



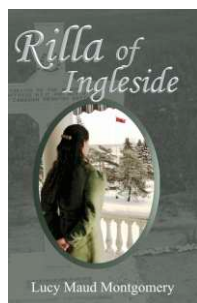
Readying Rilla

L.M. Montgomery's Reworking of Rilla of Ingleside

Includes introduction and complete transcription, plus several facsimile pages of handwritten manuscript.

334 pages • 6 x 9 • paper • \$29.95

ISBN-13: 978-1772440218



Readying *Rilla*

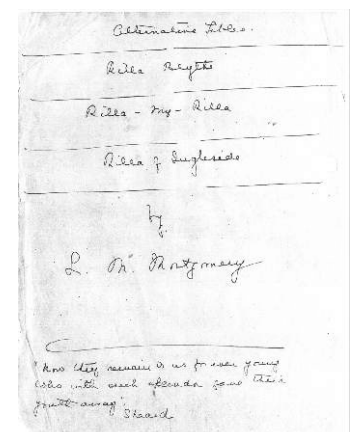
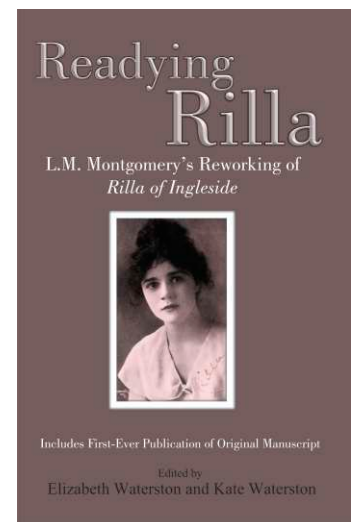
L.M. Montgomery's Reworking of *Rilla of Ingleside*

L.M. Montgomery began writing *Rilla of Ingleside* shortly after the end of World War I. Her story of the war was not about soldiers fighting and dying on Flanders Fields, but about Canadians struggling to “keep the home fires burning.” It is a novel that today remains at once both deeply moving and, on occasion, very funny.

As she wrote the novel over a period of two years, Montgomery accumulated 518 handwritten pages. Alongside this stack was another 71 pages, titled “Notes.” These notes—literary second thoughts, as it were—added textual flavour, improving the novel's realism, emotional depth, and humour. Montgomery's handwritten manuscript of *Rilla* was acquired by the University of Guelph Archival & Special Collections in 1999. This manuscript has been rendered in a readable format, with an introduction by Montgomery expert Elizabeth Waterston.

This edition is a surprisingly engrossing read, offering a different experience than the finished novel. Here we sense Montgomery's thought processes, and witness her careful refinements. Nowadays books are mostly composed on computer, leaving little record of the writer's creative journey to a final published work. But editing is a key process in creating any great work of fiction, and here is one of the most detailed records of creativity available.

Also available, an annotated new companion edition of *Rilla of Ingleside*, that includes L.M. Montgomery's own original photography



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