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Further Adventures of the Family from One End Street, , Penguin Group (Canada), 1963, 0140367780, 9780140367782, . .

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A cute children's book, focusing on two different story lines until the family all come together again at the end of the book. I enjoyed their separate adventures, especially the one about the tiger, and the way the family get their pig. I can imagine that if I'd read this when I was younger, I would have enjoyed it even more. Four stars!

I absolutely loved this book! It is the second in a series of three about an English family, the Ruggleses. Their Mother is a washerwomen and Dad is a dustman and there are seven little Ruggleses. They have the kind of adventures children had in prewar England that make our modern lives seem boring. The book is greatly enhanced by the very charming illustrations by the author.

Further Adventures of the Family from One End Street is the sequel to The Family from One End Street, an English children's book. Eve Garnett originally wrote this book shortly after the previous instalment had been published in 1937, and it is clearly claimed at one point to be set in 1938, but the manuscript was badly damaged in a fire in 1941. Eventually most of the book could be deciphered, and the part which was completely unreadable had, luckily, already been published in Junior Bookshelf magazine.

In the book Kate, Peg and Jo Ruggles go on holiday to the Dew Drop Inn, located in the (probably Sussex) village of Upper Cassington, while they are on convalescence from measles. Eve Garnett subsequently wrote another book in the series, Holiday at the Dew Drop Inn, which detailed Kate's return visit to Upper Cassington during the following summer, keeping the late 1930s (presumably 1939) setting.

The Family from One End Street is a realistic English children's novel, written and illustrated by Eve Garnett and published by Frederick Muller in 1937. Set in a small Sussex town, it was considered innovative and groundbreaking for its portrayal of a working-class family in a genre dominated by middle-class stories. Yet it is "a classic story of life in a big, happy family." [2]

Garnett and The Family won the second annual Carnegie Medal from the Library Association, recognising the year's outstanding children's book by a British subject. [2] (It beat Tolkien's The Hobbit among others.) For the 70th anniversary of the Medal it was named one of the top ten winning works, selected by a panel to compose the ballot for a public election of the all-time favourite. [3] It is regarded as a classic, having remained in print to the present day. [citation needed]

Lily Rose comes home early after a pipe has burst at school, and being a Girl Guide, Lily Rose tries

to help her mother by ironing some of the laundry her mother does for clients. Unfortunately, she uses a too-hot iron for a petticoat of artificial silk, which shrinks, and her mother is furious as the garment belonged to one of her most trusted customers, Mrs. Beaseley.

Kate has passed her 'eleven plus' examinations with flying colours, but her parents are concerned, as they believe that they cannot afford the extra school expenses this will incur. Mrs. Beaseley's cook points out that Mr. Ruggles has filled the scholarship paperwork out incorrectly: instead of seven children, he stated that he had only one child. After correcting the paperwork, they get a larger scholarship.

The week before school opens, Kate is invited on an outing to the seaside by one of her school friends, and manages to lose her new school hat to the incoming tide. She cannot ask her family for another, as she wasn't supposed to be wearing it on the picnic, nor does she have enough money to buy one. Two local boys, Bill and his brother Ted, tell her where she can pick mushrooms and sell them for a shilling a pound.

Unfortunately, they are not wild mushrooms but cultivated ones, and the farmer catches Kate with a basket of his mushrooms. He asks her if she's stolen mushrooms before and she tearfully tells him how she found out about them. The farmer believes her, and is understanding enough to give her a basket of mushrooms to sell. After Kate goes back home, a surprise awaits her in a parcel: the hat she had lost at sea during the Salthaven (i.e. Newhaven, Sussex) outing has been recovered by a friend of the Watkins!

Jim, the older and more ambitious of the Ruggles twins, decides he wants an adventure of his own, but is captured by a local gang. A twelve-year-old named Henry Oates heads this gang, whose members call themselves Black Hands. The gang meets every Saturday, in an old lime kiln or at the gasworks, where Henry's father, a foreman, is employed. Though they consider him too young to join and accuse him of spying, Jim begs for his acceptance.

The next Saturday, Jim embarks on a real adventure. As a hailstorm begins, he follows a friendly little dog into a drain pipe around a wharf's barge-loading area for shelter; the dog escapes but Jim, who has fallen asleep in the pipe, is carried off to the seaport Salthaven, when the pipes are loaded onto a barge.

John, the younger twin, is a car fan and regularly visits Otwell Castle's car park, in the hope of finding visitors who will pay him to mind their car. A couple called the Lawrences arrive at the castle, and allow him to 'mind' their car. The same rainstorm which sends Jim into the pipe on the wharf for shelter catches John, and he climbs into the car for shelter.

When the Lawrences return, they drive away without checking the back seat, and John does not awaken until they've driven some miles. Instead of turning around and taking him home, they invite him to their son's birthday party, and promise to send a telegram to his family to let the Ruggles know that John is safe.

William, the youngest Ruggles child, is entered in the Annual Baby Show, but the family is concerned as he is a late teether. He wins his age category (6-12 months), yet a slightly older competitor wins the Grand Challenge Cup as he has teeth. The Ruggles return home only to find that William now has a tooth!

Jo Ruggles Jr., a Mickey Mouse fan, spends his fourpence allowance at the local Majestic Theater to see cartoons. One week, he goes to the theatre, only to find that the next Symphony is due in a fortnight. He sneaks inside the empty building and hides in the orchestra pit, where he soon falls asleep; several hours later, several cinema musicians find him. Jo explains to them why he sneaked in, and the men give him sixpence for the show, and a warning not to do it again.

Mr. Ruggles has always wanted to take his family to London for the great Cart-Horse Parade in Regent's Park, but cannot afford it. One week, he and his co-worker find an envelope with £41 in

one of the dustbins on their route. They turn the money in to the police, and a week later, the author Mr. Short gives him a reward of £2, which he uses to take his family to the Cart-Horse Parade.

The Ruggles spend the afternoon at a "Posh" tea shop while Charlie is stabling his horse. They spend longer than they realise amidst the delights of ice cream, sundaes and orchestra music, and must rush off to the train station. They make it just in time, and as the train pulls out, Mr. Ruggle's brother plays *The End of a Perfect Day* on his mouth organ.

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This is the story of everyday life in the big, happy Ruggles family who live in the small town of Otwell. Father is a dustman and Mother a washerwoman. Then there's all the children - practical Lily Rose, clever Kate, mischievous twins James and John, followed by Jo, who loves films, little Peg and finally baby William. This is a truly classic book awarded the Carnegie Medal as the best children's book of 1937.

Eve Garnett was born in 1900 in Worcestershire, and studied art at Chelsea Polytechnic and the Royal Academy School of Art. Whilst a student, she sketched the people of the East End slums and was haunted by the poverty she had witnessed, resolving to do something to bring the plight of the working-class family to people's attention. *The Family from One End Street* was originally published by Frederick Muller in 1937, followed by *The Further Adventures of the Family from One End Street* in 1956, and *Holiday at Dew Drop Inn* in 1962. She died in 1991.

The Family from One End Street is one of the best family oriented children's book I have ever read. I have been reading it since I was 14 years old and pass it on to my friends whenever possible. Eve Garnett gives personification to the pages as she tells the story of a real family experiencing real challenges and having fun doing it. I would recommend this book for all ages. I look forward to the sequel "*Further Adventures of the Family from One End Street*" being available for purchase on Kindle.

The Family from One End Street marked a series of firsts for me. Perhaps most importantly, it was

the first book to break the stranglehold of Enid Blyton. Much as I loved the 826 billion volumes of Famous Five et al, the day eventually dawned when I started running a speculative eye over library and shop shelves for stories about something other than the spy-catching quintet. And there, suddenly, were the Ruggles family – two parents, seven children – all rendered equally lively and interesting but all utterly different from each other, and all utterly real.

Episodically structured, it became therefore the first book I loved for its characters rather than its plot. And it was the first book not only for me, but for all of its readers when it was first published in 1937, to make urban, working-class children its heroes. Some critics detected a patronising tone towards Garnett's characters, but others praised her for avoiding both sentimentality and condescension and replacing them with what one called "a careful truthfulness" instead.

Not that I knew or cared about any of this at the time, of course. I just knew it was a relief to spend time with book-children who, like me, had more experience of a world bounded by building sites, patches of grubby parkland and knackered working parents than they did of one strewn with rolling moors, private islands and spies.

It was also the first book I owned that had been written and illustrated by the author. Garnett had been an art student and the book grew out of her walks through the back streets of London as she searched for subjects to sketch. Incidentally, the drawings are lovely – sweet, strong and deceptively simple, like the book itself.

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