



## Frame of Reference

Annette Goldsmith, editor



Happy Birthday to us! We're one year old this issue. As of mid-March, we have 72 enthusiastic subscribers from around the world. (Subscriptions are free -- sign up and we'll send you an electronic postcard when the next issue is ready.) The Cook has prepared a special birthday cake recipe for **Pig and Pepper**, inspired by Barbara Reid's latest romp in plasticine, *The Party*. April 2 is also Hans Christian Andersen's birthday and International Children's Book Day. To mark the occasion, **The Monitor** reveals Mary Beaty's hitherto secret Andersen epiphany. And in *Spyglass*, the MaD hAtTeR exposes a secret society of Brian Doyle devotees -- Doyle is Canada's author nominee for the **1998 Hans Christian Andersen Award**.

Speaking of awards, Bessie Condos Tichauer's column, **ILLUMINATING TEXTS**, debuts with a look at how the Caldecott award winners (for best American picture book) reflect societal changes. Katherine Matthews focuses on photography as a literary device in an eclectic **MIRRORS AND WINDOWS**, while author and literacy advocate Arlene Perly Rae turns to the source of her inspiration in **MY OWN INVENTION**.

**ALICE'S ACADEMY**, the refereed section, proudly presents our first student submission: Judith Ann Margison and E.J. Hyslop analyze Anne Fine's gender-bending novel, *Bill's New Frock*. Now here's a *Metamorphosis* for the nineties -- rather than turning into a giant bug like Gregor Samsa, Bill Simpson wakes up (horrors) ...a girl!

And then there's the poor little dog who (gasp) turns into... a book! Tim Wynne-Jones inaugurates our illustration and design column, **PICTURE WINDOW**, with his delightful essay on Art Spiegelman's *Open Me... I'm a Dog!* **IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE** is also about illustration: Loris Lesynski details the comic ups and downs of artistic composition, real and virtual. The much-anticipated **ACROSTIC** from puzzle-maker Joanne Schott is now available.

Still in this issue: Sue Eason's **PERSONAL REFLECTIONS** on *The Unreluctant Years*; Doug Crane's **YKOWREBBAJ** column on the translation of Tolkien books into Collectable Card Games; and **THE CAUCUS-RACE** on favourite storytelling sites. You will find our earlier issues **DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE**.

Here's our first birthday thank-you to our staff, editorial board, the University of Toronto's Faculty of Information Studies--and of course you, the readers, for making *The Looking Glass* what it is. To help us further, you can contribute by writing a letter to the editor; submitting a proposal for an article; or even donating some money. We can also use more publicity, so please bookmark our site and suggest that your friends do likewise. Enjoy the cake!

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