AWESOME

Finding Neverland

0. Finding Neverland - Story Preface

- 1. J.M. BARRIE EARLY LIFE
- 2. MARY ANSELL BARRIE
- 3. SYLVIA LLEWELYN DAVIES
- 4. PETER PAN IS BORN
- 5. OPENING NIGHT
- 6. TRAGEDY STRIKES
- 7. BARRIE AND THE BOYS
- 8. CHARLES FROHMAN
- 9. SCENES FROM LIFE
- 10. THE REST OF THE STORY



Statue of Peter Pan, in Kensington Gardens, Hyde Park (London). Photo by Petr Broz. Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. License: <u>CC BY-SA 3.0</u>.

I suppose I always knew that I made Peter by rubbing the five of you violently together, as savages with two sticks produce a flame. I am sometimes asked who and what Peter is, but that is all he is, the spark I got from you.

Sir James Matthew Barrie about George, Jack, Peter, Michael and Nico Davies in the 1928 Peter Pan Dedication

J.M. Barrie was only six years old, in 1867, when his brother David, nearly fourteen, died in a skating accident. Most-beloved, of all her ten children, David was the one whom Margaret Ogilvy believed would succeed. (Barrie's mother, following an old Scots custom, had kept her maiden name.)

In a way, Margaret's belief about David proved correct. Although her second son, suddenly dead, would be forever frozen in time, her third son, whom the family called <u>Jamie</u>, would eventually write a story so popular that more than 100 years later children still love the tale about a boy who never grew up.

Who was J.M. Barrie? Where did he live? How did he spend his life? And who, exactly, inspired him to create Peter Pan?

To find the answers, let's follow the trail of Barrie's life and work.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Finding-Neverland

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

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Media Stream



James Matthew Barrie Portrait
Image online, courtesy the U.S. Library of Congress.
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James Mathew Barrie Photo as a Child Image online, courtesy the BBC website.
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Trailer - Finding Neverland

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