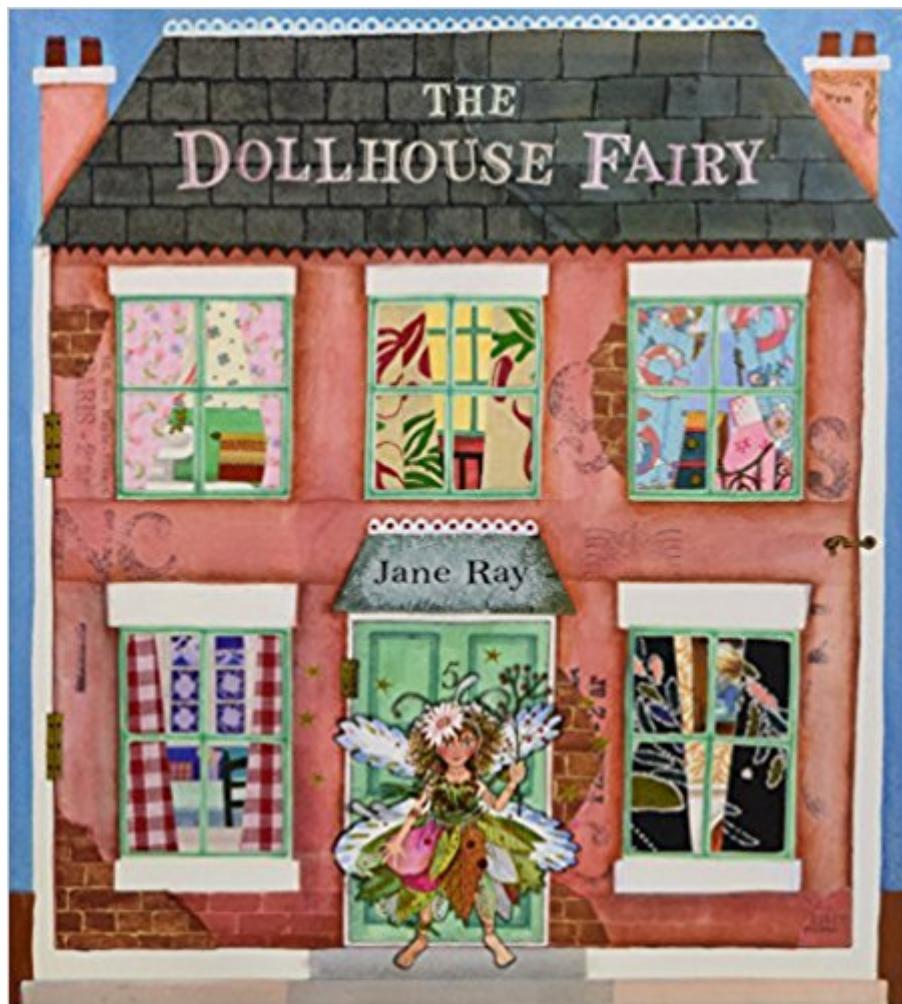


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The Dollhouse Fairy



Synopsis

What if a little girl looked in her dollhouse and found an injured • and very untidy • fairy? A sweet story from celebrated illustrator Jane Ray. When Rosy discovers a real fairy living in her beloved dollhouse • the one her dad made just for her • she can't believe her eyes. But Thistle is no ordinary fairy. Despite a hurt wing, she's turned all the tiny furnishings topsy-turvy, and she's starving for raspberries and chips and other treats to eat. Rosy loves nurturing the mischievous fairy back to health, and can't wait to introduce her to her dad when he returns from his hospital stay. With a true flair for visual detail, Jane Ray offers a tale of family and friendship that touches on illness with a lighthearted tone • and celebrates the healing power of the imagination.

Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #572,972 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Toys & Models > Dollhouses #428 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Illness #729 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Diseases

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

PreS-Gr 2 In this realistic story with a touch of magic, Rosy loves making special things for her dollhouse with her dad on Saturday mornings. One morning, he isn't there; he's gone to the hospital, and in his absence she finds a fairy with a hurt wing in the dollhouse. Rosy puts cream and bandages on Thistle's wing, plays with her in secret, and, as the fairy starts to mend, helps her practice flying. Mixed-media illustrations in Ray's sophisticated folk-art style are well paced, have a skilled use of white space, and start on the cover with the front of the dollhouse and end with the

back. When her father returns, Rosy tells him about her guest, who appears to have flown. "But Dad left out a tiny piece of cake for Thistle, just in case...." Although there are many pink details and flowers, this is a decidedly different and not-too-sweet fairy story. Debbie Hoskins, Grand Rapids Public Library, MI © Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Starred Review Rosy loves the dollhouse her father built for her, and she loves Saturday mornings, a special time when she and her dad work together making its miniature furnishings. When he suddenly goes into the hospital, Rosy worries about him, but she discovers a distraction inside the dollhouse. Suddenly, all is topsy-turvy, with furniture upended, and Thistle, a little fairy with a broken wing, has taken up residence. Rosy takes care of Thistle until she is well enough to fly. After Rosy's supportive father recovers and returns home, Rosy tells him about their secret visitor, only to find that Thistle has gone. No matter what conclusions adults may draw about the chaos in the dollhouse, Ray's presentation of events is unfalteringly childlike as she brings the messy, mischievous fairy to life in Rosy's world. The story unfolds with subtlety and sensitivity to the emotional issues at its heart. The book's large format gives plenty of space for the vibrant mixed-media artwork. Incorporating many small, individual elements, the busy scenes inside the little house will fascinate the same children who love dollhouses, while the larger-scale paintings of Rosy and her family are striking in their simplicity and strength. Captivating. Preschool-Grade 3.

--Carolyn Phelan

My daughter stumbled on this gem at the library. She hated to part with it so we bought it for her. This book is beautifully rendered, & with just the right magic for a little girl with a love affair with both fairies & dollhouses. My daughter faithfully recreates the scenes out of every page of this book. She now has several fairy dolls named Thistle, & has instructed us on several occasions to call her Rosie. This book is visually stunning, & its everyday magic creates a lovely world for a child to visit. I highly recommend this for any child.

Most of the picture books out there which deal with parental illness are very concrete, and focus on explaining the illness to the kid. Since there can't possibly be a children's book for every illness, it leaves all of the ill parents who don't have cancer a little bit in the lurch. This book, however, doesn't go into detail on why the father is in the hospital, and that makes it a good book to fit a wide variety of situations. Plus, despite being about an imaginary fairy, it feels more true to a child's experience

than the books which are more explicit and focused on factual information. It's also a wonderful story in its own right, with beautiful illustrations.

It accompanied a 'Hape' dollhouse, as a gift to our local library's fundraiser. I feel sure that the child who wins it, will play 'dollhouse fairy' often.

My 4 and a half year old daughter loves this story and the illustrations. We borrowed it from the library first. We get many, many books from the library, but only buy a few. This is one of those special books.

This is my almost-three-year-old daughter's *favorite* book currently. Even my boys, who are older, enjoy listening to it and looking at the pictures. It is about a little fairy that came to live in a little girl's dollhouse at a time when they each really needed a friend. Sweet and charming.

Such a sweet story! This combines two of my little one's favorite things to imagine...fairies and dollhouses. Get addition to the collection!

Bought four.. Beautiful book

This is one of our all time favs - my twins are 5 and love the fairy and how funny she is.

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