



Mary Poppins: The Complete Collection

P.L. Travers

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This fantastic omnibus edition contains all six original Mary Poppins stories: Mary Poppins, Mary Poppins Comes Back, Mary Poppins Opens the Door, Mary Poppins in the Park, Mary Poppins in Cherry Tree Lane, Mary Poppins and the House Next Door (2-in-1 edition). All magical children's classics.

When their new nanny, Mary Poppins, arrives on a gust of the East Wind, greets their mother, and slides up the banister, Jane and Michael's lives are turned magically upside down. Familiar to anyone who has seen the film or the West End adaptation, you can now read all six of these wonderfully original tales about Jane and Michael's adventures with the magical Mary Poppins. Mary takes the children on the most extraordinary outings: to a fun fair inside a pavement picture; to visit Uncle Andrew who floats up to the ceiling when he laughs; on a spectacular trip to see the Man-in-the-Moon! With her strict but fair, no-nonsense attitude, combined with amazing magical powers, things are never straightforward with Mary Poppins! But she has only promised to stay until the wind changes!

Mary Poppins: The Complete Collection Details

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From Reader Review Mary Poppins: The Complete Collection for online ebook

Zara Mcaspurren says

How Can You Resist?

Mary Poppins is one of those figures from childhood that you should never feel like you can't revisit. Not only would she pull you up for the rudeness, there just so many layers to the stories that you will always catch something new in it. This collection has all the stories, and it's great to be able to read them all. Well worth it.

Aneira Hayward says

Totally different from the Disney film, Mary is not a very nice person, never has anything nice to say and has no redeeming features! She's very rude and I found myself disliking her very early on.

Judy says

Book one in the collection is the Mary Poppins I grew up with from the movie. Loved her. Then as I read further I felt more and more unsettled with some of the concepts and the darkness coming through. I put it aside for months, thinking I may come back and read the final book, but it have no desire to do so yet. Maybe one day I will return. I alternated between boredom and a deep sense of unease.

To be honest if I had young folk in my life I would show them the movie till the DVD wore out, till they knew the songs back to front, inside out and upside down, but I would not recommend the book to them. I think that is the first time I have felt that way about a book. But I think Mary Poppins as a book has outlived her life, and the movie has taken over and made her better.

Becki says

Mary Poppins ??????

Mary Poppins Comes Back

David says

You know how people are always saying that the book was so much better than the movie? In this case, I'm

sorry, but they are wrong.

I wanted to read this because of seeing "Saving Mr. Banks" and recognizing that the writer used her own life circumstances--

The film, Mary Poppins, did a great job of making this series of imaginative scenes pop off the screen-- whereas, in print, they are not nearly as much fun. Mary Poppins is an enigma, a special person full of special magic (a good witch?) -- The parents in the book are pretty much removed from EVERYTHING going on. The scene in the bank (in the film) isn't in the book, but obviously was gleaned from conversations with Travers.

Is this a good children's book? Well, if you like nonsense stories with no real purpose-- I suppose. It is quite imaginative! It is an interesting and a quick read for an adult. I cannot imagine having really enjoyed this one as a kid, even after seeing the movie.

It is a classic and I'm glad I took the time to read it, but it has no purpose and no direction-- turns out being just a few scenes that might have come from some strange dreams or something funny in the author's tea.

PelicanFreak says

If you grew up watching the Disney classic by the same name, like myself you might have expectations for this book. Ditch them all and treat yourself to what is a GREAT READ . I cannot stress enough that this is NOTHING like the Disney movie of the same name, but it is a great read - especially if you leave your mind open. As it describes the adventures Jane, Michael & the twins go on with Mary, a VERY vain and rather crude woman, it does allude to certain possibilities and worlds that most of us either think impossible -or think of not at all.

For example, Mary can hear the wind and speak to animals - surely there are people which similar talents in existence. When Michael wonders aloud what happens at the zoo after hours and finds himself with prime seating to find out: it may be far-fetched but surely if we humans weren't so lucky as to be in charge it could very well be the case! Without any spoilers I will just say, read the book - and you will enjoy it all the more if you set aside and pre-conceived notions Disney may have caused and keep an open mind. A short, good, adventurous, thought-provoking read.

Elizabeth says

Magical! A very different Mary Poppins to the movie!!

Wajiha says

This one is the complete edition with all six books in one, and I recommend reading all of them together. Why? because at first you will detest Mary Poppins, she is unpleasant, conceited, overbearing, full of herself, insufferable; absolutely nothing like the Mary Poppins in the film. After the first book I couldn't understand why Michael and Jane liked her so much, I couldn't understand why the books have endured for nearly 80 years, and I really really wanted to rate it a 2 out of 5.

And then you read the rest and realize the Banks children love her because she gives them things to think about, she's full of mystery and she takes them on adventures. She disciplines them, but they love her because she is simply just fun. And admittedly her heart is probably in the right place. And this is why the books have endured with real children throughout the world. Ideally they should be read when one is young when one still has a sense of wonder.

The book isn't much like the movie, it has few or little songs, there is no mention of supercalafrajisticexpielidocious. She is magical, but she does errands like mere mortals, toys don't jump into trunks and there is no spoon full of sugar to make the medicine go down. And that's a good thing.

On a side note, since this is a six-in-one edition maybe I should list them separately. I am seven books behind my reading target hah.

NJ Wong says

I think it was 1975 when I last read P L Travers' Mary Poppins books from the public library (and I believe the public library had only just the first 2 books then). Thus, reading all the 6 books now was very refreshing, as I have completely forgotten everything.

My brain has been completely infected by Walt Disney's film, and I have watched the film multiple times over the past 40 years. So it was quite astonishing on reading the original books now that the book version of Mary Poppins is completely different from the film version of Mary Poppins. Disney's version of the singing and dancing Mary Poppins (and portrayed by the beautiful and super friendly Julie Andrews) is nothing like the sinister and mysterious (and dark) character that is written in the books.

Also, I was surprised that the books themselves do not have any over arching narrative unlike the movie. In all the books, Mary Poppins simply appears, have adventures with the children, and then disappears. This is unlike the film, where the Banks children and Mr Banks undergo some form of transformation after coming in contact with Mary Poppins.

And I was also surprised that many of the stories were quite "dark" and scary. Disney really transformed people's conception of Mary Poppins as the fun and perfect nanny, when the books were simply not so!

Anyway, this is a fun read. And it ties in nicely with the new Disney sequel "Mary Poppins Returns". I really appreciate the writers of the 2 movies in how they were able to stitch the standalone stories from the books and weave them together into an over-arching (and amazingly, coherent) plot that ties story, singing, and spectacle together.

It is a shame that the "Complete Collection" contains only the text of the 6 books, but not the illustrations! In this "Complete Collection", we are missing many of Mary Shepard's beautiful illustrations. In each chapter, there is only a tiny illustration on each chapter's start page. All the other illustrations in the chapter are omitted from this "Complete Collection". This is a crying shame. But then, perhaps this is a ploy to get readers to buy the standalone books again so that they can get all the Mary Shepard's illustrations.

Ana says

Oh, Disney, you naughty little sh*t!

Simone Ramone says

Went slowly downhill a-la the Anne of Green Gables series. Became repetitive but I still really liked the cranky old magical cow.

Noelle says

While I enjoyed the original Mary Poppins (book 1), I had to give up on this omnibus edition. Mary is downright unlikeable. She's not just strict or stern, she's rude. If I had to continue reading her huffing and snapping at people who'd merely greeted her or gave her a compliment, I'd scream. Disney really did a great job turning her into someone you could be a little afraid of at times, but completely charismatic and deep down, a good person. Read book 1, forget the rest.

Rachel Slocombe says

Mary Poppins is rude and vain and pretty unpleasant, she belittles people and punishes people (especially gold digging women) in really harsh ways. I'm not sure why children would like her or want to be in her care.

At points the stories got repetitive between books. Also, the chapters are really long and as I was reading it aloud it just made bedtime take forever!

Amy says

Mary is rude. She's vain. She is cousin to a snake. My point is - she is no Julie Andrews. Although she is cranky and snippy, she is also firm, fair, and compassionate. This is exactly why children are drawn to her. She is real and yet also magical. Disney still got it wrong but I'm looking forward to viewing the movie about what Ms. Travers thought about it all.

In reading this book only because I wanted to know how it was written before watching the movie mentioned above ... I discovered another book to add to my favorites. I would most likely never have discovered this book (having seen the movie as a child I would have written the book off as a waste of time) had it not been for the movie. I would not have discovered that it is so much more than a simple children's storybook. THAT is what book related movies are good for. <-- prepositional protest ending

Joanne Myers says

Today I finally finished reading the Complete Mary Poppins collection of books. 6 books in total, equating to approximately 9 hours worth of reading. It doesn't sound much for 6 books but when reading on my kindle as one complete book it seemed to be a daunting task. However, it was far from a drag.

The first three books are about Mary Poppins and her three (which is the magic number) visits to the Banks children. The second three books are extra stories of the adventures that the children had whilst in the care of Poppins.

The Mary Poppins in the book, whilst fun and magical, is definitely not the cheery and happy-go-lucky kind of governess that we all love from the film. Instead she is rather sarcastic, dry witted and extremely strict with the children. She entertains no notions whatsoever of "fanciful adventures". She is also rather vain. That being said I found the book Poppins seems to be much more normal (although she'd freak at being called Normal "Sniff, Sniff") and likeable than film Poppins.

I found the books to be entertaining (I do think my 3 year old was a little bored by them seeing as she's never gone to sleep quicker than when I was reading Poppins lol) and are definitely worth the time they took to read.
