

Noel Streatfeild

A nine-year-old girl goes ice-skating to strengthen her legs, befriends the orphaned daughter of a great figure skating star, and finds encouragement to become a great champion. In this comprehensive analysis of a woman hailed by her fellow Britons as a "National Monument," Nancy Huse argues that Streatfeild's work challenges the status of "girls' books," described in most criticism as ephemeral or constituting a category separate from "great books." Huse attributes the appeal of Streatfeild's books to their contemporary themes and traditional values and finds that in exploring the tensions of heredity and environment Streatfeild anticipated many contemporary questions about the role of women, the structure of the family, and the implications of the class system. In particular, Huse notes, Streatfeild (in both her children's and adult novels) used the poverty of women and their work in the domestic sphere to link the public with the private worlds shaping children. Streatfeild's conservative upbringing, rebellious youth, and complex life-long relationship with her family provided material for her novels, according to Huse. Streatfeild developed a conscious perspective on childhood that she used to defend child/adult boundaries while sharpening story forms. At the same time, Huse contends, her multifaceted talent admitted new subjects, character types, themes, and information into the children's book because she assumed competence and intelligent curiosity as the basis of children's contributions to the family and to society. In this vibrant portrait of the life and work of such an innovative children's writer, Huse suggests some meaningful ways to evaluate the family novel, the role of a children's novelist in preserving and constructing a historical record, and the implications of formulaic patterns

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that derive from female experience.

Picture a gorgeous English country house, surrounded by manicured lawns and sprawling oak trees. This is Levet, where the Laurence family have lived since the 18th century. Once full of children and excitement, the only Laurences left at Levet now are former actress Sara and her very upper class mother-in-law Lydia. That is until the Second World War erupts and Mrs. Vilder arrives with her three children after being evacuated from their home . . . Carnegie Medal winning author Noel Streatfeild fills Levet with authentic families facing undeniable tragedy in this heart-warming wartime novel, *The Winter is Past*.

A novel about a happy, successful, middle-class, pre-war family, and the disintegration and devastation that the Second World War brought on.

Originally published: London: Collins, 1954.

In a classic children's story, three unsinkable orphans, believing that they are destined for greatness, set out to make their marks in the world of show business. Reprint.

Join the unforgettable heroine Margaret Thursday as she makes her way from an orphanage to the stage in this ebook collection containing the classic novels *Thursday's Child* and *Far to Go* by Noel Streatfeild, the beloved author of *Ballet Shoes*.

After her mother's death, Rachel and her adopted sister Hilary are taken in by Aunt Cora, who runs a dancing school where Rachel's spoiled cousin Dulcie is the star pupil.

Noel Streatfeild has been well known as an author for fifty years, particularly for her books for children. Noel Streatfeild S Holiday Stories Virago Press

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Every family has its secrets, but it was a huge surprise to the three young Forbeses, fresh from a country vicarage, to discover that their grandmother was a famous actress. Sent to live with her in bombed-out, wartime London, they soon discovered that they were expected to follow in the family footsteps - to the footlights.

Helen Blair is famous for her dinner parties. She hand picks her guests to ensure that every evening is a success, and tonight's will be the most memorable dinner party of all . . . An hour after the sparkling evening comes to a close, one of the women takes her own life. There was no indication of her unhappiness during the evening, and this unexpected suicide sends shockwaves through the other guests. As each guest tries to uncover the truth and motive behind this death the narrative unfolds like a multi-stranded detective story. *The Silent Speaker* is a tragic and enthralling story of suicide from Carnegie Medal winning author, Noel Streatfeild.

Part of a stunning new design partnership between Puffin and the Imperial War Museum, this is a charming novel from the bestselling author of *Ballet Shoes*, featuring a special foreword from Dame Jacqueline Wilson. Once there were three little girls. Isobel, the eldest, was pretty, gentle and artistic; Louise the youngest, was sweet and talented - and then there was Vicky, 'the plain one', the awkward and rebellious one

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who didn't fit in at school or at home. Growing up in a big family Vicky feels overlooked, but gradually begins to realize that she might not be quite as untalented as she feels . . . A Vicarage Family is the first part in a fictionalized autobiography in which Noel Streatfeild tells the story of her own childhood, painting a poignant and vivid picture of daily life in an impoverished, genteel family in the years leading up to the First World War. All the Heath children become interested in tennis and lazy Nicky turns out to be the best player of all, so the family tries to get her to enter a tennis championship. Having lost their parents in an earthquake, Anna and her siblings live with their prim uncle and feeble aunt. Anna lives only to dance – but her uncle forbids her to have anything to do with ballet. How will she survive?

A NEW COLLECTION OF HOLIDAY-THEMED STORIES BY THE BELOVED AUTHOR OF BALLET SHOES There are stories for every reader in this delightful collection - exciting crime-solving adventures; nervous young actors in the spotlight for the first time; unforgettable holidays and unlikely friendships. Featuring beautiful illustrations by PETER BAILEY Stories include: The Plain One Devon Mettle Chicken for Supper Flag's Circus The Secret Coralie Ordinary Me Cows Eat Flowers Andrew's Trout The Old Fool Let's Go Coaching Howard The Quiet Holiday Roberta Green Silk Originally written for annuals and magazines from the 1930s-70s, these newly discovered stories will be an exciting discovery for Noel Streatfeild fans of all ages.

Near the end of the Second World War, Selina receives a parcel from America that contains a beautiful party

dress and shoes. But her excitement turns to sorrow when she realizes she'll never have a chance to wear the beautiful dress, until she and her cousins decide to organize a pageant.

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The author of children s classic Ballet Shoes delights with a best-loved story of ice skating rivalry If you pass your inter-silver, I ll tell Aunt Claudia that I don t want to work with you any more. Harriet is told that she must take up ice-skating in order to improve her health. She isn t much good at it, until she meets Lalla Moore, a young skating star. Now Harriet is getting better and better on the ice, and Lalla doesn t like it. Does Harriet want to save their friendship more than she wants to skate?"

Margaret Thursday, the unforgettable heroine of Thursday's Child stars in this classic children's adventure from Noel Streatfeild, the beloved author of Ballet Shoes. When Margaret Thursday lands a role as a child actress at a well-known London theatre, becoming famous almost overnight, news of her success reaches her bitter enemy, the matron of her old orphanage. Margaret knows that Matron is set on revenge, but she keeps her head held high, focusing on the play. But Matron's evil plans are well prepared, and Margaret is going to need her wits about her - and the help of her friends - if she is to

escape unharmed . . .

Ten-year-old Margaret Thursday, an orphan of turn-of-the-century England, is determined to escape from the harsh life at St. Luke's orphanage and to seek her fortune.

When their father is injured in an accident, life changes for the Johnstone family. Unable to afford their home, they have to move to a small London flat. Carol can no longer go to ballet school and Tim is heartbroken as he must leave his beloved dog, Jelly, behind. Then, it seems, their wishes are granted: in an extraordinary twist of fate, Tim inherits a dilapidated country house, Caldicott Place, where the family - including Jelly - can live together. But the house is badly in need of repair and they have no money, so a solution is found - the family start to look after wealthy children in the school holidays. Although they dread the prospect of sharing their newly found home with rich spoiled children, perhaps friendships can be found in the unlikeliest places. Sixty-two-year-old Clara leads a virtuous life. She spends all her time helping others and she always puts her friends and family first. It's a shame that nobody, including her four siblings and their myriad of children, ever stops to say thank you and appreciate all she does. . . . until wealthy Uncle Simon comes into her life. Like Clara, Simon never married, never had children and he lived alone – the two understood each other like no one else in the

family could. So when Uncle Simon dies, and leaves very specific wishes to Clara in his will, the path of her life changes in ways she could never imagined. Thrown into the world of circuses, greyhound-racing and dubious house-property, Aunt Clara encounters bizarre incidents and an unlikely love story in this enchanting novel from Carnegie Medal winning author, Noel Streatfeild.

Surveying the state of American ballet in a 1913 issue of McClure's Magazine, author Willa Cather reported that few girls expressed any interest in taking ballet class and that those who did were hard-pressed to find anything other than dingy studios and imperious teachers. One hundred years later, ballet is everywhere. There are ballet companies large and small across the United States; ballet is commonly featured in film, television, literature, and on social media; professional ballet dancers are spokespeople for all kinds of products; nail polish companies market colors like "Ballet Slippers" and "Prima Ballerina;" and, most importantly, millions of American children have taken ballet class. Beginning with the arrival of Russian dancers like Anna Pavlova, who first toured the United States on the eve of World War I, *Ballet Class: An American History* explores the growth of ballet from an ancillary part of nineteenth-century musical theater, opera, and vaudeville to the quintessential extracurricular activity it is today, pursued by

countless children nationwide and an integral part of twentieth-century American childhood across borders of gender, class, race, and sexuality. A social history, *Ballet Class* takes a new approach to the very popular subject of ballet and helps ground an art form often perceived to be elite in the experiences of regular, everyday people who spent time in barre-lined studios across the United States. Drawing on a wide variety of materials, including children's books, memoirs by professional dancers and choreographers, pedagogy manuals, and dance periodicals, in addition to archival collections and oral histories, this pathbreaking study provides a deeply-researched national perspective on the history and significance of recreational ballet class in the United States and its influence on many facets of children's lives, including gender norms, consumerism, body image, children's literature, extracurricular activities, and popular culture.

Young, naive and too kind for her own good, Rose falls for a young Brigadier with a colourful history. Soon after their fling ends he drops a baby off on her doorstep begging her to raise it for his latest mistress. Tender hearted Rosie nurtures the baby into a sophisticated young woman called Marmie - alongside two other baby girls dropped off by the Brigadier - Daisy, a natural born dancer, and Tania who aspires to be a mechanic. But raising three growing girls on very little money after the war is an impossible task, so the girls find a way to earn their keep through a life on the stage. Revealing the toil a dancer goes through backstage and the friendship and love

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needed to survive it, *The Whicharts* is an exceptional inter-war novel from Carnegie Medal winning author Noel Streatfeild.

Gus and Ted climbed up to their trapeze . . . Santa saw very little, for she was so afraid Gus would fall . . . Peter and Santa live a rather dull existence with their Aunt Rebecca, but when she dies they face the awful prospect of life in separate orphanages. In desperation they run away to find their only living relative, Uncle Gus, who works in a circus as a clown. Gus will only let them stay if they promise to work hard, and so the children plunge headlong into the circus world where they soon discover skills they never knew they had! But life is so different - will they ever truly belong?

Christmas Eve 2020 is the 125th anniversary of the birth of the beloved author of *Ballet Shoes*. This collection of sparkling Christmas-themed stories will charm and delight readers of all ages. In this captivating collection of stories by the author of *Ballet Shoes*, there are auditions on stage and antics on ice, trips to the pantomime, holiday adventures, and laughter shared with family and friends. Charming, heartwarming and funny, this collection will bring joy to readers of all ages. Originally written in 1940s-60s for annuals, magazines and the radio, these stories have never been collected before.

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