Teaching the
Selected Works of
Katherine Paterson
When former Heinemann–Boynton/Cook editor Peter Stillman first conceived the Young Adult Literature (YAL) series in 1990 and asked me to be the series editor, I was excited to be part of such an innovative endeavor. At that time there were few professional books available for teachers who wanted to bring young adult literature into their classrooms, and Heinemann was the first publisher making a concerted effort to fill this need. Seventeen years and many books later, under the direction of Heinemann Executive Editor Lisa Luedeke, the series continues to inform and assist teachers at the middle school, high school, and college levels as they read with and teach to their students the best works that the field of young adult literature has to offer.

The Heinemann YAL Series takes another step forward with the book you hold in your hands. This subseries on teaching the works of specific young adult authors is designed to help you incorporate young adult literature into your curriculum, providing ideas and lessons that you may use and offering examples of classroom-tested student work, lesson plans, and discussion as an impetus to designing your own lessons and developing your own ideas in accordance with your students’ needs.

Over the years, many teachers in my graduate young adult literature classes have asked me how to convince administrators and parents that young adult literature is worthy of a place in the curriculum alongside the classics and other commonly taught literary works. In response I have shown them how to write rationales for specific books, how to design lesson plans and units that satisfy state and national standards, how to deal with censorship, and how to become connoisseurs of young adult literature themselves. I hope that the books in this subseries, by focusing on specific authors of young adult literature and highlighting the successful work of teachers with this genre, will inspire confidence in you to bring these extraordinary works into your curriculum, not just as a bridge to the classics, but as literary works in their own right.

—Virginia R. Monseau

*Teaching the Selected Works of Robert Cormier*

*Teaching the Selected Works of Mildred D. Taylor*

*Teaching the Selected Works of Katherine Paterson*

*Teaching the Selected Works of Walter Dean Myers*

*Teaching the Selected Works of Gary Paulsen* (forthcoming)

*Teaching the Selected Works of Chris Crutcher* (forthcoming)
Teaching the Selected Works of Katherine Paterson

Lois Thomas Stover
This project would not have come into being without the guidance of series editor, Ginger Monseau, or without the effort, time, and energy given to it by the incredible teachers, Mary Christensen, Lou D’Ambrosio, Betsy Gardiner, and Kathy Slingland. Hal Foster read and provided feedback from the heart; David Finkelman calmed me when I panicked over details and deadlines; and Melissa Inglis was a patient and gracious editor. To these individuals I owe much gratitude. And many thanks to the Educational Studies Department at St. Mary’s College of Maryland for providing financial support for this project.
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Additional material can be found on www.heinemann.com:
- Who Is Katherine Paterson?
- Using Jacob Have I Loved in the High School English Classroom
- Paterson Teaching Materials
Thank you for sampling this resource.

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