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### **Double the Mystery in the Nancy Drew Series**

The Nancy Drew series has been created by multiple syndicate authors, the majority of the texts are written by, Mildred Benson Writ. Within the three primary sources selected, *Bungalow Mystery*, *Clue in the Crumbling Walls* and *The Secret of the Old Clock*, one notes that the female characters are represented as autonomous women within the novels and the father-daughter relationship between Carson and Nancy Drew is an extremely close bond. Each primary source novel is able to create a similar overall theme of solving good versus evil, but through a different secret, mystery or context. The Nancy Drew books have influenced the shaping of children reading these novels within society. Syndicated writing impacts the context of the novels within a series as the authors' ideas and insights differ, and how the way that females are represented within the Nancy Drew series impacts readers and their perspectives. The theme within the novel, *The Secret of the Old Clock*, *Clue in the Crumbling Walls*, and *Bungalow Mystery* is portrayed similarly to all of the books within the series.

Writ was considered to be an adventurous individual who travels, explores and takes many trips to different places around the world. We may predict that this could have influenced how she ensured her text, *The Secret of the Old Clock* as well as, *Clue in the Crumbling Walls*, has content that demonstrates Nancy's courageous character because she chooses to go on an adventure at a summer camp with her friends, which is an activity that Writ participated in as well. Behind the creation and publication process of the Nancy Drew texts, there were solely female writers that were unknown, except for Writ and the individual

who was behind this process was a male named Edward. These females were obviously not compensated appropriately for their contributions. The female authors were able to express their feminist side by creating context that did not follow what most females were portrayed as during the nineteen thirties and forties. For example, in the text, *Clue in the Crumbling Walls*, the reader comprehends that Nancy is a strong and determined female who may be perceived as a feminist. This is due to the fact that although Nancy is presented in a feminine aspect with a shirtwaist dress, she goes after two men who find an inheritance hidden in the wall of an old mansion and are trying to steal it.