



# “All This Reading”

THE LITERARY WORLD OF BARBARA PYM

*edited by Frauke Elisabeth Lenckos & Ellen J. Miller*

Barbara Pym’s novels possess an enduring appeal which has ensured that, some twenty years after her death, they continue to be read and reread, discussed and debated by discerning readers. Pym’s unique legacy is the world she created, one that is recognizably hers alone.

The nineteen essays by noted scholars and critics examine the theme of reading in Pym’s books. They emphasize Sartre’s idea that a narrative endows the reader with the knowledge that the artistic process is discursive, so transforming the reader from a passive receiver into an active participant. A new and compellingly progressive image of Barbara Pym emerges – that of an author engaged in an ongoing dialogue with those who consider reading a reciprocal act.

*Frauke Elisabeth Lenckos is an instructor in the Liberal Education for Adults Programs at the University of Chicago and the Newberry Library, Chicago, and has spoken at various gatherings of the Barbara Pym Society.*

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