

MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS
GROSS CREEK
HAWTHORN, FLORIDA

Marbh 24, 1948.

Dear Miss Montgomery:

Your list of books is really impressive.

Your text on The Yearling is accurate.

No, I don't need the mimeographed sheet returned.

With all good wishes,

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings

Life-long Hunt
Growing-up Story

Slow-growing Story
"The Yearling"

Published by Charles Scribner's Sons Year 1938

Real name Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings ← Pen name ditto
(Mrs. Norton Baskin)

What do your family and friends call you? Marjorie

A. YOUR BACKGROUND

Date of birth Aug. 8, 1896 Place of birth Washington, D. C.

Father's occupation patent att'y Number of brothers 1 and sisters 1

Father's nationality American Mother's nationality American

Kind of home during childhood (farm, small town, city apt. etc.) _____

divided between suburb of Wash. where and father's farm in Maryland

Amount of schooling (high school, college, etc.) high school and B.A. from University of Wisconsin

Economic status during childhood (poor, middle class, wealthy) middle class

Special interests as a child (sports, books, games, etc.) books, anything to do with nature, building stories around paper dolls --hated regular dolls

Childhood ambitions always to be a writer

When did you begin to write? as soon as I could put pencil to paper

Why? couldn't help it

Who encouraged you? teachers and parents

What and when was your first success or recognition? at age of 11, winning \$2 prize in children's page of Washington Post. Biggest money I ever received.

How did you happen to write for children? Never wrote specifically for children. The Yearling just happened to be told simply enough to appeal to them.

other children, However, remember sitting on steps of Baptist Church and telling stories to anything else about your background which has a bearing on your writing.

B. THE WRITING OF THIS BOOK

Where did you get the idea for the book? See introduction to school edition of The Yearling

When? (Season as well as year) _____

Were the characters real people, or based on real people? See above

Where were you living at the time? Cross Creek, Fla.

What was your major occupation? Writing and orange growing

Names (also nicknames) and identities of members of your household at the time. (If children, give ages.) _____

Did you talk the book idea over with any of them? No

Did you discuss it with an editor? Yes

Where and how did you get the material? (library research, travel, personal experience, etc.) See school edition of The Yearling

When did you begin to write the book? See enclosed sheet

Where? Cross Creek

How much had you had published when you began it? (Give names of books) South Moon Under, Golden Apples, ~~When the Whip~~

What was your purpose in writing this book? writers seldom have a "purpose" in writing anything at all. They write because a theme and a set of characters are irresistible.

How do you write? (typewriter, long-hand, dictate) typewriter

Where? (study, office, etc.) front porch in warm weather, by fireplace in cold

Do you keep regular ~~office~~ hours? If so, what are they? work 8 hrs. a day when on a book

Do you revise much? greatly Write easily or laboriously? laboriously

Do you let your family or friends read your work, or try it out on children? neither

Who makes your final copies? (yourself, private secretary, public typist, etc.) Myself

Did you make an outline before writing the book? more or less

Did you decide on the title first or last? First

How long did it take you to write the book? See sheet

Did you work on it steadily? Yes

Did it go fairly smoothly or did you hit rough spots? (Details of any particular difficulty and its solution would be appreciated.) _____

Was your book accepted immediately by a publisher? Yes

Was it immediately popular on publication? I suppose so

Anything else about your writing that might be of interest, especially anything that concerns this book. _____

C. ILLUSTRATIONS

How much did you have to do with the illustrations of your book? _____
Nothing

If you did them yourself, which came first, the pictures or the text? _____

What medium did you work in? _____

How much experience had you had in illustrating? _____

D. WHAT SORT OF PERSON YOU ARE

What did you look like when you wrote this book? Dark or fair? Medium

Tall or short? Tall Thin or plump? Thin then -

Color of eyes? Blue Wore glasses? for reading

Color of hair? dark Kind of hair--long or short? short

Curly or straight? straight How did you wear it? _____

Any special features of your appearance (square jaw, dimples, stoop, etc.) _____

Are you quiet or talkative? Both Friendly or reserved? Both

Do you laugh a great deal or are you usually grave? Both

Are you quick-tempered or calm and placid? Both

What sort of clothes do you wear most when writing? (sports, suits, slacks, etc.) whatever I have that isn't too ragged

Favorite occupations and hobbies? Nature, cooking, reading

What is your normal speech like? (Meticulously correct, colloquial, slangy, abrupt, rambling, etc.) Reasonably correct - occasionally abrupt

What are some of your pet expressions and exclamations? _____

If strongly religious, give denomination. strongly religious but of no denomination

Any other details about yourself, no matter how trivial, which might help me to picture you in my own mind. _____

Can you direct me to any articles or books which have been written about you? Suggest you write Mr. Norman Snow, c/o Scribner's, 597 -5th Ave., New York City 17.

If you have a photograph or snapshot of yourself of about the vintage of your book, I would appreciate it. Of course I would return it promptly.

I have no photographs but Mr. Snow probably has some.