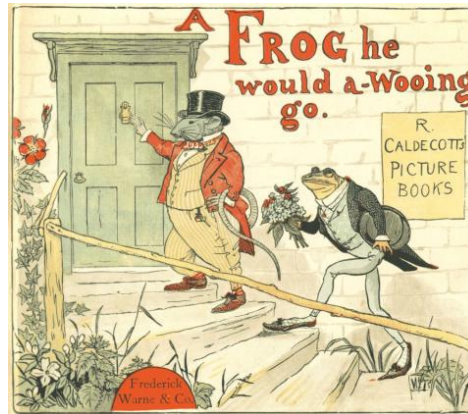




0. ARTISTIC INFLUENCES - Story Preface

1. LIFE in VICTORIAN BRITAIN

2. SUMMERS in SCOTLAND

3. ARTISTIC INFLUENCES

4. BEAUTY of the LAKE DISTRICT

5. SUMMERS in the LAKE DISTRICT

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8. HAPPINESS TURNS to TRAGEDY

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10. Mrs. WILLIAM HEELIS

11. ASHES and LEGACY

12. DISCUSSION TOPICS

13. AUTHOR'S OBSERVATIONS

Beatrix Potter was influenced by Randolph Caldecott (in whose honor an annual medal is awarded to the artist who has created the "the most distinguished American picture book for children"). This Caldecott illustration, online via Project Gutenberg, is for the book "A Frog He Would a-Wooing Go" (published by Frederick Warne & Co. sometime between 1876 and 1879).

From an early age, Beatrix liked to draw. Because of her father's interest in photography, she met artists like John Everett Millais, whom Rupert photographed (on the left) at the Potter's rented summer home, Dalguise, in 1879. (John Bright, the famous orator and member of Parliament, is with him.)

Millais - according to Beatrix's journal - encouraged her, frequently complimenting her "keen observations." (*Beatrix Potter Journal*, page 460.) How meaningful such comments, from a well-known artist, must have been!

Beatrix said she was also influenced by Randolph Caldecott, whose amazing illustrations were published by Frederick Warne & Company (and whose work is available, on-line, thanks to Project Gutenberg). It is interesting to examine some of Caldecott's drawings in light of Beatrix's later books. From A Frog He Would a-Wooing Go:

- "Whether his Mother would let him or no."
- "Pray, Mr. FROG, will you give us a song?"
- "A Cat and her Kittens came tumbling in."
- "The Kittens they pulled the little Mouse down."
- "But as Froggy was crossing a silvery brook"
- "A lily-white Duck came and gobbled him up."

Although Caldecott also included people in his drawings, Beatrix thought she was never good at that. Her illustrations were based on nature, as Linda Lear discusses in Beatrix Potter, A Life in Nature.

What made Beatrix Potter a painter of nature? How did she approach her subject matter? Was she influenced by any naturalists who encouraged her work?

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/ARTISTIC-INFLUENCES-Miss-Potter>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/ARTISTIC-INFLUENCES-Miss-Potter>

Media Stream



John Everett Millias - Friend of Potter Family

Image, described above, online courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

PD

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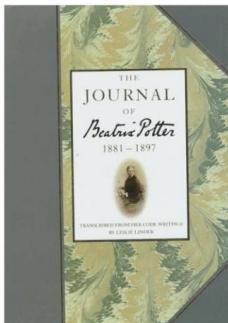
John Everett Millias - Photo by Rupert Potter

Image, described above, online courtesy Victorian Web.

PD

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Journal of Beatrix Potter - 1881-1897

Book-cover image online, courtesy Amazon.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Journal-of-Beatrix-Potter-1881-1897>



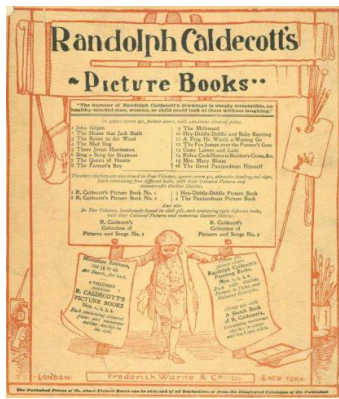
Randolph Caldecott - Influenced Beatrix Potter

Image depicting Randolph Caldecott, online courtesy Randolph Caldecott.org.

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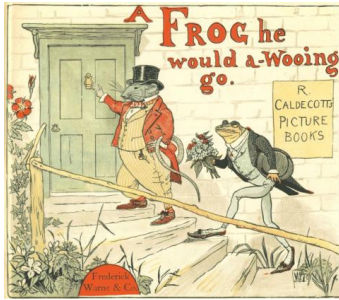


Randolph Caldecott - Picture Books

Image online, courtesy Project Gutenberg.

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Caldecott - A Frog He Would a-Wooing Go

Image online, courtesy Project Gutenberg.

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Caldecott Illustration - The Frog with His Mother

Image online, courtesy Project Gutenberg.

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Caldecott Illustration - The Wooing Frog

Image online, courtesy Project Gutenberg.

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Caldecott Illustration - A Lily-White Duck

Image online, courtesy Project Gutenberg.

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Caldecott Illustration - A Cat and her Kittens

Image online, courtesy Project Gutenberg.

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Caldecott Drawing - Mouse with Cat and Kittens

[Image online](#), courtesy Project Gutenberg.

PD

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Caldecott-Drawing-Mouse-with-Cat-and-Kittens>

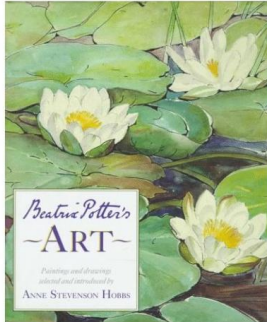


Caldecott Drawing - Froggy

[Image online](#), courtesy Project Gutenberg.

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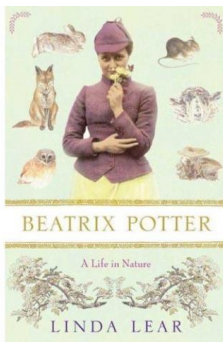


Beatrix Potter's Art - by Anne Stevenson Hobbs

Book-cover image online, courtesy Amazon.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Beatrix-Potter-s-Art-by-Anne-Stevenson-Hobbs>

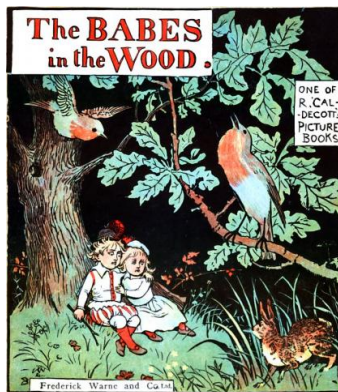


Beatrix Potter: A Life in Nature - Linda Lear

Book-cover online, courtesy Macmillan and Google Books.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Beatrix-Potter-A-Life-in-Nature-Linda-Lear>



Randolph Caldecott - The Babes in the Wood Illustration

Image online, courtesy Project Gutenberg.

PD

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Randolph-Caldecott-The-Babes-in-the-Wood-Illustration>