A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES
An illustrated history and reading.

Presented by Dulais Rhys, Ph.D

2014 was the centenary of the birth of celebrated Welsh poet, Dylan Thomas, and many commemorative events were held in his native Wales and worldwide. Along with his well-known poems *Fern Hill, Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night* and *Death Shall Have No Dominion*, Thomas also wrote prose about the Welsh way of life, such as his iconic 'play for voices,' *Under Milk Wood* and the charming *A Child's Christmas in Wales.*

A Child's Christmas in Wales is a sentimental and romantic account of an early 20th century Welsh Christmas and consists of a series of scenarios, reminiscences, anecdotes, childhood adventures and family incidents. Its atmospheric Welsh charm and humor is typical of a way of life which, sadly, has all but disappeared.

My presentation includes a powerpoint slideshow of Dylan Thomas's life and work as well audio examples of the poet's unique reading voice.

"Praise the Lord! We are a musical nation." intoned the Rev. Eli Jenkins in *Under Milk Wood* and as a Wales-born, Welsh-speaking musician currently based in the Bay Area, *A Child's Christmas in Wales* always reminds me of aspects of my childhood.

PRESENTATION CONTENT:
1. Dylan Thomas: a brief history
2. Dylan Thomas: visits to America
3. *A Child's Christmas in Wales* – background
4. Five minute mandatory, non-optional, compulsory, doors-are-locked Welsh language lesson ☺
5. Reading of *A Child's Christmas in Wales*

Presentation duration: c1 hour
Speaker Fee: $275.00
Expenses: a contribution toward travel costs is appreciated.

Thank you for considering my proposal and please contact me for more information.

Sincerely,
Dulais Rhys, Ph.D
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REFERENCES
The named persons below have given their permission to be contacted for a critique of my presentation:

- Merced Branch Library, San Francisco (December 10, 2014): Ms Elizabeth Thacker-Estrada
- Livermore Library, CA (December 14, 2014): Mr Paul Sevilla