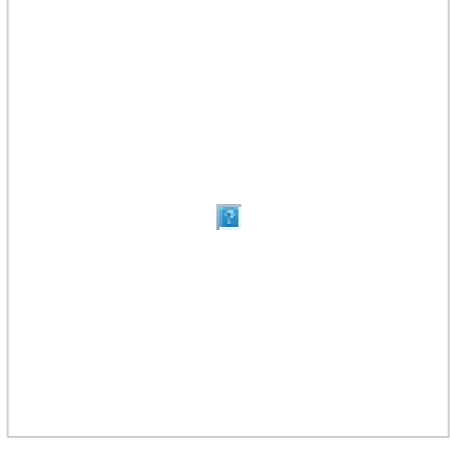


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Blyton author of children's books

Blyton children's books.
Blyton children's author crossword.
Children's author blyton first name.
Blyton author.
Bloomsbury children's books usa.

Enid Mary Blyton was an English writer who penned children's tales from 1897 till her death in 1968. Born on August 11th, she authored over 600 million copies of books, which are still widely popular and translated into ninety languages. The fourth most translated author as of June 2019, her works covered various topics like education, fantasy, mystery, and biblical stories. She is best known for her Noddy, Famous Five, Secret Seven, and Malory Towers series. Her writing style was often unplanned and flowed from her unconscious mind, with some speculating she had ghostwriters, which she denied. Critics have accused her works of being elitist, sexist, racist, xenophobic, but updated versions continue to be popular. Blyton felt a responsibility to instill strong morals in her readers, encouraging them to support worthy causes and raise funds for charities through clubs she supported or set up. Thomason, a Mantle Manufacturer dealer, and his wife Theresa Mary (née Harrison) had three kids: Enid, Hanly, and Carey. Born with whooping cough, Enid recovered thanks to her dad's care. Thomas Blyton sparked her interest in nature, gardening, art, music, literature, and theatre. He even took her on walks despite her mom's disapproval. After his departure when Enid was 13, she had a tough relationship with her mother, who showed little interest in her pursuits. Enid attended St Christopher's School from 1907 to 1915, excelling in writing and sports like tennis and lacrosse. She entered Arthur Mee's poetry competition and received encouragement to keep writing. Her mom considered it a waste of time, but Mabel Attenborough supported her. Seckford Hall inspired her with its haunted room, secret passageway, and gardens. Enid mastered piano under her dad's guidance and almost became a professional musician. However, she chose to pursue writing instead. After finishing school, she moved out of the family home to live with friends. Enid Blyton's Early Life and Career Enid Blyton began her writing career in 1916 with the publication of her first poems in Nash's Magazine. She completed her teacher training course in December 1918 and secured a teaching position at Bickley Park School, where she taught for four years. In 1920, Blyton moved to Surbiton as a nursery governess to the sons of architect Horace Thompson, with whom she spent happy years. The children often joined her classes, and a small school developed at the house due to the shortage of area schools. During this time, she started writing in her spare moments. Blyton's early success came from winning the Saturday Westminster Review writing competition in 1921 with an essay titled "On the Popular Fallacy that to the Pure All Things are Pure". Publications such as The Londoner and Home Weekly began to feature her short stories and poems. In 1922, Blyton published her first book, Child Whispers, a collection of poems. She also started writing for annuals at Cassell and George Newnes, and her work was featured alongside notable authors like Rudyard Kipling in a special issue of Teachers' World. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, Blyton became known for her educational texts, including The Teacher's Treasury, Modern Teaching, Pictorial Knowledge, and others. Her publications included children's books such as Real Fairies, The Enid Blyton Book of Fairies, and The Book of Brownies. In the 1930s, Blyton shifted her focus to writing stories based on myths from ancient Greece and Rome. The Old Thatch series, which debuted with "The Talking Teapot and Other Tales" in 1934, marked the beginning of Enid Blyton's prolific career as a children's author. Her first full-length book, "Adventures of the Wishing-Chair", appeared in 1937, followed by "The Enchanted Wood" in 1939, which drew inspiration from Norse mythology and featured a magical tree that transported children to fantastical worlds. Blyton's stories typically involved children being transported into magical realms where they encountered fairies, goblins, elves, and other mythological creatures. Her first full-length adventure novel, "The Secret Island", was published in 1938 and spawned the Secret series. The following year saw the release of her Circus series and Amelia Jane series. During the 1940s, Blyton became a bestselling author, thanks in part to her innovative marketing and branding techniques. She published multiple books under pseudonyms, including Mary Pollock, but was later forced to reissue works under her own name due to reader complaints. Notably, she released the first novel in the Naughtiest Girl series in 1940 and the St. Clare's series in 1941. Blyton's success continued throughout the decade, with notable releases including "The Twins at St. Clare's" (1941) and the Mary Mouse series, which debuted in 1942. The Mary Mouse series went on to produce 23 books between 1942 and 1964, with sales of over 10,000 copies in its first year alone. Enid Blyton's writing career took off with the publication of "Five on a Treasure Island," the first novel in her Famous Five series. This book and its subsequent 21 sequels, released between then and 1963, catapulted the characters of Julian, Dick, Anne, George (Georgina), and Timmy to household names in Britain. As Matthew Grenby noted, these stories often involved "unmasking hardened villains and solving serious crimes," though they were hardly typical thrillers. Blyton based her character Georgina on herself, describing her as a "tomboy" with features that included being "short-haired, freckled, sturdy, and snub-nosed." This portrayal showcases Blyton's interest in biblical narratives, which she also reflected in works like "The Land of Far-Beyond," a Christian parable from 1942. In the same year, her book "The Children's Life of Christ" was published, featuring fifty-nine short stories related to Jesus' life. Blyton's writing spanned multiple series and genres. Her first book in the Five Find-Outers series, "The Mystery of the Burnt Cottage," was released in 1943, alongside the second installment in her Faraway Tree series. The latter gained popularity with its inclusion on the BBC's Big Read poll list. Books like "John Jolly by the Sea" (also from 1943) and "The Island of Adventure" showcase her interest in seaside themes. Throughout the 1940s, Blyton produced new editions of several series, including the Famous Five, the Five Find-Outers, and St. Clare's, capitalizing on her growing readership. Her Malory Towers series, launched with "First Term at Malory Towers" in 1946, was particularly well-received among girls. Other notable series include the Barney Mysteries (beginning with "The Rockingdown Mystery" in 1949) and the Secret Seven novels. Blyton's work continued to evolve as she adapted her stories into cartoons for Mickey Mouse Weekly from 1951 onwards. Her legacy, though marred by controversy over some of her views, remains significant in children's literature. Evelyn Lallemand continued Enid Blyton's series in the 1970s with twelve more books; nine were translated into English by Anthea Bell between 1983 and 1987. Noddy, a character about a little wooden boy from Toyland created by Blyton's publishers Sampson, Low, Marston, and Company, was first introduced in the Sunday Graphic on June 5th, 1949, followed by his first book 'Noddy Goes to Toyland' published that November. The idea for Noddy came from a meeting between Blyton and Dutch illustrator Harmzen van der Beek, despite communicating through an interpreter he provided some initial sketches for the character. The Noddy books became one of her most successful series and were extremely popular in the 1950s, with numerous sub-series and spin-offs produced throughout the decade. By the early 1950s Blyton was at her peak output publishing over fifty books a year and remained prolific throughout much of the decade. In addition to Noddy she also published several more books featuring Scamp the terrier including 'Scamp Goes on Holiday' (1952) and 'Scamp Goes to the Zoo' (1954). The character Bom, a stylish toy drummer was introduced alongside Noddy in TV Comic in July 1956 and went on to star in several book series including 'Bom the Little Toy Drummer' (1956), by 1962 twenty-six million copies of Noddy had been sold. By 1963 Blyton concluded several of her long-running series, publishing the last books of The Famous Five and The Secret Seven; she also produced several more Bom annuals throughout that year. Enid Blyton's works, including Brer Rabbit books illustrated by Grace Lodge, became widely available in paperback from Armada Books in 1962. This made them more accessible to children. As her health began to decline and readership among older kids decreased, she shifted focus towards writing for younger audiences. Her last Noddy book, Noddy and the Aeroplane, was published in February 1964, followed by Mixed Bag in May of that year. In August 1964, she released The Man Who Stopped to Help and The Boy Who Came Back. Blyton's reputation as a children's writer solidified when she took over Sunny Stories magazine in 1926, where she featured her own column "From my Window" and later the popular Letters from Bobs series. Her contributions also included nature-themed articles and features like "Round the Year with Enid Blyton." She stopped contributing to Sunny Stories in 1952 but continued writing for other publications, including a magazine entirely written by herself that ran until September 1959. Noddy first appeared in the Sunday Graphic in 1949, marking her entry into the world of comics and newspapers. Blyton's works spanned various genres, from fairy tales to detective stories, often blending boundaries between them. Peter McKellar describes Enid Blyton's writing technique as shutting her eyes for a few minutes with her portable typewriter on her knee, making her mind blank, and waiting for characters to appear in her mind's eye. The first sentence comes naturally, without needing to think it through. In another letter, she explained how she wrote 60,000-word book "The River of Adventure" in five days by listening to her "under-mind". Blyton didn't conduct research or planning before starting a new book and had almost no variety in her life, which could have led to plagiarism. She used her experiences and knowledge to create stories that came from her imagination. The nostalgic allure of childhood is often tied to the imaginative world of Enid Blyton's stories. Her works, particularly "The Mountain of Adventure", present an idyllic portrayal of childhood that captivates readers. Watson notes how Blyton's narrative style differs from other authors, as it aims to demystify and explain the mysterious, using a straightforward approach. This is reflected in her use of minimal visual descriptions and whimsical phrases like "gleamed enchantingly" to engage young readers. Rumours emerged in the mid-1950s questioning whether Blyton was solely responsible for writing her books, leading to distress and eventually legal action taken against a librarian who repeated these allegations. Despite this controversy, Blyton continued to promote a positive moral framework, encouraging children to support worthy causes, particularly those helping animals and other children. Her involvement in various charities, including the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals' Busy Bees club, inspired countless children to join and actively participate in fundraising efforts. The Enid Blyton Magazine Club was established in 1953, focusing on supporting a centre in Chelsea that cared for children with cerebral palsy. When asked if her readers could form a fan club, Blyton agreed as long as it served a useful purpose, suggesting that the club should raise funds and support charitable causes. Enid Blyton established various clubs for her books, which raised substantial funds. Her Famous Five Club had 220,000 members by 1974. The club supported paediatric charities, including Great Ormond Street Hospital and Stoke Mandeville Hospital. Enid Blyton also merchandised her characters through jigsaw puzzles and games manufacturers. Bestime released four jigsaw puzzles in 1948, followed by the first Enid Blyton board game and card games featuring her characters. Enid Blyton married author Eric John Pollock in 1927, but the marriage was troubled due to his drinking and alleged infidelity. She became involved with a Home Guard officer, Ida Crowe, who later wrote about their affair. After discovering her husband's affair with Crowe's friend Lola Onslow, she decided not to initiate divorce proceedings. Instead, she had an affair with a surgeon, Kenneth Fraser Darrell Waters, and the two married in 1943. Blyton was pregnant at the time, but miscarried five months later after falling from a ladder. Her health began to decline in 1957, and by 1960, she showed signs of dementia. In her later years, Enid Blyton struggled with severe arthritis, deafness, and a increasingly short temper, eventually passing away on September 15, 1967. Her life story was dramatized in a BBC film called "Enid" which aired in the UK in 2009. Helena Bonham Carter portrayed her as a driven workaholic who cleverly marketed herself down to her signature. During the time following her husband's death, Blyton fell ill and moved into a nursing home three months prior to her passing. She passed away in her sleep due to Alzheimer's disease at Greenways Nursing Home in Hampstead, North London on November 28, 1968, aged 71. A memorial service was held at St James's Church, Piccadilly, and she was cremated at Golders Green Crematorium, where her ashes remain. Blyton's childhood home in Ondine Road, East Dulwich, South London is commemorated with a Blue Plaque. In 2014, a plaque honoring her time as a resident of Beaconsfield from 1938 until her death was unveiled at the town hall gardens, featuring small iron figures of Noddy and Big Ears. Since her passing, Blyton's reputation has shifted from being seen as kind and loving to emerging as emotionally immature, unstable, and sometimes malicious. Her daughters Imogen and Gillian had contrasting views on their mother's nature. Blyton's legacy includes the establishment of The Enid Blyton Trust for Children in 1982, which later founded the National Library for the Handicapped Child in 1985. The first Enid Blyton Day was held in 1993, and the Enid award was introduced to recognize outstanding contributions towards children. The Enid Blyton Society was formed in 1995 to cater to collectors and enthusiasts of her work. The centenary of Blyton's birth in 1997 was marked with exhibitions across the UK, including at the London Toy & Model Museum, Hereford and Worcester County Museum, and Bromley Library. The Royal Mail issued centenary stamps on September 9, 1997. Trocadero PLC, a London-based entertainment company, acquired Darrell Waters Ltd in 1995 for £14.6 million and created Enid Blyton Ltd to oversee her intellectual properties. The group later renamed itself Chorion but faced financial struggles, leading to the sale of its assets to Hachette UK in 2013. This deal included rights to The Famous Five series, while Noddy's rights were retained by DreamWorks Classics. In related news, Sophie Smallwood, Blyton's granddaughter, penned a new Noddy book for the character's 60th birthday, featuring illustrations by Robert Tyndall. Further, Seven Stories discovered a previously unknown Blyton manuscript titled Mr Tumpy's Caravan in its archives, believed to have been written in the 1930s. Enid Blyton remains an incredibly popular author worldwide, ranking fourth among most-translated authors, with her works being translated into 90 languages and selling millions of copies across various countries. Her legacy extends beyond literature, influencing writers such as Denise Danks and Peter Hunt through their works inspired by Blyton's stories. Enid Blyton's Controversial Legacy: A Author Whose Works Caused Uproar Among Educators and Critics Given article text here The literary works of Enid Blyton have been met with mixed reactions over the years. While some librarians have praised her ability to captivate young readers, others have criticized her use of language and the simplistic morality presented in her stories. Some critics have argued that her books create an "encapsulated world" for children, which can be difficult for them to leave behind as they grow older. Others have accused her of being emotionally and cognitively easy on her young readers, rather than challenging them. Blyton's daughter Imogen has stated that she loved creating a sense of wonder and magic through her books, but some critics argue that this comes at the expense of more complex themes and moral dilemmas. Given the criticism that Enid Blyton's works contain outdated and problematic elements, some publishers have taken steps to address these issues in later editions. Phyllis Hartnoll's internal review of The Mystery That Never Was found a xenophobic undertone in Blyton's depiction of foreign thieves, leading Macmillan to reject the manuscript. However, William Collins published it in 1961 and subsequent years. Critics argue that Blyton's portrayal of boys and girls is sexist, with female characters often being talked down to or forced to act like boys. To counter these criticisms, some editions have been revised to reflect more progressive attitudes towards issues like race, gender, violence, and treatment of children. For example, modern reprints of the Noddy series replace gollwogs with teddy bears or goblins, and characters in other series are no longer spanked or threatened with a spanking. References to girls needing short hair to be feminine have been removed, and some character names have been updated to be more contemporary. In 2010, Hodder announced plans to update the language used in The Famous Five series, replacing terms like "school tunic" with more modern equivalents, aiming for subtle changes that preserve the charm of the original stories. Rewritten text: The revisions made by Hodder included replacing "mother and father" and "mother and daddy" with "mum and dad", as well as changing "bathing" to "swimming" and "jersey" or "pullover" to "jumper". Some critics viewed these changes as necessary, while others saw them as unnecessary and condescending. The publisher ultimately decided not to implement the revisions after facing negative reactions from readers. Enid Blyton's works have been adapted into various stage productions, including a pantomime of Noddy in Toyland, which was performed at London's Stoll Theatre during Christmas seasons for five or six years. There were also TV adaptations of Noddy and the Famous Five, as well as film and television series featuring the characters. Other Blyton novels, such as The Secret Seven Save the World and The Faraway Tree, have been adapted into stage productions, films, and animated series. A film adaptation of The Faraway Tree is currently in development, and a TV series based on Malory Towers has been renewed for multiple seasons. The Enid Blyton Museum in Newcastle upon Tyne possesses the largest public collection of her papers and typescripts. The Seven Stories collection includes several unpublished works, personal documents, and diaries. This acquisition was made possible through funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and two private donations. In 1960, eleven Noddy books were published, including strip books like "Noddy's Bag of Money" and "Noddy's Car Gets into Trouble". Enid Blyton led a typical suburban life in her leisure time, enjoying gardening and playing golf or bridge. She rarely traveled outside England, preferring to vacation by the English coast in Dorset. The Famous Five Club was run by the publisher of her Famous Five series. Blyton submitted her first proposal to the BBC in 1936. Enid Blyton's books have experienced a resurgence in popularity, shedding their reputation as being "politically correct" and instead receiving renewed recognition. Her daughter is preparing to celebrate a special anniversary related to her mother's life and work. Various publications and sources have highlighted Blyton's contributions to children's literature, including her most famous creations like Noddy and The Famous Five. Experts and fans alike are reevaluating her legacy and works, acknowledging her impact on the world of children's fiction. I removed the citations and references as they were not part of the paraphrased text. Let me know if you would like me to include them in any way. Enid Blyton was a British author who wrote many popular children's books, including the Famous Five and Noddy series. Born in 1897, she started her writing career during World War I and went on to become one of the most prolific and beloved authors of all time. Some interesting facts about Enid Blyton:
* She was known for her imaginative stories and memorable characters.
* Her books were often set in idyllic English countryside or seaside towns.
* Many of her stories featured children going on adventures and solving mysteries.
* She also wrote under the pseudonym Mary Howard.
* Enid Blyton was married to Hugh Pollock, a publisher who helped launch her career. Some controversies surrounding Enid Blyton:
* There were allegations that she had an affair with her publisher, which led to a divorce from her husband.
* Some critics have accused her of being overly simplistic and formulaic in her writing style.
* She was also criticized for her depiction of women and minorities in her stories.
Legacy:
* Enid Blyton's books continue to be popular around the world, with many still in print today.
* Her works have been adapted into films, TV shows, and stage productions.
* A museum dedicated to her life and work was established in Beaconsfield, England.
* She remains one of the most beloved and enduring children's authors of all time.
Enid Blyton was a renowned British author, best known for her children's books. She wrote numerous series, including the Famous Five and Noddy. Her works were widely popular in the UK and abroad. Blyton's writing career spanned several decades, with many of her books being translated into multiple languages. Despite initial controversies surrounding some of her works, Blyton's legacy has endured, with her stories remaining beloved by generations of readers.
Updates and Legacy
* A publication update for "The Famous Five" series flopped in 2016.
* However, it reverted back to its original language after the update failed to gain traction.
Bibliography and Research
* The Seven Stories museum acquired rare Enid Blyton manuscripts in 2010.
* Researchers have written extensively on Enid Blyton's life and work, including books such as "Enid Blyton" by Gillian Baverstock (1997) and "Intermodernism: Literary Culture in Mid-twentieth-century Britain" by Kristin Bluemel (2009).
Notable Works and Adaptations
* Enid Blyton's works have been adapted into various media, including TV shows such as "Noddy on TV", "The Famous Five", and films like the upcoming film inspired by her "Faraway Tree" series.
* Her iconic books, such as "Malory Towers", continue to be popular among children.
* Researchers have also written about Enid Blyton's writing style and impact on British children's literature.
Enid Blyton is a renowned children's author who has been widely studied and written about. Her works, including her famous "Famous Five" series, have had a significant impact on literature for children. Over the years, numerous books, articles, and essays have been published about her life, writing style, and cultural significance. Some notable authors who have written about Enid Blyton include:
* Colin Matthew, who wrote about her in his book "Brief Lives"
* Shannon Murray, who explored her connection to John Bunyan and children's literature
* Jon Naismith and Greeme Garden, who edited a collection of essays on children's literature that included a piece about Enid Blyton
These works have been published by various presses, including Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, and Sutton Publishing. Some notable books include "The Enid Blyton Story" by Bob Mullan, "Enid Blyton: The Biography" by Barbara Stoney, and "The Enid Blyton Dossier" by Brian Stewart and Tony Summerfield. Additionally, there are numerous online resources available about Enid Blyton, including her profile on the Internet Speculative Fiction Database, a blog about her at Seven Stories, and a collection of her works at Project Gutenberg and Librivox. Enid Blyton information