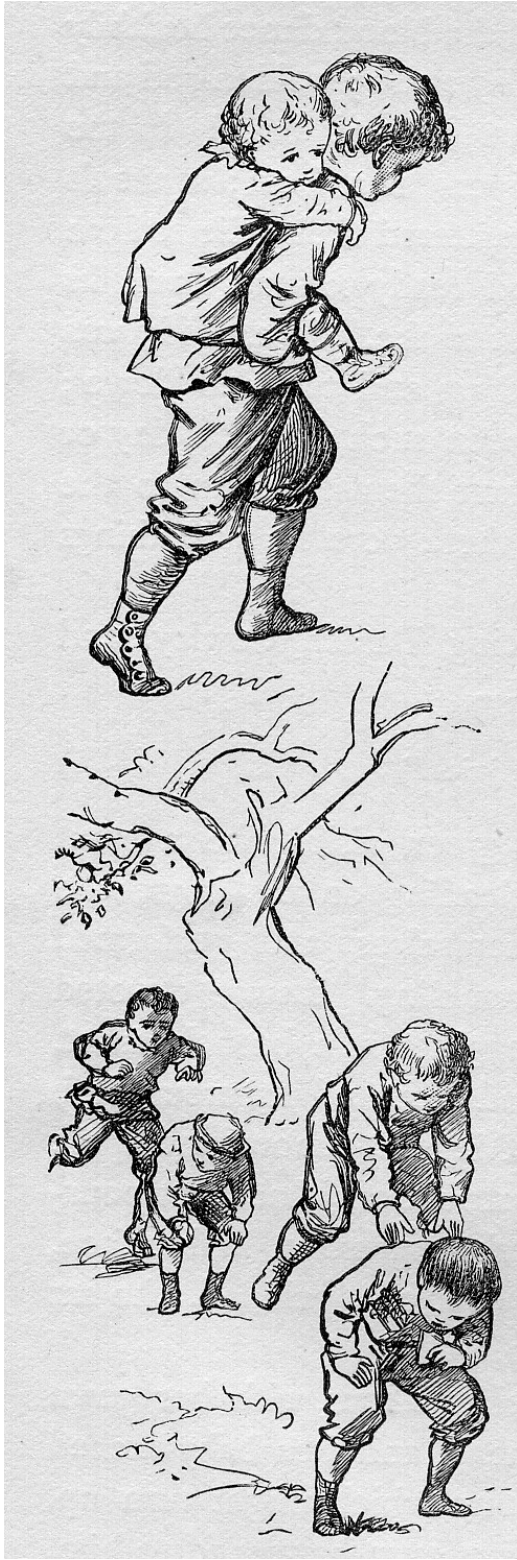


LOUISA MAY ALCOTT AND LITERARY THEORY



The Louisa May Alcott Society is sponsoring a panel on literary theory for the next American Literature Association Conference (San Francisco, May 24-27, 2012).

What can theory show us about Alcott? What does Alcott teach us about theory?

This session seeks proposals that bring together work in theory with interpretation of Alcott's career and writings. Marxist, psychoanalytic, hermeneutical, feminist, and formalist papers are welcome, as are Deleuzian, queer theoretical, post-humanist, and other recent theoretical perspectives. The panel is open to a diverse range of approaches:

- Applications of theory that suggest new readings of her work;
- Treatments of literary theoretical ideas in Alcott's writings;
- Extensions of or responses to previous theoretical engagements with Alcott's work;
- Interpretations of Alcott in light of contemporary theory;
- Considerations of her writings in terms of race, class, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, ability, age, species, nation, region, or religion;
- Demonstrations of the ways literary theory might help us better understand Alcott's under-studied masterpieces (such as *An Old-Fashioned Girl*); and
- Theoretically informed examinations of Alcott's literary forms, styles, and language.

Please send 200-300-word abstracts electronically to Gregory Eiselein at eiselei@ksu.edu. The deadline for proposals is Friday, January 20, 2012. Early submissions welcome.