E. Nesbit: Victorian Iconoclast, Children's Author, and Creator of The Railway Children

E. Nesbit was a Victorian writer who challenged social norms and wrote beloved children's books, including *The Railway Children*. She was a feminist, a socialist, and a freethinker, and her work reflects her progressive views.

Early Life and Education

E. Nesbit was born Edith Nesbit Bland on August 15, 1858, in Kennington, London. Her father was a civil servant, and her mother was a writer. Nesbit had two older sisters and a younger brother. She was a bright and imaginative child, and she loved to read and write. Nesbit's parents were not wealthy, and she did not receive a formal education. However, she was able to educate herself through her reading and writing. She was particularly interested in fairy tales and children's literature.



The Life and Loves of E. Nesbit: Victorian Iconoclast, Children's Author, and Creator of The Railway Children

by Eleanor Fitzsimons

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.2 out of 5 Language : English File size : 11359 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 415 pages Lending : Enabled Paperback : 272 pages Item Weight : 11.7 ounces **Dimensions** : 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches



Marriage and Family

In 1880, Nesbit married Hubert Bland, a socialist activist. The couple had five children together. Bland was a strong supporter of Nesbit's writing, and he encouraged her to publish her work.

Writing Career

Nesbit began her writing career in the early 1880s. She published her first children's book, *The Story of the Treasure Seekers*, in 1899. The book was a huge success, and it was followed by a number of other children's books, including *The Railway Children* (1906) and *Five Children and It* (1902).

Nesbit's children's books are known for their humor, adventure, and heartwarming stories. They often feature children who are independent and resourceful, and they celebrate the power of imagination. Nesbit was also a gifted writer of adult fiction, and she published several novels and short stories for adults.

Political and Social Activism

Nesbit was a lifelong feminist and socialist. She was a strong believer in the equality of women, and she worked to promote women's rights. She was also a supporter of the labor movement, and she wrote several articles and speeches in support of workers' rights.

Nesbit's political and social activism is reflected in her writing. Her children's books often feature strong female characters, and they promote

the values of cooperation and social justice. Nesbit was also a strong critic of war, and she wrote several anti-war articles and poems.

Death and Legacy

E. Nesbit died on May 4, 1924, at the age of 65. She was a prolific writer, and she published over 60 books and countless articles and short stories. She is best known for her children's books, which continue to be enjoyed by readers of all ages.

Nesbit was a visionary writer who challenged the social norms of her time. Her work is still relevant today, and it continues to inspire and entertain readers of all ages.

Further Reading

- E. Nesbit on Encyclopedia Britannica
- E. Nesbit on the British Library website
- E. Nesbit on Goodreads



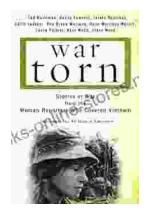
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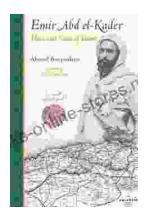
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