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Beyond the Secret Garden: A Round Up

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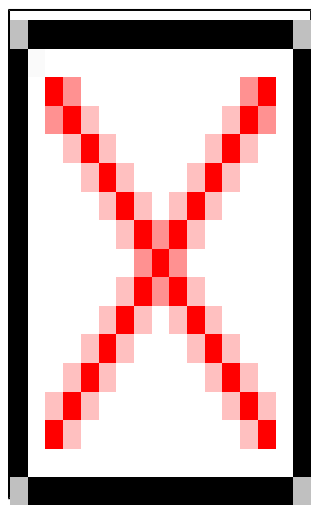
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In one place, all the **Beyond the Secret Garden** articles by **Darren Chetty** and **Karen Sands-O'Connor**

Beyond the Secret Garden: A Round Up

At the beginning of 2018, we invited Darren Chetty and Karen Sands-O'Connor to contribute articles to Books for Keeps examining the way black, Asian and minority ethnic voices have been represented in the English national story, through children's literature.

Their articles make for powerful and thought-provoking reading. We bring them all together here.



[The Fantasy of Story](#) [4] (Pt 1)

[England's White and Pleasant Land](#) [5] (Pt 2)

In part two of three, **Chetty** and **Sands-O'Connor** explore the English geographical space, and how the urban and the rural interact with depictions of BAME characters.

[In Times of Peril?: Britons, Asians, Muslims](#) [6] (Pt 3)

The relationship between Britain and depictions of Asian and Muslim people in children's books, and the positive movement towards change.

[Beyond the Secret Garden: Portrayals of Mixedness](#) [7]

Darren Chetty and **Karen Sands-O'Connor** explore the representations of mixed-race characters in children's fiction,

and the importance of reflecting many young children's realities.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: #ReflectingRealities & #OwnVoices \[8\]**](#)

The importance of publishing more and more BAME voices, and the significance of having BAME characters written by BAME authors.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: 'We English': Nonfiction and Belonging in Children's Literature \[9\]**](#)

Nonfiction and reference books focusing on children's literature.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: Rap, Rhythm and Rhyme \[10\]**](#)

The language of rap and hip-hop, and its impact on children's fiction.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: Protest and the British Children's Book \[11\]**](#)

Rebellion and riot in children's literature, the importance of protesting against injustice, and how this is explained to children through the novels they read.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: Taking Series Seriously \[12\]**](#)

In books popular enough to create sequels (and then some), **Chetty** and **Sands-O'Connor** explore how BAME characters are portrayed in highly successful franchises.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: Outside, Over There \[13\]**](#)

The representation of BAME authors in various children's fiction awards, and the ways in which we can improve representation in long and shortlists.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: Animal Fables and Dehumanization \[14\]**](#)

The role of the anthropomorphic animal in children's fiction, especially picture books, and its complicated relationship with depictions of race.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: Books for Everyone \[15\]**](#)

A Christmas themed **Beyond the Secret Garden**, a great list of books by and about BAME people.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: A Sporting Chance \[16\]**](#)

Darren Chetty and **Karen Sands-O'Connor** focus on books about sport, and the developing role people of colour have played in this genre over the years.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: Classic Literature and Classic Mistakes \[17\]**](#)

Children's classics, and the developing relationship progressive attitudes have with them.

[**Beyond the Secret Garden: Hoorah for Health Workers! \[18\]**](#)

A celebration of fictional doctors and nurses, and the importance of immigration and the Windrush generation in shaping our health service.

Karen Sands-O'Connor is the British Academy Global Professor for Children's Literature at Newcastle University. Her books include **Children's Publishing and Black Britain 1965-2015** (Palgrave Macmillan 2017).

Darren Chetty is a teacher, doctoral researcher and writer with research interests in education, philosophy, racism, children's literature and hip hop culture. He is a contributor to **The Good Immigrant**, edited by Nikesh Shukla and the author, with Jeffrey Boakye, of **What Is Masculinity? Why Does It Matter? And Other Big Questions**. He tweets at @rapclassroom.

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