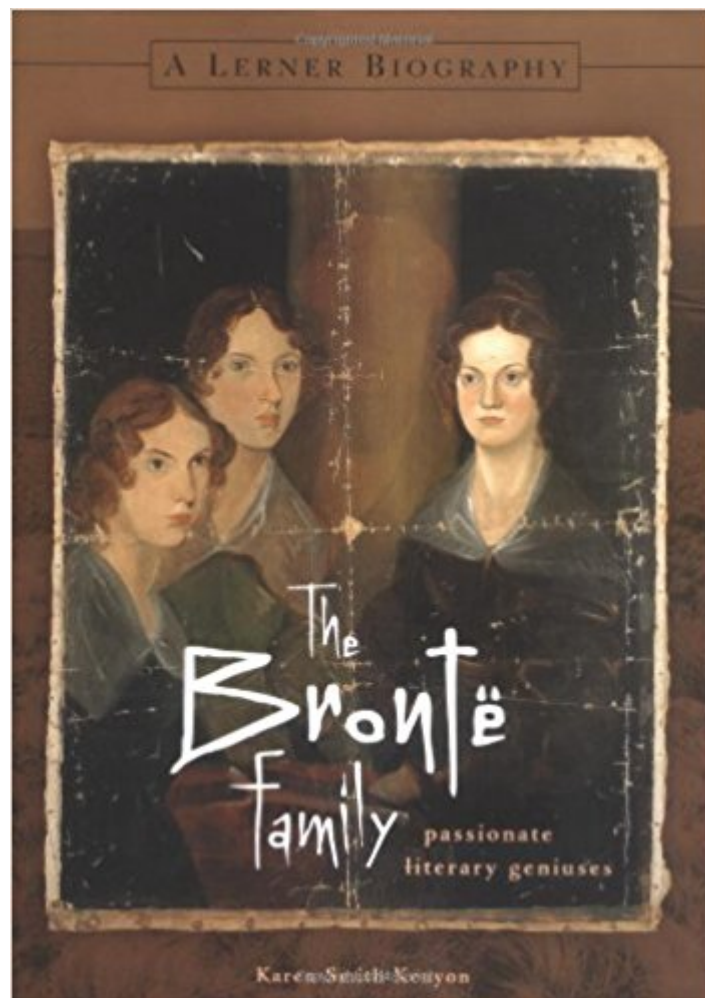




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The Bronte Family: Passionate Literary Geniuses (Lerner Biographies)



Synopsis

A joint biography of Charlotte, Emily, Branwell, and Anne Bronte, exploring how the siblings sparked creativity in each other and how their lives were woven into their novels.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

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Age Range: 10 - 13 years

Grade Level: 5 - 8

Customer Reviews

Grade 5-9-In this well-written and solidly researched title, Kenyon enthusiastically portrays each personality in this distinguished literary family. With a sporadic education and few friends, the motherless Brontë children drew on their own experiences and relied on one another to critique their writings. The women realized that in order to protect their privacy and not be thought a "silly lady scribbler," they needed to assume the male pen names of Currer (Charlotte), Ellis (Emily), and Acton (Anne) Bell. Charlotte and Anne eventually traveled to London to set the record straight after an unscrupulous publisher claimed that Currer Bell had written *Jane Eyre*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Agnes Grey*, and *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*. Kenyon knows her subject well and draws readers into the Brontës' world, taking the siblings from childhood through their literary careers. Black-and-white reproductions of the family, Emily's drawings, and photos appear frequently throughout, as do well-documented quotes from family members' letters. The bibliography includes books, journal and magazine articles, and Internet sources. A boon for report writers and fascinating pleasure reading as well. Kathleen A. Nester, Downingtown High Ninth Grade Center, PA Copyright 2003 Reed

The Bronte Family: Passionate Literary Geniuses is a beautifully written biography about 19th century English writers Emily, Charlotte and Anne Bronte. Author Karen Smith Kenyon meticulously researched " and describes with impressive clarity -- the lives of these gifted sisters, their triumphs and tragedies, their strength and fragility and the family ambience at the center of their creative world. She provides an intimate view of how their childhood on the wild moors, their flights of fancy, their search for love, and later the sad descent of their artist brother, Branwell, into alcoholism influenced the characters in their novels. All six Bronte children died at a young age. But their works " especially Charlotte's Jane Eyre and Emily's Wuthering Heights " remain timeless classics of English literature. Kenyon skillfully illuminates these literary geniuses as they labored around the family table, penning masterpieces.

This book is an excellent introduction, for the young and old, into the world of the Brontes. It's a slim volume full of wonderful photographs that, if nothing else, will serve to make the reader want to learn more about this family. Not just about the three daughters who published novels, but about the two men in the family who didn't. And you'll also want to know more about Tabby the maid. In the end, this book will lead you to read other books about the Brontes. And maybe, if you haven't already, you'll read all that they wrote and drew.

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