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# *The Shining Scroll*

## *Part 1 of 3*

### *December 2010*

#### *Newsletter for*

#### *the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society*

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return to website: <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/>



We are putting the finishing touches on this season's issues of *The Shining Scroll* at the time of L.M. Montgomery's birthday on November 30 (1874). We extend heart-felt greetings to all our friends around the world and wish you many happy hours of reading, warm hearths, and magical days and evenings enjoying our beautiful natural world. We hope you find the time to return to Montgomery's word-pictures this winter.

"The wind had risen and was sighing and wailing around the eaves and the snow was thudding softly against the windows, as if a hundred storm sprites were tapping for entrance." *Anne of Avonlea*, Ch 23

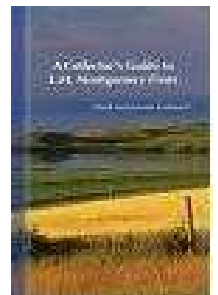
Once again we are going to issue three parts of the *Scroll* for the year. The first *Scroll* is about Montgomery books: donating and a special article on Montgomery's Australian editions. The second and third issues will cover last summer's L.M. Montgomery and the Matter of Nature (Ninth International Biennial) Conference; "A *Bad Boy's Diary*: The Inspiration for L. M. Montgomery's Lifetime of Journaling;" the original Cape Tryon Lighthouse; the Leaskdale Centennial Montgomery Celebration (and article about Margaret Leask); new Montgomery-related book publications; films; and, of course, much more! Thank you for your community, encouragement, and participation. Enjoy *The Shining Scroll*! Find more issues on our web site.



### **Collecting L.M. Montgomery**

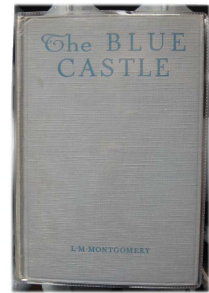
Mary Beth Cavert

Many of the members and friends of our Literary Society are collectors of early and unique editions of L. M. Montgomery's books and artifacts [see <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/id6.html> ]. Over the years, we have become novice "experts" on the many variations of the books by comparing collections among friends; tapping into the Montgomery expertise of archival specialists, such as Bernard Katz and Simon Lloyd; studying the publications of Montgomery bibliographers like Russell, Russell, and Wilmshurst in Ontario; and collectors like Frank and Juanita Lechowick on Prince Edward Island (*A Collector's Guide to L.M. Montgomery Firsts*. Charlottetown, P.E.I., 2009).



While it is a rare and wonderful experience to find an early Montgomery book on the shelves of an antiquarian bookstore, they are very scarce and many fans of L.M. Montgomery books are now using the internet auction sites (like eBay) to locate early editions. Several of us have encountered sellers who are fans of the author, too, and it can be a mutually satisfying experience to buy a beloved book from a seller who appreciates Montgomery. Sometimes a seller will describe a Montgomery book as first edition when it is not, usually because they do not know what a first edition looks like, and bidders will contact them with additional information. Most sellers will add these corrections to the auction. Still, it is not always easy to identify “true firsts.”

Some of Montgomery’s publishers printed only the first copyright date (like most copies of *The Blue Castle*), even in much later printings. If a bookseller provides the printing company information, the thickness of the book, fore edge properties, color of endpapers, title color, listed prices or mentioned book titles, then it is easier to make an educated guess about the date of the book’s release. If the book has a dust jacket, there may be useful information in the jacket text to date the book, too.



### Sharing L.M. Montgomery

In 2002, Waddington’s Fine Books had a very rare copy of Montgomery’s 1916 book of poetry, *The Watchman and Other Poems*, for sale. It was a one-of-a-kind edition of the book with a title double image mis-stamp on the cover and spine and inscribed by Montgomery to her cousin and closest friend, “To Frede [Campbell], with the author’s love, Xmas, 1916 ...” Montgomery reclaimed this book after Frederica’s death in 1919 and then gave it to someone else. The book was listed at \$1800 and sold for \$6000. It was donated to the University of Prince Edward Island and is now held in the L.M. Montgomery Special Collections in Robertson Library.

The details and back-story of this auction are found in a fascinating address given by professional book dealer, David Mason, at the L.M. Montgomery Institute, University of Prince Edward Island on September 19, 2002, “Anne’s Adventures on Her Way Home.”

[http://www.ilab.org/eng/documentation/61-annes\\_adventures\\_on\\_her\\_way\\_home.html](http://www.ilab.org/eng/documentation/61-annes_adventures_on_her_way_home.html)

Montgomery fans may collect but they hardly ever sell (unless they have duplicate titles and are earning money to pay for a trip to Prince Edward Island!). But they do make donations. Another breath-taking example of generosity is found in collectors like Ronald I. Cohen

(<http://lmm.confederationcentre.com/english/covers/covers-2.html>) whose extensive L.M. Montgomery collection was gifted to the Library and Archives Canada.

On an equal level, Donna Campbell has collected and donated a massive library of very rare first edition books and high quality Montgomery material to the University of Prince Edward Island (known as the Ryrie-Campbell Collection). Her additional efforts in preserving the Montgomery legacy are most recently seen in the creation of a beautiful facsimile edition of Montgomery’s “lost” magazine serial, *Una of the Garden*, on which she based her 1910 novel, *Kilmeny of the Orchard*. Donna painstakingly located all but one of the magazines issues with the *Una* chapters.

*Una of the Garden* was first published in serial format in *The Housekeeper* magazine in [December] 1908 through [April] 1909, but the scarcity of back issues of this magazine made Montgomery's story inaccessible until now. The facsimile edition booklet, reproduced from the holdings of the Ryrie-Campbell Collection at the L.M. Montgomery Institute, offers a fascinating opportunity to experience Montgomery's work within the context of the original magazine publication, including illustrations and advertisements. The booklet also provides insight about the transformation from the story to the novel. *Una of the Garden* is edited by Donna J. Campbell and Simon Lloyd, with an introduction by Kate Macdonald Butler [L.M. Montgomery's granddaughter]. Proceeds from the sale of this publication benefit the work of the L.M. Montgomery Institute. from the announcement text at <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/id11.html>

(purchase options: [lmml@upe.ca](mailto:lmml@upe.ca), [campbell.walden@hotmail.com](mailto:campbell.walden@hotmail.com))

L. M. Montgomery Literary Society member and collector Christy Woster located the elusive January 1909 issue of *The Housekeeper* with the second installment this spring. She had hoped to receive it before the Montgomery conference in June 2010, but did not arrive in time for her to present it to Donna personally. Simon Lloyd (University of Prince Edward Island Special Collections Librarian) accepted it on Donna's behalf after the conference. Christy adds: "When the booklet is reprinted, the missing chapter will be included. But, as all collectors know, you must have both issues! Please support the L.M. Montgomery Institute by purchasing this wonderful publication and enjoy reading Montgomery's story as it first appeared in 1908."



Other donations have been made to the Montgomery Institute this year. Christy, Emily, and Anne Woster gave a copy of the 1919 *Anne of Green Gables* sheet music from the silent film starring Mary Miles Minter, two publisher postcards that advertised *Chronicles of Avonlea* and *The Story Girl*, a film reel of the short story *I Know a Secret*, a 45 rpm record of songs from a 1970s stage play of AGG, and a glass lantern slide of Mi'kmaq, Prince Edward Island First Nation people. Mary Beth Cavert donated a Pocket Book edition (arrangement with F.A. Stokes, September 1940) of *Anne of Windy Poplars*. It was the first paperback edition of any Montgomery book and one of the first books published by Pocket Book.



Mary Beth also donated a statue of The Good Fairy which matches the one Montgomery had in her home in Leaskdale and Norval. (The Good Fairy was owned by Frederica Campbell, who received it as a wedding gift. It was one of the few things that Montgomery kept for herself after Frede's death.)

Read more about The Good Fairy in "Images of Magic and Lament: Frederica Campbell." (*Kindred Spirits Chronicle*, November 2009) at [http://www.annestore.ca/chronicle\\_files/NOVEMBER2009Chronicle.pdf](http://www.annestore.ca/chronicle_files/NOVEMBER2009Chronicle.pdf) and, "The Good Fairy Statue," at <http://home.earthlink.net/~bcavert/id6.html>





The University of Prince Edward Island Library staff had a nice display of Montgomery items during this summer's conference. One case was devoted to the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society. Thanks, Simon!

We have a special article for all collectors and admirers of Montgomery books. Our friend, Montgomery researcher Joanne Wood, has always been generous with her findings and collections and has completed a fascinating exploration of Montgomery's Australian editions.

Joanne Lebold Wood has been an avid L.M. Montgomery enthusiast and collector for almost 25 years and still gets a thrill from finding a Montgomery "treasure." She was the editor of the Hamilton (Ontario) Kindred Spirits Society's excellent newsletter, *The Road to L.M. Montgomery*, for the eight years that it was published, and has also written several articles for the *Kindred Spirits Magazine* (now called *Kindred Spirits Chronicle* <http://www.annestore.ca/annesociety.php>) and the *Avonlea Traditions Chronicle*, as well as three chapters of the *The Lucy Maud Montgomery Album* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 1999). Joanne is a graduate from the University of Guelph and currently lives and works in Mississauga, Ontario. "Researching and writing this article about the Australian editions of Montgomery's works was a labour of love for me, and I hope you enjoy it."



# Anne of Australia: An Exploration into the Australian Editions of L.M. Montgomery's Works

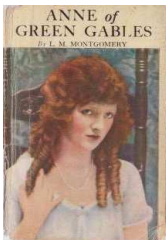
By Joanne Lebold Wood  
©2010

*Anne of Green Gables* was first published in Australia in 1924 - a full 16 years after it was originally published in Boston by L.C. Page & Company.

Since that time, Angus and Robertson Limited of Sydney, Australia have continually published L.M. Montgomery's books – in many different editions – to the delight of her many Australian fans.

I have identified nine different series of Montgomery's books that were published in Australia by Angus and Robertson between the years of 1924 to 1992, as well as several "stand alone" first editions that were also published during that time.

## The Platypus and Bellbird Series



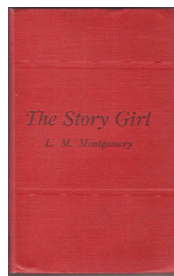
*Anne of Green Gables* was first published in Australia in December of 1924 under the imprint of Cornstalk Publishing Company which was a part of Angus and Robertson Limited. This 1924 edition of *Anne of Green Gables* was part of the **Platypus** series. The Platypus Series was published from 1924 to 1933 (from 1924 to 1929 under the Cornstalk imprint, and from 1930 to 1933 by Angus and Robertson).



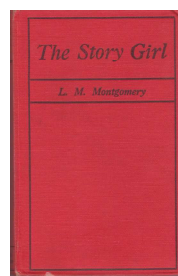
At essentially the same time, Angus and Robertson also produced the **Bellbird** series. *Anne of Green Gables* was first published in April of 1925 in this series. The Bellbird series was published from 1925 to 1933 (first under Cornstalk and then under Angus and Robertson, as above).

The Bellbird series was a deluxe version of the Platypus series. They cost a shilling more – at 3/9 (three shillings and nine pence) compared to 2/9 - and were made with a better quality paper. They were also taller, wider and thicker. The Platypus boards were red; the Bellbird boards were blue.

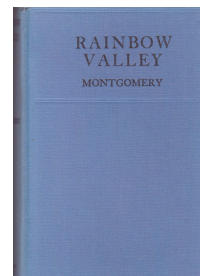
The design of the boards for both series changed slightly around 1930 to 1932. Research at first suggested that this change was made when the imprint changed from Cornstalk to Angus and Robertson, but this was not consistently the case.



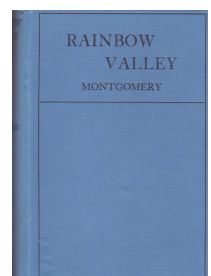
Cornstalk 1925  
1<sup>st</sup> Platypus Ed.



A & R May 1933  
8<sup>th</sup> Platypus Ed.



Cornstalk Dec. 1925  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bellbird Ed.



A & R 1933  
5<sup>th</sup> Bellbird Ed.



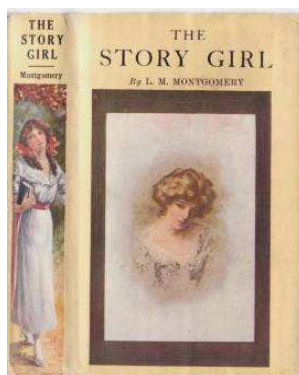
The photos/drawings on the dust jackets were the same in both series, with the exception that most of the Platypus series had drawings on the spines while the Bellbird series did not. Photos of Mary Miles Minter, who starred as “Anne Shirley” in the 1919 silent *Anne of Green Gables* movie, were used on some of the dust jackets. On others, the artwork that appeared on the L.C. Page and McClelland and Stewart/Stokes first editions was re-used. Still others had original artwork by Edgar A. Holloway, a noted British illustrator of children’s books and magazines. Over the years, it appears that some of the dust jackets changed – from using the original first edition illustrations to using new illustrations. Further research is needed to determine if this was the case with all the titles.



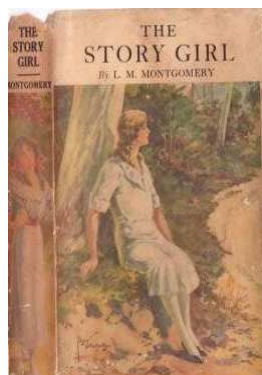
Cornstalk 1925 1<sup>st</sup> Platypus Ed.



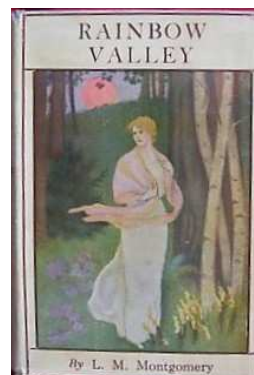
Cornstalk Sept 1928 4<sup>th</sup> Platypus Ed.  
Artwork by Edgar A. Holloway



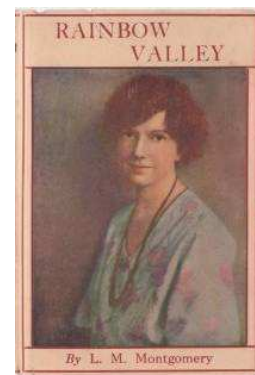
Cornstalk 1925  
1<sup>st</sup> Platypus Ed.



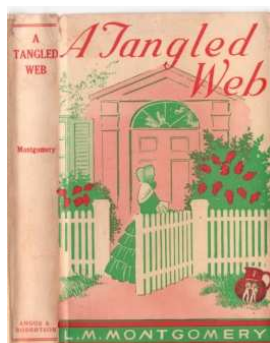
A & R May 1933  
8<sup>th</sup> Platypus Ed.



Cornstalk Dec 1925  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bellbird Ed.



A & R 1933  
5<sup>th</sup> Bellbird Ed.



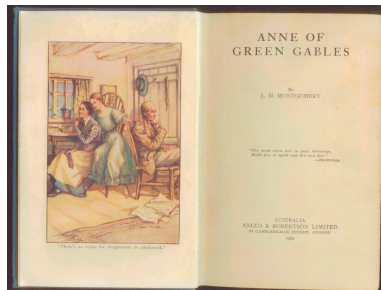
The dust jacket of *A Tangled Web* in the Platypus Series is fascinating. When I shared my (1933) copy with fellow collector Donna Campbell, Donna quickly noted that it was the original jacket design with a “figure in poke-bonnet and crinoline on it” (see *Selected Journals of L.M. Montgomery, Volume IV, pg. 146*). Montgomery disliked this original jacket design and convinced Stokes to re-do it. The redesigned dust jacket apparently did not get passed onto the Australian publishers and the original dust jacket was used.

All of Montgomery's books from *Anne of Green Gables* to *A Tangled Web* were published in the Platypus series, except for *Further Chronicles of Avonlea*\* and *Rilla of Ingleside* (see "An Anomaly" on page 6).

In the Bellbird series, all of Montgomery's books from *Anne of Green Gables* to *Emily's Quest* were published, except for *Further Chronicles of Avonlea*\* and *The Blue Castle*. Further research is needed to determine if *Magic for Marigold* and/or *A Tangled Web* were published in the Bellbird series (see discussion in **Stand Alone First Editions**).

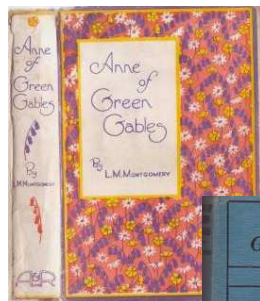
\**Further Chronicles of Avonlea* was first published in 1920 by L.C. Page & Company without L.M. Montgomery's permission. A law-suit followed, and subsequently, it was not published in Australia until 1953.

### The Silver Anniversary Edition of *Anne of Green Gables*

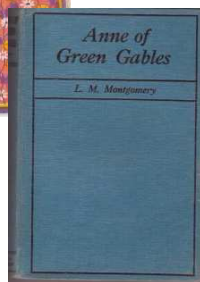


As was done by L.C. Page in the United States, in 1933 Angus and Robertson issued a silver anniversary edition of *Anne of Green Gables* with illustrations by Sybil Tawse. The plates from this book were then used for *Anne of Green Gables* in the Dorothy Wall Series, which was published beginning in 1934. (A special thanks to Donna Campbell for alerting me to the existence of this book.)

### The Dorothy Wall Series

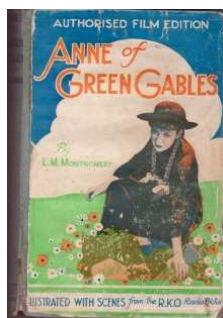


The **Dorothy Wall Series** was published from 1934 to 1938. The pretty dust jacket, identical on all of the books in this series, was designed by Australian artist Dorothy Wall. The design of these boards was the same as the later Platypus editions, but the books themselves were larger. All but two of the books that I have located had blue boards – the exceptions were a copy of *The Blue Castle* and a copy of *Anne of Green Gables*, which were in red boards.



All of Montgomery's books from *Anne of Green Gables* to *Mistress Pat* (except for *Further Chronicles of Avonlea*) were published in the Dorothy Wall series.

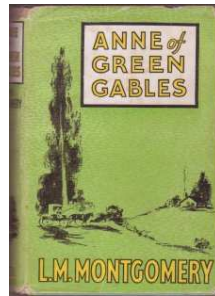
### The Authorized Film Edition of *Anne of Green Gables*



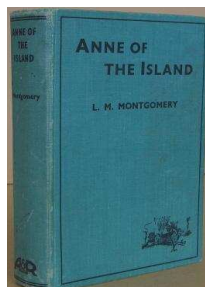
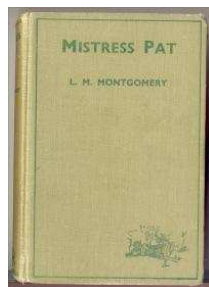
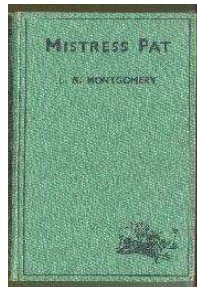
In 1935, the authorized film edition of *Anne of Green Gables* was published using the same plates and boards as *Anne of Green Gables* from the Dorothy Wall series. This book contained 17 photos from the 1934 *Anne of Green Gables* movie.

## The Green Tree Series

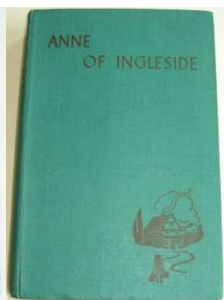
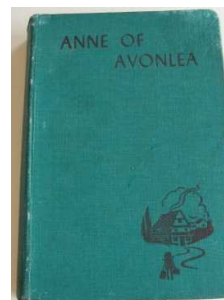
The **Green Tree** series was published from 1938 to 1942 and again from 1946 to 1948. The boards changed from the earlier to the later series, but the same dust jacket design was used on all the books. In the earlier



books, the boards were usually green, but I have also located turquoise, yellow and patterned boards in this series. The boards on the 1946 – 1948 books were green or turquoise. *Anne of Ingleside* was not published in the earlier series (it had just been published as a true first edition), but was published in the later series. All the other books were published in both designs. *Further Chronicles of Avonlea* was not published in this series.

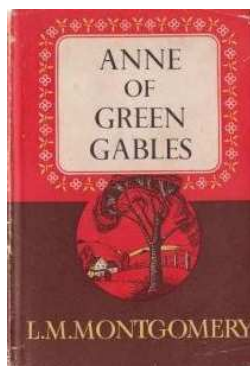


The Green Tree Series 1938 - 1942

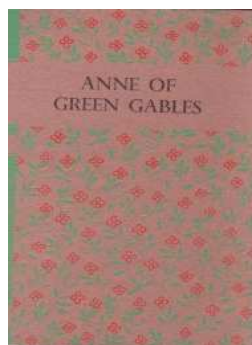


Green Tree Series 1946 - 1948

## The Flowered Boards Series



Because of their flowered boards, I have always felt that these books should have been encased in the Dorothy Wall dust jacket, but that was not the case. The **Flowered Boards** Series had dust jackets that were all of the same design – with a drawing of a large tree in front of Green Gables enclosed in a circle – but they were produced in different colours – red, green, blue and orange have been discovered thus far. The books also had flowered endpapers to match the boards.

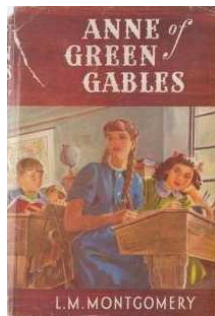


Many, if not all, of these books have darkened pages due to the poor quality paper that was used. They were published from 1949 to 1951.

All of Montgomery's books except for *Further Chronicles of Avonlea* were published in this series.

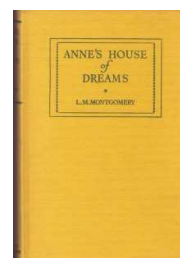
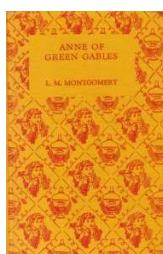


## The Western Font Series

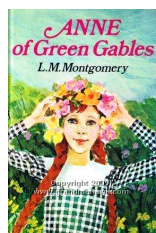


For lack of a better name, I have called these books, the **Western Font Series** because of the font used on the dust jackets. This series had unique dust jackets for each title, all drawn by illustrator Irene Maher. This series was published from 1953 to 1969. So far, I have located the 8 Anne books, plus *Chronicles of Avonlea*, *Further Chronicles of Avonlea*, *The Golden Road* and *Pat of Silver Bush* in this series. It would seem likely that *The Story Girl* and *Mistress Pat* were also published, because they are prequels/sequels, but I have never discovered those titles. I have not found any evidence that Montgomery's other titles were published in this series.

Some of these books had patterned boards and illustrated endpapers. Others (when printed in Great Britain) had yellow boards with plain endpapers.

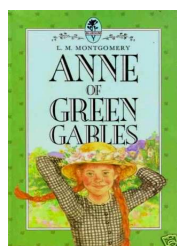


## The Laminated Boards Series # 1



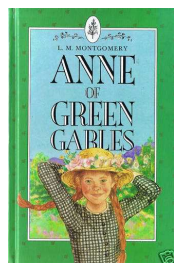
The **Laminated Boards Series # 1** was published from 1972 to 1991. All of Montgomery's books were published in this series. They all had unique covers drawn by different artists/illustrators; Astra Lacis drew the *Anne of Green Gables* and *Anne of the Island* covers, and Noela Young was responsible for *Anne of Avonlea*, to name just two.

## The Bluegum Series



The **Bluegum Series** is a paperback series that was published from 1987 to 1991. Margaret Power drew the cover illustrations. To my knowledge, *The Blue Castle*, *Magic for Marigold*, *Pat of Silver Bush*, *Mistress Pat* and *Jane of Lantern Hill* were not published in this series.

## The Laminated Boards Series # 2



The **Laminated Boards Series # 2** was published from 1990 to 1992 and used the same cover illustrations as the Bluegum Series above. If you look carefully, you will notice that the logo on the front of these books is slightly different. These books were published by Angus and Robertson under the Cornstalk imprint, as were the Platypus Editions, bringing this investigation of Montgomery's Australian books full circle.

## Stand Alone First Editions

Angus and Robertson published some of Montgomery's later titles as "stand-alone first editions" before they published them as part of a series. The first example of this is *The Blue Castle*. This would explain why it was not included in the Bellbird Series (as clearly indicated on some of the Platypus dust jackets). Using this logic, it may follow that *Magic for Marigold* and *A Tangled Web*, which were also published as stand-alone first editions, may never have been published in the Bellbird series. However, *A Blue Castle*, *Magic for Marigold* and *A Tangled Web* were published in the Platypus series - perhaps to provide an economical edition of these titles to readers.

The stand-alone first editions that I have discovered thus far are:

*The Blue Castle* – first published by Cornstalk in August 1926 (2<sup>nd</sup> printing December 1926 shown below)

*Magic for Marigold* – probably/possibly first published by Angus and Robertson in 1929, book shown below is 2<sup>nd</sup> printing from 1930

*Pat of Silver Bush* – first published by Angus and Robertson in 1933

*Mistress Pat* – first published by Angus and Robertson in 1935 (photo below courtesy of Donna Campbell)

*Anne of Windy Willows* – first published by Angus and Robertson in 1936 (photo below courtesy of Donna Campbell)

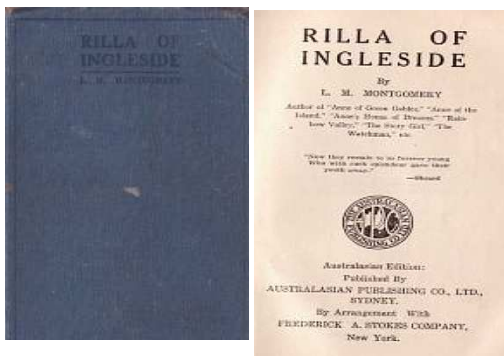
*Jane of Lantern Hill* – first published by Angus and Robertson in 1937

*Anne of Ingleside* – first published by Angus and Robertson in 1939

*Further Chronicles of Avonlea* – first published by Angus and Robertson in 1953



## An Anomaly



Just when I thought I had the Australian editions of L.M. Montgomery's works all figured out, along came this 1921 copy of *Rilla of Ingleside* that simply did not fit in anywhere. This unusual copy was published by the Australasian Publishing Company by arrangement with Frederick A. Stokes. I have not found any other Montgomery titles published by this company. The existence of this book may help to explain why *Rilla of Ingleside* was not published in the Platypus Series.

## Conclusion

This is only a first attempt to identify and order the Australian editions of L.M. Montgomery's works. I would appreciate your feedback and comments – any corrections and/or additions would be welcomed. Please e-mail me at [joanne-wood@rogers.com](mailto:joanne-wood@rogers.com). Many thanks to Donna Campbell, Christy Woster and Beth Cavert for their contributions.

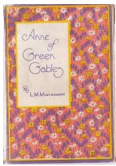
## The Australian Series of L.M. Montgomery's Books - Timeline



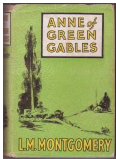
The Platypus Series 1924 – 1933



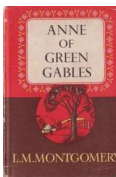
The Bellbird Series 1925 – 1933



The Dorothy Wall Series 1934 – 1938



The Green Tree Series 1938 – 1942 and 1946 - 1948



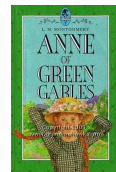
The Flowered Boards Series 1949 – 1951



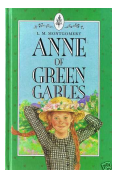
The Western Font Series 1953 – 1969



The Laminated Boards Series # 1 1972 – 1991



The Bluegum Series 1987 – 1991



The Laminated Boards Series # 2 1990 – 1992