



## AUTHOR FUN FACTS

### *Born*

May 11 in Lemoore, California

### *Family*

Husband: Larry Snyder;  
children: Melissa,  
Doug, and Ben

### *Pets*

Have had everything from mice to horses, but at present one small silky terrier

### *Hobbies*

Reading, travel, and of course, writing

### *Favorite . . .*

. . . Foods: Fruits, bread, and cheese

. . . Books: Keep changing. Two early ones were *Smoky the Cow Horse* and *The Secret Garden*

## AUTHOR STUDY ACTIVITY

After reading several of Zilpha Keatley Snyder's books, have students choose a favorite scene with their favorite characters to reenact as a class play.

# YEARLING

## CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF CLASSICS

### Yearling Author Study

## ZILPHA KEATLEY SNYDER



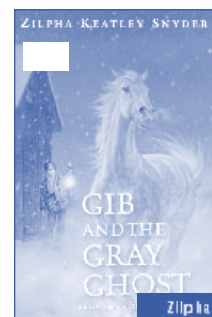
Raised in California, in the country—with no television and few movies to watch—three-time Newbery Honor winner Zilpha Keatley Snyder filled her childhood with animals, games, and books. Her family's animals—cows, goats, ducks, chickens—were her closest friends, and a nearby library was a constant source of magic, adventure, and excitement for her. Both of her parents spent a lot of time telling stories about their lives, so Snyder came by her storytelling instincts early. At the age of 8, Snyder decided to become a writer.

As a student, Snyder was very proficient in reading and writing and loved books. "Books were the window from which I looked out of a rather meager and decidedly narrow room, onto a rich and wonderful universe. I loved the look and feel of them, even the smell. . . . Libraries were treasure houses. I always entered them with a slight thrill of disbelief that all their endless riches were mine for the borrowing."

Snyder's Newbery Honor Books include *The Egypt Game*, *The Headless Cupid*, and *The Witches of Worm*. The author of over 40 books, Snyder's other works include *The Gypsy Game*, *Gib and the Gray Ghost*, *The Ghosts of Rathburn Park*, and *The Unseen*, to name a few.

Snyder lives in Mill Valley, a small town near San Francisco. In her spare time, she still loves reading and traveling, and of course, writing, which besides being her occupation has always been her all-time favorite hobby.

For more information on Zilpha Keatley Snyder, visit [www.zksnyder.com](http://www.zksnyder.com)



## DELVE INTO THE BOOKS!

Two of Snyder's historical fiction novels, *Gib Rides Home* and *Gib and the Gray Ghost*, are stories of strength and courage, loyalty and friendship, the pain of abandonment, and the strong desire to belong to a family. The descriptions of the boys' lives at Lovell House will help readers grasp the treatment of orphans in the early 1900s and gain a clear understanding of why adoption laws and child labor laws were developed in the United States.

***The Egypt Game***  
0-440-42225-6

***The Ghosts of Rathburn Park***  
0-440-41711-2

***Gib and the Gray Ghost***  
0-440-41518-7

***Gib Rides Home***  
0-440-41257-9

***The Gypsy Game***  
0-440-41258-7

***The Headless Cupid***  
0-440-43507-2

***Spyhole Secrets***  
0-440-41257-2

***The Trespassers***  
0-440-41277-3

***The Unseen***  
0-440-41930-1

***The Witches of Worm***  
0-440-49727-2