story was filmed twice, in 1949 and 1993.

1. **velvet suits** : jackets and trousers made of a soft smooth material.



A Spoilt ¹ Little Girl



Mary Lennox was spoilt, rude and had a bad temper. ² Because she was often ill she was thin and had a sad face. She complained ³ a lot. No one liked her at all.

This was not really Mary's fault. She lived in India with her mother and father, but she did not see her parents very often. Mary's father was busy with his work and her mother was a very beautiful woman who loved parties and was not interested in her small daughter. She left Mary in the care of an Indian nanny, ⁴ called an ayah. Her ayah allowed Mary to do anything she wanted because she didn't want Mary to cry and make her mother angry. So Mary soon became a spoilt and unpleasant young girl.

1. **spoilt** : unpleasant because she got everything she wanted or asked for.
2. **had a bad temper** : became angry quickly.
3. **complained** : said she wasn't satisfied or happy.
4. **nanny** : woman paid to look after children.

The Secret Garden

When Mary was nine years old she woke up one hot morning and felt that there was something wrong. She heard strange cries and shouts and the sound of feet outside her door, but no one came to see her. She went back to sleep.

Later, when Mary woke up again, the house was silent. She heard nothing. Mary was angry because no one came to bring her food or to dress her. Suddenly her door opened and two Englishmen came in. Mary looked at them angrily.

‘Why has everyone forgotten me?’ she asked. ‘Where’s my ayah? Where is everyone?’

‘Poor little girl,’ said one of the men. ‘There’s nobody here.’

That is how Mary discovered that her mother and father were dead and that the servants were dead, too, because of a terrible disease. That was why the house was so silent. Mary Lennox was completely alone.

There was no one in India to look after Mary, so she was sent to England to live with her uncle, Mr Craven, who lived in a big house in Yorkshire¹ called Misselthwaite Manor.

Mrs Medlock, her uncle’s housekeeper,² met Mary in London. As soon as she saw her, Mary didn’t like Mrs Medlock. But this was nothing new, because Mary didn’t like anyone.

Mrs Medlock didn’t like Mary. She thought that the little girl was bad-tempered, rude and plain³ – and she was right.

During the long train journey to Yorkshire, Mrs Medlock told Mary about the house where she was going to live. It seemed very large and gloomy,⁴ and it was on the edge of a moor.⁵

1. **Yorkshire** : a region in the north of England.
2. **housekeeper** : the most important woman servant in a rich house.
3. **plain** : not pretty.
4. **gloomy** : dark and depressing.
5. **moor** : a large area of wild, open land.

Go back to the text

PET 1 Comprehension check

For each question, mark the letter next to the correct answer – A, B, C or D.

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------|---|
| 1 | Who liked Mary Lennox? | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mrs Medlock |
| | | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | her ayah |
| | | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | her mother |
| | | D | <input type="checkbox"/> | no one |
| 2 | Who looked after Mary? | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | her ayah |
| | | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | her mother |
| | | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | her father |
| | | D | <input type="checkbox"/> | no one |
| 3 | Where did Mary's uncle live? | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yorkshire |
| | | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | London |
| | | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | India |
| | | D | <input type="checkbox"/> | Devonshire |
| 4 | What was the name of Mary's uncle? | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Medlock |
| | | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Craven |
| | | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Lennox |
| | | D | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Misselthwaite |
| 5 | Who was Mrs Medlock? | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mary's new nanny |
| | | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mary's aunt |
| | | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mary's teacher |
| | | D | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Craven's housekeeper |
| 6 | What happened to Mr Craven after his wife died? | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | He went to live on the moor. |
| | | B | <input type="checkbox"/> | He became even stranger than when he was a young man. |
| | | C | <input type="checkbox"/> | He got a crooked back. |
| | | D | <input type="checkbox"/> | He became rich. |

2 What do you think?

Would you like Mary to be your friend? Why/why not? Do you think that Mary was happy to go to Misselthwaite Manor?

.....

3 Adjectives

Match the adjectives in column A with their opposites in column B.

A

- mean
- rich
- plain
- clever
- hard-working
- good
- old
- happy

B

- young
- bad
- stupid
- sad
- poor
- pretty
- lazy
- generous

4 Describing people

People thought that Mary was 'spoilt, rude and had a bad temper'. Complete these sentences. Add the names of famous people, or of people you know.

- 1 is kind, generous and friendly.
- 2 is young, pretty and rich.
- 3 is strong, handsome and brave.
- 4 is intelligent, hard-working and successful.