Butler never drove; instead she rode buses as her primary mode of transportation. People on board and places out the window fueled her active imagination. The 70 and 71 bus lines to Los Angeles were a frequent route; there are multiple schedules for them in Butler’s papers. Pasadena Bus Route 2 on Lincoln, Colorado, and Hill would have passed numerous in-town destinations, including Vroman’s Bookstore.

John Muir High School
Butler graduated from John Muir High School in 1965. Her yearbook is annotated with well-wishes from students and faculty. She marked her senior portrait with a star, first in the second row on this page.

La Pintoresca Branch Library
The La Pintoresca Branch Library is located in a neighborhood that would have been very familiar to Butler. Her junior high school was just to the north, and she lived within walking distance of the library at different points in her life.

Pasadena Public Library
Butler’s love of libraries started early. She recalls begging her mother for her own library card after a school trip to the Pasadena Public Library, so that she could select her own books. Mrs. Butler immediately and happily complied.

Former site of James A. Garfield Elementary School
Butler attended James A. Garfield Elementary School, which was located on the northeast corner of California Boulevard and Pasadena Avenue. According to her graduation program from 1959, young Butler read a poem at the event. Garfield Elementary closed in 1972, and the site was later developed as the Orangewood Center shopping complex.

Washington Junior High School
Butler attended Washington Junior High School. Now called Washington STEAM Multilingual Academy, the school named the library after their famous alumna in 2020 and installed a mural celebrating her.

Riding the Bus
Butler never drove; instead she rode buses as her primary mode of transportation. People on board and places out the window fueled her active imagination. The 70 and 71 bus lines to Los Angeles were a frequent route; there are multiple schedules for them in Butler’s papers. Pasadena Bus Route 2 on Lincoln, Colorado, and Hill would have passed numerous in-town destinations, including Vroman’s Bookstore.

Vroman’s Bookstore
Independent bookstore Vroman’s, founded in 1894, was a favorite place for Butler to shop. Later, she spoke there as a featured author. She collected books avidly, and her personal library is reported to have numbered in the thousands.

Pasadena City College
Butler earned her associate of arts degree from Pasadena City College. While a student there, she also first earned money for her writing, winning a $15 prize in a college literary contest for her first-place short story “To the Victor.”

The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens
Butler first lectured at The Huntington in 1989 and later bequeathed her papers to the Library. Since opening for research, the papers are among the materials most frequently consulted by visiting scholars.