



The Little Witch

By Otfried Preussler

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“Once upon a time there was a little witch who was only a hundred and twenty-seven years old”—that’s how the story of the little witch and her talking raven Abraxas begins, and though one hundred and twenty-seven isn’t at all old for a witch, Little Witch already has a big problem. Every year, on Walpurgis Night, all the witches of the land meet to dance on Brocken Mountain. Little Witch is still too little to be invited, but this year she decided to sneak in anyway—and got caught by her evil aunt Rumpumpel! Little Witch is in disgrace. Her broomstick has been burned. She’s been made to walk home. She’s been told that she has a year to pull off some seriously good witchcraft if she wants to be invited to Walpurgis Night *ever*. And then there’s an even bigger problem: What after all does it mean to be a good witch? One way or another, by the end of the story, Little Witch will have proved herself to be the biggest and best witch of all.

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The Little Witch By Otfried Preussler Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

"First published in 1957, this story of a young witch who's itching to become part of the grown-up witch world has a sprightly tone and a feel that's somewhere between fairy tale and Harry Potter. That's a sweet spot for magic-loving children just beginning to read on their own, and you don't see many books hit it this well. (It would be a fantastic read-aloud, too.)... There's a morally satisfying fairy-tale ending — a glorious moment of table-turning that speaks to our pent-up frustration at the arbitrary rules of the universe that put mean people in charge. The illustrations — charming, scratchy black-and-white line drawings by Winnie Gebhardt-Gayler — seem like they could have been done yesterday." —Maria Russo, *The New York Times Book Review*

"All children who tremble at the thought of witches - allay your fears! - For as of Walpurgis Night last, the bad witches have been rendered powerless and only one good little witch remains. How this came to be is the content of a delightful book to be read in episodes or at one happy sitting... How the little witch casts her most powerful spell will leave readers thoroughly satisfied and young bedtime listeners ready for only pleasant dreams." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Mr. Preussler's books were read aloud to generations of German children. They adored his characters." -- Douglas Martin, *The New York Times*

"Elements of folklore in Preussler's books are intertwined with conversations, funny dialogue, discussions of old and young, and angry disputes that are rooted in the everyday life of families and school. Preussler revealed... that he possessed an almost inexhaustible fantasy, an unfailing sense of humor and situation comedy. German children between the ages of four and twelve are still his fans." -- Horst Kunneman, *Bookbird*

Praise for Otfried Preussler's *Krabat and the Sorcerer's Mill*:

"One of my favorite books." --Neil Gaiman

"In Preussler's masterpiece, the terror is real, the love sweet, and the suspense twisted tight." --J. Alison James

About the Author

Otfried Preussler (1923–2013) was born into a family of teachers in Reichenberg, Czechoslovakia, and as a boy loved listening to the folktales of the region. Drafted into the army during World War II, Preussler was captured in 1944 and spent the next five years as a prisoner of war in the Tatar Republic. After his release, he moved to Bavaria and became a primary--school teacher and principal, supplementing his income by working as a reporter for a local newspaper and by writing scripts for children's radio. One of the most popular authors for children in Germany, Preussler was twice awarded the German Children's Book Prize. His many books have been translated into fifty-five languages and have sold over fifty million copies. New York Review Books also publishes Preussler's *Krabat & the Sorcerer's Mill* and *The Little Water Sprite* and will publish *The Robber Hotzenplotz* in 2016.

Anthea Bell is a translator from the German, French, and Danish, and the winner of the Independent Foreign

Fiction Prize, the Helen and Kurt Wolff Prize, and, three times over, the Marsh Award for Children's Literature in Translation. She has translated Asterix, Hans Christian Andersen, Cornelia Funke, Kerstin Gier, W.G. Sebald, Sigmund Freud, and several novels by Otfried Preussler.

Winne Gebhardt-Gayler (1929–2014) was a German illustrator who was a frequent collaborator with Otfried Preussler.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rose Sosa:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent all day long to reading a publication. The book *The Little Witch* it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book possesses high quality.

Robert Hicks:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition info. Even you love *The Little Witch*, you may enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still want to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its called reading friends.

Holly Murphy:

Do you have something that that suits you such as book? The e-book lovers usually prefer to decide on book like comic, brief story and the biggest the first is novel. Now, why not attempting *The Little Witch* that give your pleasure preference will be satisfied simply by reading this book. Reading routine all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world considerably better then how they react to the world. It can't be mentioned constantly that reading routine only for the geeky man or woman but for all of you who wants to be success person. So , for all of you who want to start looking at as your good habit, it is possible to pick *The Little Witch* become your starter.

Guadalupe Marshall:

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knowledge, because book has a lot of information into it. The information that you will get depend on what forms of book that you have read. If you would like get information about your analysis, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself read a fiction books, this sort of us novel, comics, and also soon. The The Little Witch will give you a new experience in reading a book.

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