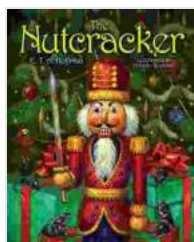


# The Nutcracker: The Original Holiday Classic

The Nutcracker is a beloved holiday classic that has been enchanting audiences for over a century. This enchanting ballet tells the story of Clara, a young girl who receives a magical nutcracker doll on Christmas Eve. The nutcracker comes to life and takes Clara on a magical journey through the Land of Sweets. The Nutcracker is a timeless classic that is sure to delight audiences of all ages.



## The Nutcracker: The Original Holiday Classic

by Martha Gellhorn

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 15273 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 40 pages



## The History of The Nutcracker

The Nutcracker was first performed in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1892. The ballet was choreographed by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, with music by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. The Nutcracker was an instant success, and it has since become one of the most popular ballets in the world.

The Nutcracker is based on the story "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King" by E.T.A. Hoffmann. In Hoffmann's story, Clara receives a nutcracker doll

from her godfather on Christmas Eve. The nutcracker comes to life and battles the Mouse King, who has stolen Clara's favorite doll. Clara and the nutcracker prince are victorious, and they celebrate their victory with a grand party in the Land of Sweets.

## **The Characters of The Nutcracker**

The Nutcracker features a cast of colorful characters, including:

- **Clara** - A young girl who dreams of a magical Christmas
- **The Nutcracker Prince** - A handsome prince who protects Clara from the Mouse King
- **The Mouse King** - A wicked king who tries to steal Clara's favorite doll
- **The Sugar Plum Fairy** - A beautiful fairy who rules the Land of Sweets
- **The Snow Queen** - A majestic queen who rules the Land of Snow

## **The Music of The Nutcracker**

The Nutcracker is famous for its beautiful music, which includes some of Tchaikovsky's most popular melodies. The ballet's score includes the following pieces:

- **Overture**
- **March**
- **Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy**
- **Russian Dance**
- **Arabian Dance**

- **Chinese Dance**
- **Waltz of the Flowers**
- **Trepak**
- **Divertissement**

## **The Legacy of The Nutcracker**

The Nutcracker has had a profound impact on the world of ballet. The ballet's unique combination of music, choreography, and storytelling has inspired generations of dancers and choreographers. The Nutcracker is also a popular holiday tradition, and it is performed by ballet companies around the world every year.

The Nutcracker is a timeless classic that is sure to delight audiences of all ages. This enchanting ballet is the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season.

## **Additional Resources**

- [New York City Ballet's The Nutcracker](#)
- [Royal Opera House's The Nutcracker](#)
- [Bolshoi Ballet's The Nutcracker](#)



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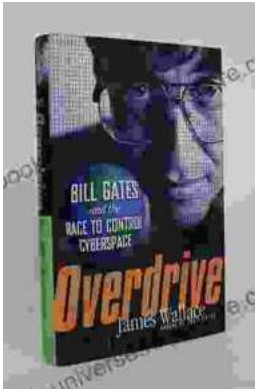
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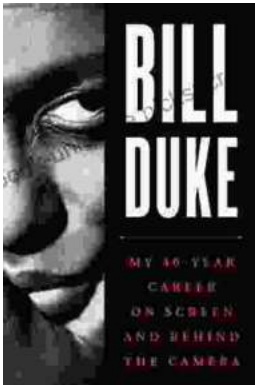
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