

Especially for young readers

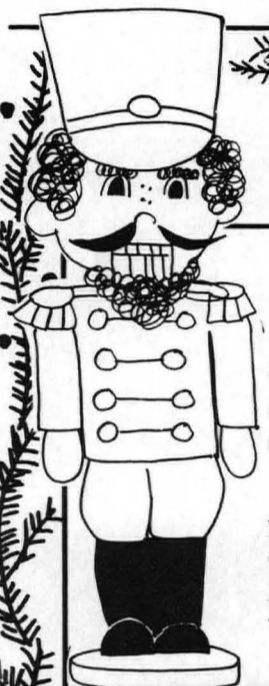
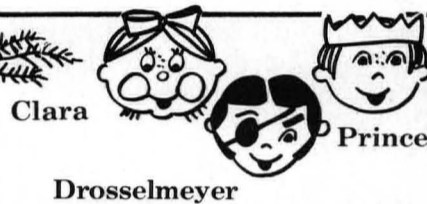
The Mini Page

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By BETTY DEBNAM

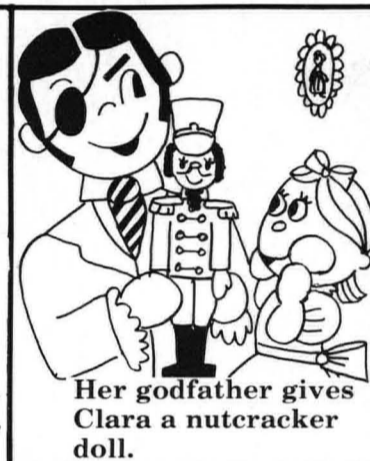
The Nutcracker Story



"The Nutcracker" is a beautiful ballet often performed at Christmastime. This fairy tale set to music and dance was written nearly 100 years ago.



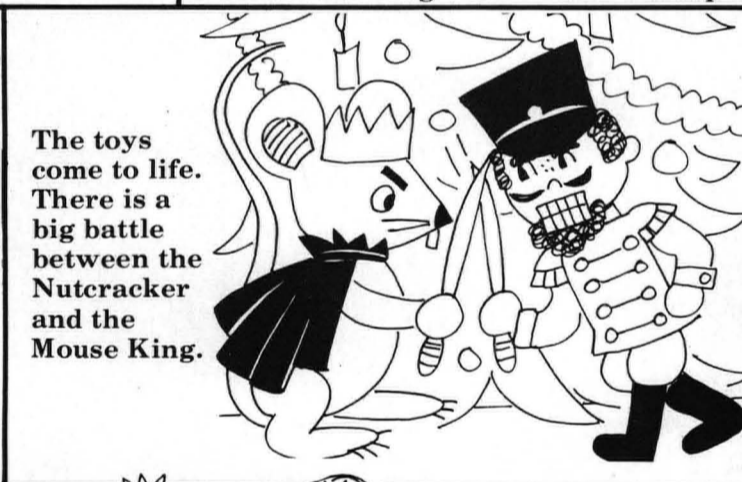
The story opens at a Christmas party at Clara's home. Gifts are exchanged. Clara's godfather, Drosselmeyer, arrives with magic tricks and windup toys.



Her godfather gives Clara a nutcracker doll.



Clara goes to bed but cannot sleep. She creeps downstairs.



The toys come to life. There is a big battle between the Nutcracker and the Mouse King.



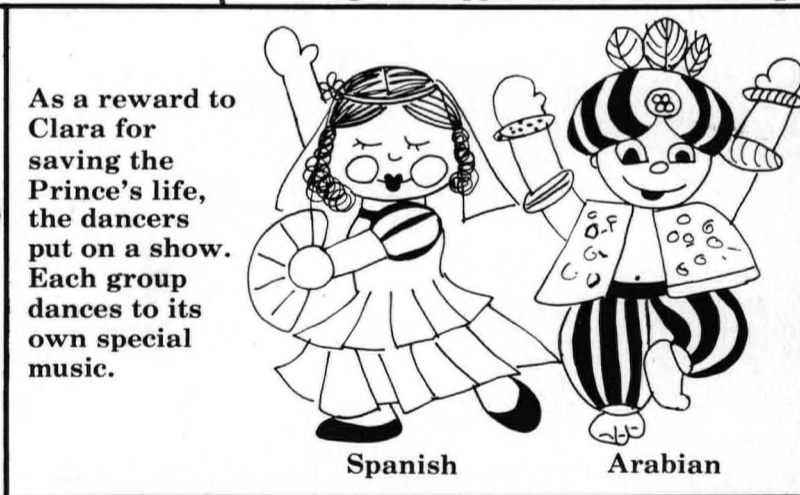
Clara saves the Nutcracker by throwing her slipper at the Mouse King.



The Nutcracker wins the battle and turns into a handsome prince.



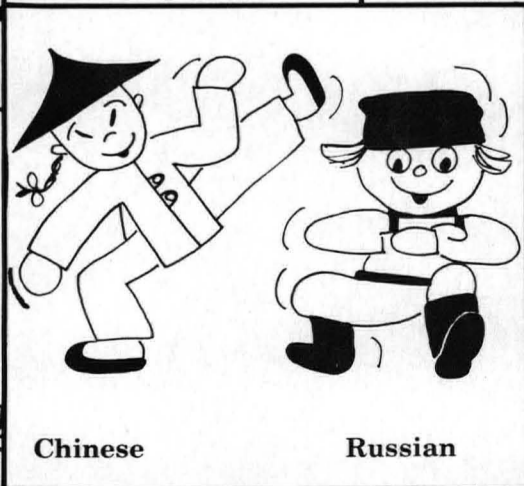
The Prince and Clara travel to the Kingdom of Sweets where they meet the Sugar Plum Fairy.



As a reward to Clara for saving the Prince's life, the dancers put on a show. Each group dances to its own special music.

Spanish

Arabian

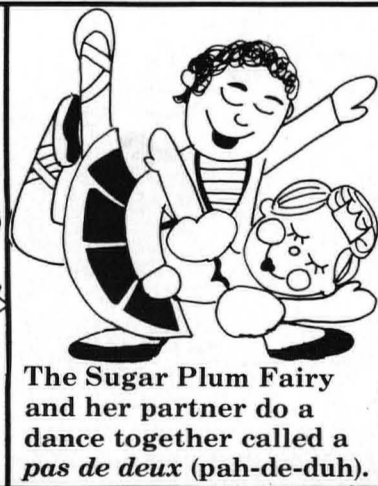


Chinese

Russian



Dancers (often called "little Gingers") come out from under Madame Ginger's skirt and dance around her.



The Sugar Plum Fairy and her partner do a dance together called a *pas de deux* (pah-de-duh).



Clara wakes up from her dream with the nutcracker doll in her arms.