



The E. Nesbit Megapack: 26 Classic Novels and Stories

E. Nesbit

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The E. Nesbit Megapack collects 26 novels and short stories by Edith Nesbit (who wrote as E. Nesbit), including her most famous novels and series (The Bastable family stories, The Psammead series, etc.) Included are:

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

THE MAGIC CITY

FIVE CHILDREN AND IT

THE PHOENIX AND THE CARPET

THE STORY OF THE AMULET

THE MARBLE CHILD

THE ENCHANTED CASTLE

THE STORY OF THE TREASURE SEEKERS

THE WOULDBEGOODS

THE ROAD TO ROME; OR, THE SILLY STOWAWAY

THE CONSCIENCE-PUDDING

ARCHIBALD THE UNPLEASANT

OVER THE WATER TO CHINA

THE YOUNG ANTIQUARIES

THE INTREPID EXPLORER AND HIS LIEUTENANT

THE TURK IN CHAINS; OR, RICHARD'S REVENGE

THE GOLDEN GONDOLA

THE FLYING LODGER

THE SMUGGLER'S REVENGE

ZAIDA, THE MYSTERIOUS PROPHETESS OF THE GOLDEN ORIENT

THE LADY AND THE LICENSE; OR, FRIENDSHIP'S GARLAND

THE POOR AND NEEDY

AN OBJECT OF VALUE AND VIRTUE

THE RUNAWAYS

THE ARSENICATORS

THE ENCHANCERIED HOUSE

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The E. Nesbit Megapack: 26 Classic Novels and Stories Details

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From Reader Review The E. Nesbit Megapack: 26 Classic Novels and Stories for online ebook

DAE Smith & Avril Smith says

Classic

Very few modern authors for children, can tell a story like Edith Nesbit. Her books are ntertaining at any age!

Derek Davis says

Edith Nesbit was one of the most delightful of children's authors of her day (turn of the 20th century) and of most days that followed. She's quirky, opinionated, politically incorrect, riotously funny at times, talks directly to the reader, sees children as whole, generally decent human beings with a kid's ability to bollux up nearly anything.

The later selections aren't actually novels but short stories that appeared in collections. The copyright notes outline this nicely, and the publisher's introduction gives a good, quick summation of Nesbit's work and times.

Many of the tales involve two families. The one with four children (whose last name, if given, I can't uncover in the inaccessibility of such things in a Kindle edition) discover a bad-tempered, nasty-looking sand fairy, along with the legendary phoenix (wise yet socially senseless) and various other magical beings. The sand fairy can grant any wish (for one day), and each granting sends the children into both adventure and the unpleasant consequences of having wished badly.

The other family, the Bastables, numbers six children, with each tale ostensibly written by Oswald, age roughly 12 or 13. There's no overt magic with the Bastables, though many peculiar encounters. These rash, brash, extremely bright children have hearts of gold (sometimes fool's gold) and try to do the right thing, usually with disastrous outcomes. Nesbit's child's-eye view here is wonderful, the convoluted mind of Oswald veering from self-aggrandizement (disguised as literary humility) to restrained but surly comments on the uselessness of girls. The personalities of all six children are kept consistent yet distinct, complete with the occasional failure of temperament.

Nesbit's language can snap like a whip with no apparent effort. She is immediately *there* at every moment. There are, though, some odd undercurrents, presumably from her own life. The families usually experience a financial or social collapse, the mother tends to be dead, ill or mentally delicate, the father out of the picture or strangely distant. There's some good reason the children are not in school, spending extended periods with an aunt or otherwise left largely to their own devices, which allows them enormous freedom to develop but opens them to calamitous errors of choice.

The stories, altogether, are endearing but not in the least sappy, mostly upbeat but with genuinely dark moments. It's a shame that Nesbit's work isn't better known today.
