



Little Witch

Anna Elizabeth Bennett , Helen Stone (Illustrator)

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Minikin Snickasnee - called Minx for short - was nine years old and wished with all her heart that she was not a witch's child. ...

It may sound like fun to be the daughter of Madam Snickasnee and be forbidden to go to school, to wash behind your ears, or go to bed at night. You might even like to see certain people you know turned into potted plants and have your own flying broomstick. ...

But Minx didn't like riding around in the dark or cooking up horrid pots of Black Spell Brew. Even a witch's child rebels, and one day, Minx sneaked off to school. ...

The principal was certainly surprised to see his newest pupil arriving on a broomstick, and life got much more exciting for a lot of people - the school-children, Mr. Beanpot the detective and Mrs. Sputter of the Parent-Teachers' Association. ...

Anyone who ever longed to cast a spell or experiment with a magic kettle will delight in the wonderful story of Minx and how her dearest wish came true. Helen Stone's gay line drawings make the little witch and her friends come alive with humor and Hallowe'en spirit.

Little Witch Details

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Author : Anna Elizabeth Bennett , Helen Stone (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Little Witch for online ebook

Ivonne Rovira says

I chalk it up to growing up in the 1960s and the influence of *Bewitched* on TV. Before Twilight “nicely up” vampires, Elizabeth Montgomery’s portrayal of good witch Samantha Stevens polished up the image of witches. Since then I’ve befriended a number of Wiccans, who can be characterized as good witches. So when I read *Little Witch*, I was gobsmacked to discover poor Minikin living in dread fear of her mother, Madam Snickasnee, a most evil witch, one who delights in turning innocent children — well, except for that delinquent Billy Martin — into flowerpots and in otherwise terrorizing her town. I’d forgotten that witches for centuries were feared.

Minikin — who goes by Minx — has, despite being 9 years old, never been to school, never had any friends, never had any fun. She longs to live as a normal girl, but the neighborhood children flee at her appearance, crying Witch’s child!” She spends her nights, while her mother flies out on her broomstick, trying unsuccessfully to conjure up a fairy. But an encounter with a sweet little orphan named Frances, her many siblings, and her big-hearted grandmother serve to change Minx’s life.

Little Witch has the slower pace and more moralizing tone that you’d expect from a children’s book from the 1950s; however, I enjoyed it all the same and the lessons that you shouldn’t judge someone by their family and that you should try to be brave and do what’s right are always good ones.

Carla Peele says

I read this gem over and over again as a child, but have looked fruitlessly for it again for nearly 20 years, and my husband finally found it again for me, and I re-read it, pleased to see that the magic has not worn off. It was a childhood favorite of my mother's as well, and she passed this memory down to me. Minikin "Minx" Snickasee was a witch's child, or so she thought...

Never had bathed, was often neglected and abused, underfed, and lived in fear of her mother. But, she had dreams... dreams that she was NOT the daughter of a witch, but a fairy instead... At the age of nine she rebelled and began attending school, meeting the lovely Frances and her large, boisterous, but kind family. The family became her saving grace, and Madame Snickasee, the old witch, was made to pay for her crimes against children and humanity in general.

And, best of all, she found that her dreams were real, and her mother, her REAL mother, was a Wood Nymph Fairy, placed under an enchantment by Madame Snickasee! Her mother, Moonfire, came to stay with Grandma and Frances' family, and Minikin finally had all the love she'd craved...

Katie says

Like many other posters, I read and re-read this story many times as a child and have searched both brick and mortar and online book sellers in vain for this story. I was so pleased to read Melissa McCann's post about it being digitized and available at ePub. I downloaded it on my iPhone as soon as I read that post and imported

it into Stanza. Reading it again last night, after so many years was like a reunion with a long lost friend. Thanks, Melissa! If you missed her post and are searching for this book, you can find it here: you can read it on your computer or import into an ereader device: <http://www.epubbud.com/book.php?g=Q4A...>

Jane says

Oh my heck! I'm not even sure what I just read!

I know I had this book as a child and, as such, I'm sure I read it many times, but not one word of this book rang a bell for me. I'm sure that even when I read this in the 80s it must have seemed dated. Reading it now is plain astonishing to see how different it is from more modern beginning reader/middle grade offerings.

4 stars for this one, mostly for nostalgia (even though I don't actually remember it), but also for making laugh out loud several times with its vintage dialogue.

Awesome Female Character score: 5/5 -- Minx the little witch is one determined chickie!

Brianne says

This was my favorite book as a child. Last night when I added it to my shelf here on Goodreads, I read many peoples' comments about how much they loved it and lamented it was no longer in print. Upon learning that it was out of print, I was glad to have my copy. But when I looked for it, I couldn't find it! Instead of my purple Little Witch, I had some other purple witch book that I do not recall at all. I must have unintentionally given away the wrong book. I went to the thrift store today, like I tend to do on half price Mondays, but didn't expect to find it. I was very surprised and happy to find my purple Little Witch! It was the best fifty cents ever spent. :)

Lisa Vegan says

In elementary school (second & third & fourth grades) I read this over & over & over & over. Story of a little girl witch who wants to be nice and have friends, but who has an evil witch mother who does everything she can to squelch her good side. I felt a lot of affection for the little witch and loved being on her side. It was great fun whenever she was able to outwit her mother!

Katy St. Clair says

I drove my grade-school librarian nuts, because all I wanted were books about children who were witches. Actually, i just wanted about 40 more books like this one. I believe her name was Dory, which is still one of my favorite names ever since.

Dna says

I don't know if this is really a classic, but it was to me. I read this when I was 8 or 9 and it fueled my imagination! It has everything: kindred spirits, the mystery of unknown parentage, witches, potions, and a vulnerable little girl who dreams of a happy family. I still have the tattered old hardcover and guard it like gold.

Ruth says

I've read this short paperback book multiple times in my life (most of them during elementary school) and found it magical and delightful every time. The story of Minx (Minikin Snikasnee--the name itself shows you why it's a delightful little book!) as the reluctant witch's daughter who just wants to be a normal little girl and have normal friends probably resonates with the outcast inside all of us. As you see Minx use her ingenuity to live her most hopeful wish, you'll be charmed too. The pen and ink illustrations by Helen Stone are sweet--when I purchased the book I had to be sure the illustrations were the same as I remembered from my childhood experiences. Wonderful.

Dawne says

The kids and I just finished this book last night. They really enjoyed it. We read a couple chapters each night, and they couldn't wait to get back to it. I recently found it at my library, and I remember this is the first chapter book I read "all by myself" when I was probably in about second grade. I didn't recall a thing about it, but the title has always stuck in my mind, so I really must have liked it then too!

Suzanne says

This was one of my very favorite books as a child - I checked it out from the library multiple times a year. I was glad to have the chance to read it as an adult. Of course, it's not the same now - but I can see how it captured my imagination. I had many day-dreams about mixing different colors of potions :)

Melissa says

I loved this book and haven't been able to find a copy in years (I always checked it out from the library). I just found an epub copy online! No illustrations--which were part of what I loved about the original book--but the story is just as I remembered it!

<http://www.epubbud.com/book.php?g=Q4A...>

Valerie says

This was my absolute favorite children's book when I was a young child. I signed it out of the school library so many times that I filled up the library card a few times. A few years ago, I was working in the library in an elementary school (different town), and they had a stack of books that they were discarding, and lo and behold...there was the book! I asked if I could keep it and they said yes. I hope some day that my daughter may like to read it.

Iris says

The tale of independent Minikin, or "Minx," enchanted me as a first-grader when I dearly loved the hardcover edition in the Snail Lake Elementary library. Returning to it, I suppose it's as liberated as a 1940s cute-little-lady kid's novel can be. The fourth-grader Minx bravely steps away from the cruel world of witchery, longing for a conventional life; but she learns to embrace the upside of black magic. Her kind nature sways her community to support her flavor of witchcraft. By the end, the school principal and the town folk are clamoring for a ride on her broom.

Karl Ove Knausgaard, in Volume 3 of "My Struggle," mentions his memory of reading a novel called "The Little Witch" at the age of 8. He was deeply disturbed by the little girl's rebelliousness. I'm not sure if this was the same novel he read, but this is the "Little Witch" that so touched my young soul.

Krista says

This is the first book I ever read. I was slow and introverted. I would go to the school library and check out a lot of books, so that others would think that I read them overnight. I opened the book when I got home and started looking at the pictures the way I did all books, but then I realized that for the first time, I wanted to know what the pictures meant. I began to read it. It enveloped me in a world that paralleled my own. How often I had wanted to find out that I had been kidnapped, so many times I locked my self in the bathroom and prayed, bargained, pleaded, and even wiggled my nose like Tabitha in the hopes that my life would be transformed. That night my life was truly transformed for the first time. I learned that a good story could transport me into a different reality! I learned to make up stories in my head when I didn't have a book to read at that moment. Years later I found The Little Witch on amazon.com and bought it immediately. This story was a major stepping stone in my childhood. It now rests on a special shelf with a few other treasured books from that time in my life, along with my special hardbacks of the Harry Potter series. My oh my! What I would have given to go to Hogwarts!!!
