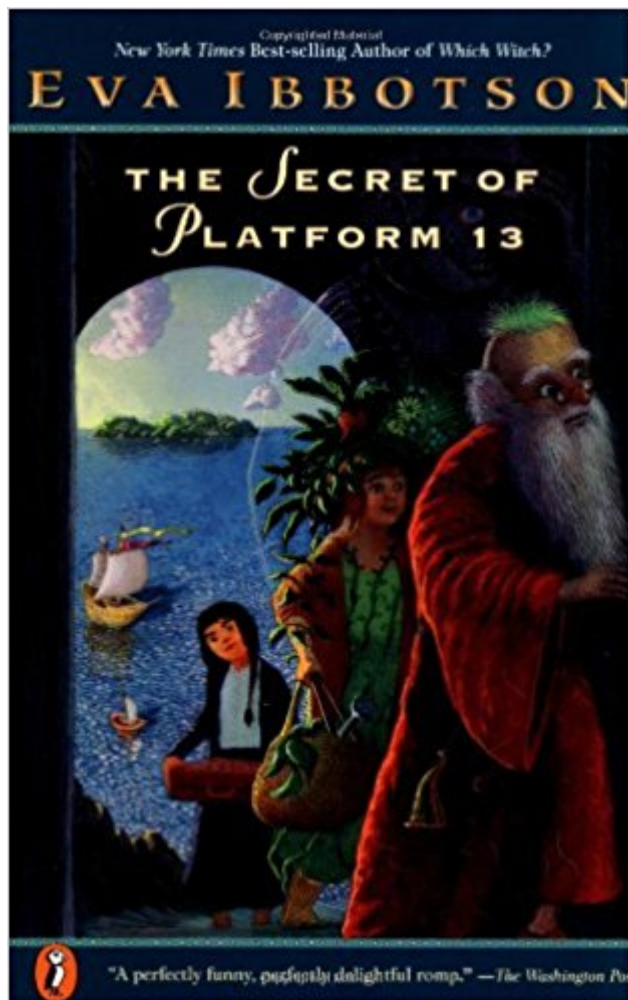


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# The Secret Of Platform 13



## Synopsis

A forgotten door on an abandoned railway platform is the entrance to a magical kingdom--an island where humans live happily with mermaids, ogres, and other wonderful creatures. Carefully hidden from the world, the Island is only accessible when the door opens for nine days every nine years. When the beastly Mrs. Trottle kidnaps the Island's young prince, it's up to a strange band of rescuers to save him. But can the rescuers--an ogre, a hag, a wizard, and a fey--sneak around London unnoticed? Fans of Roald Dahl, Lewis Carroll, and E. Nesbit will delight in this comic fantasy.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 910L (What's this?)

Paperback: 231 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (October 25, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0141302860

ISBN-13: 978-0141302867

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 143 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #79,461 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #225 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Dragons](#) #1606 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship](#) #2180 in [Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic](#)

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## Customer Reviews

PW called this tale about four dwellers of a magical island who travel to London in search of their kidnapped prince "lightweight entertainment for fantasy buffs." Ages 8-12. (Nov.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 4-6?The door between our world and the enchanted Island is only open for nine days every nine years. Unfortunately, in the last minutes before it closes in 1983, the baby prince of the Island is kidnapped by a nasty woman named Trottle. For nine long years, the king and queen pine and

plan for his rescue. Which of the magical creatures of their land should be sent to rescue their lost child? Finally, the team is chosen: Cor, an ancient wizard; Gurkie, a lovable agricultural fairy; Hans, a one-eyed giant; and Odge, a resourceful young hag. Guided by the ghosts who guard our end of the portal (called a gump), the team sets out to rescue little Raymond Trottle. While they are charmed by the kitchen boy, Ben, they are horrified by the piggish Raymond, who does not cooperate with their plans. The plucky group, with the help of Ben and the few magical creatures they find in London, tries to cajole and then, desperate, tries to steal Raymond before the gump closes. Ibbotson's lively fantasy is full of fun with its Dahl-like, but less mean-spirited, humor. Children will enjoy the magical creatures, including the cuddly mistmakers who emit fog when they hear music. The author's odd characters are endearing?poor Odge is something of a failure as a hag, but a rousing success as a friend. Certainly readers won't be surprised to discover that kindly Ben is the lost prince, but they will be delighted by the adventure.?Anne Connor, Los Angeles Public LibraryCopyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

The funny thing is that I'm an adult and read this just for fun, and i found it quite entertaining. it was nostalgic of me, bc i read her other novel Which witch when i was young, and it's nice to see that her style wasn't just something i enjoyed because i was a kid, but something i loved because it was good. Very good book for ur children, so give it to them!

I love this book. I read it as a child and purchased it as an adult after reading a slightly disturbing novel. It was a great light hearted pick me up and that I desperately needed. I plan on reading it to my nephew in a few years. Wonderful characters and creatures.

Platform 13 of King's Cross Railway Station has a doorway that leads to a magical island harmoniously inhabited by a diverse assortment of beings, including humans, hags, feys, mermaids, and furry little creatures called mistmakers. The kingdom's prince was kidnapped as an infant during a visit to London. Nine years later, when the portal between worlds reopens, four rescuers -- Cornelius, an elderly wizard who used to be a university professor in our world; Odge, a young and remarkably unhaglike hag; Gurkintrude, a fey who is sort of a goddess of agricultural plenty; and Hans, a kindly one-eyed ogre from the Alps who yodels and tends goats -- are sent by the king and queen to bring him home. The story is full of eccentric characters, mostly likable, a few definitely not: sundry ghosts who help the rescuers; Melisande, a water nymph who wants it known that she

has feet and is not a mermaid; the hilariously obnoxious Mrs. Trottle and her equally unpleasant son; some horrifically amusing and ghastly harpies who have permanent waves and carry handbags; and Ben, a delightful kitchen boy of unknown parentage. The whole thing is very humorous, lively and imaginative, and fans of Diana Wynne Jones and J.K. Rowling most likely will enjoy it immensely. Also well worth reading are Ms. Ibbotson's extremely funny ghost books, obtainable in British paperback editions.

I read this book back when I was in elementary school (I am 18 now) and I absolutely loved it! I really loved the magical island and the fantastical setting. I thought this was an awesome book when I was younger and I plan on getting my 12 year old brother to read it. I definitely think it is worth owning.

Read aloud to grandkids age 7 and 8. We all loved it and could not wait for bedtime to read the next chapter! Hopefully it will become a film. Great story!

The book is as described and arrived quickly.

Such an unexpected pleasure! Astounding detail, and Ode, what a fabulous character! If you've thought about reading this, do it. You won't regret it! The Trotters give the Dursleys a run for the worst family in magical literature!

I read this because it was recommended to folks who like Harry Potter books. It has the original story of Platform 13. It was a cute plot and had some interesting characters, but overall was not a fascinating story.

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