



Last Term at Malory Towers

Enid Blyton

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In Blyton's final book about the girls at Malory Towers, Darrell becomes head girl. Unfortunately not all the girls are as responsible as she is and in her last term Darrell sees many changes in her old school friends.

Last Term at Malory Towers Details

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Author : Enid Blyton

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thelastword says

Malory Towers is awesome!

Unless you're french.

Or fat.

Or transferred from a better school.

Or afraid of water.

Or annoy our leads' many sensitivities.

Or are different in any way.

If you are any of that, you will be mercilessly bullied and Blyton thinks you deserve it.

This is just your average English boarding school I tell ya.

(If you're still a child and you're enjoying this series, just pretend the Fifth was the last because the Last term was a mean close.)

Evelina says

I am so glad I came upon these Enid Blyton's books :) It really was a pleasant sort of time machine that took me to the past, when I used to devour all Famous Five instalments, and live their adventures alongside them and their incredibly intelligent dog Timmy :)

Books are not too long, 160 pages each, or 90 pages on your tablet screen :) The protagonist of these books are Darrell Rivers (1-6) and her younger sister Felicity (7-12)-written by Pamela Cox (I don't know if this is pseudonym or a group of writers), who has made a modern sequel (I will leave it on the side for now). It's a great book to get young 10-11 year old girls to start reading, and even I enjoyed them a lot as a childish adult that I am :)

The atmosphere of the books will make you feel a lot like Hogwarts, it's just that all students are girls and there is no magic and supernatural stuff :) However, the life lessons still remain, delivered to us through various problems that girls face in their school years, mainly facing with the subjects they need to learn, respecting their authority/or not and getting along with their classmates, which comes across as difficult for some of them. All girls have different personalities, some are hyperactive, other disobedient, there are also some who are shy, nerdish or egotistical/spoiled-it's a bit stereotypical mix but ways in how these problems were handled raise reader's social intelligence as well. Books realistically explore the very idea of constructing and maintain a friendship. Enid underlines the importance of kindness, being just and helping others, as they build they character, discover their gifts and talents and grow up. In third term, some girls from other countries are introduced, and in fourth term, there are twins :) This topic was particularly interesting to me, Blyton depicted perfectly the fact that the girls were identical and so different at the same time, and they were even occasionally bothered to be so alike.

You might also notice that 1940s British old fashion-ness in Enid Blyton's books, but they are in no way an obstacle which will stop you from immersing yourself into Mallory Towers world.

I have been on this Enid Blyton's binge reading for some days now. I seriously respect Enid Blyton as children's author; I regret leaving this world, but memories of my spent time with them shall remain. Good-

bye, Mallory Towers :) It was a wonderful, nostalgic trip to past and some better days that have long since gone with the wind.

Wow says

2.5 stars

I'm quite glad to have finished this series for multitude of reasons .

Most importantly is that I wanted to experience Enid Blyton writings.

I believe that she's a talented author as children are one the hardest things to portray in story telling.

Her younger character were uncanny !

The mix of innocence and cruelty was quite astounding !

I also liked how she implemented scenario to teach life long lessons .

The ugly parts were in how bullying uncertain scenes was permitted and encouraged was quite disgusting!

Aside from that I liked how she wrapped the story !

Conor Nally says

NOTE: The following is meant as a review for the "Malory Towers" series as a whole, not just this one book, excluding Pamela Cox's 2009 extension series.

How am I only reading these books now? I've read plenty of Enid Blyton's other works and loved practically all of them. "Malory Towers" is one of her most notable, ever-living series and it fully deserves it. Darrell Rivers and all of her friends/enemies will stay with me forever: Sally, Alicia, Mary-Lou, Gwendoline, Bill, Irene, Belinda, Betty and my personal favourite, Zerelda Brass.

All these and more make up the delightful crew that is Malory Towers. We watch these girls grow from shrimp, naughty little monkeys in "First Term at Malory Towers" to strong, responsible, independent women in "Last Term at Malory Towers". It's wonderful and we get a front-row seat for all of it.

The tricks the girls play on unsuspecting Mam'zelle Dupont are hilarious, and it's sad to see them outgrow it in "In the Fifth at Malory Towers". However, they're not the only ones that can play tricks! The form that Darrell's younger sister Felicity is in is always pranking, because we all need a bit of youth and laughter sometimes.

In "Last Term at Malory Towers" it is incredibly sweet and sad to see the now grown-up friends formally one by one say goodbye to all of the places and rooms that they have so much loved at their school, and telling their second-form relatives to carry on their traditions. They really believe that Malory Towers is the best school in the world and - do you know what? - so do I.

Except, of course, from Hogwarts.

Moira says

No, just no. I wish I had never re read them. In these books, the characters are either good or bad there is no in between and in the previous book one character who had been bossy, domineering etc had come around, now in this book she's not liked again, apparently the change was completely forgotten.

I know they are children's books and I am an adult but I think the main issue is that childrens literature has come on so much since my childhood that these books are simply dated. If only I had had the wealth of great writing that's out there today!

Thanh Thanh says

M?y n?m tr??c mình ?ã ??c b? này r?i nh?ng kh?ng nh? ?ã ??c ?? h?t ch?a, l?c ?ó c?ng ch?a x?i Goodreads ?? m? update n?a =)) th?i th? ??c l?i t?p cu?i.

Ch?c l? gi? l?n r?i n?n th?y truy?n n?y con n?t qu? , nh?ng c?ng d? th??ng. M?t tr??ng h?c n?i trú danh t?ng c? 4 t?o tháp, nh?ng ? ?y kh?ng nhi?u drama và ch?t ch?c nh? Hogwarts n?n l? t??ng h?n nhi?u =))

DiZagalo says

Último ano... últimos exames... últimas discussões...

O último ano de Diana nas Quatro Torres vai de mal a pior ... A nossa querida Benedita Maria ainda não mudou desde o primeiro dia nas Quatro Torres, só fala na maldita escola de Etiqueta na Suíça e na ENORME discussão que teve com o pai, e nas coisas cruéis que lhe disse, como se fosse um grande feito... As novas alunas são hiper... mega DIFERENTES, a Amanda(a grande atleta) e a Suzzane (a primeira aluna francesa das quatro Torres... Foi desta que a Ju (Juliana Jones) parte DE VEZ... Por causa de vários incidentes... ex.: a governanta confisca-lhe as VINTE E CINCO LIBRAS que a tia lhe dá na altura dos seus anos, e como a Ju queria "impressionar" a turma resolve recuperá-los, mas como tem tanto medo da governanta decide ROUBAR as duas próprias notas e quando dá por si rouba nove notas de cinco libras o que dá..... QUARENTA E CINCO LIBRAS. Como de não basta-se ainda levou a Carmo (uma aluna do primeiro ano) até á vila (uma das regras era que SÓ as alunas do sexto ano podiam levar as alunas dos primeiros anos á vila)... e a Juliana era do segundo ano...

A Jacinta FINALMENTE demonstra ter capacidades para além das parr?rtidas (como diz a Madmoiselle) ... A Amanda arruina a sua vida atletica....

Mas para descobrirem mais sobre o último ano do Sexto ano leiam : "O Sexto Ano no Colégio das Quatro Torres.....

maidenofrohan says

Sometimes nostalgia is best left alone

Carly says

I confess that had the Malory Towers series not been on the agenda for my British Children's Literature module in my next year at university, I shouldn't ever have come to read them.

How wonderful they were, and how they just go to show that the best written books are not restricted by the age of the reader. I imagine my five year old niece would love to hear these tales just as much as I have enjoyed reading them myself over the past month.

Such a pleasant read, I look forward to analysing them in further detail come October.

Zarish Fatima says

End of an Era for me. I seriously doubt i would be reading anymore of Enid Blyton any more. But i have read quiet a number of books by her and so far have not been disappointed.

Enid does not just write but she tries to teach the best she could. To respect ones parents, to care, to compromise, to listen, to share, to be humble, to be courageous, to learn, to grow.

Malory Towers was a beautiful series, a handful of teenage girls who live together, learn together and become better people together.

They are about to graduate and they are taking away number of valuable lessons which they have learned in last six years of schooling and leaving behind number of memories and their juniors to whom they have taught and learned from many small things.

there is this thing writer states through two different narratives

"From what you have told me you've made the nice father of yours miserable. You've got what you want at the expanse of someone else's peace of mind"...

"I have to stand on my own feet haven't i?"... **"Not if you stamp on someones else's toes to do it."**

Something we all need to remember before making unreasonable demands of our parents and peers.

Many character flaws we see in our society are mistakes and miscalculations of our parents. People really need to get their priorities straight.

How important parents are!....Really, I think somebody should start a School for Parents too!

I am kind off crying inside. The horrible feeling of an end :(

rishita says

Re-reading Malory Towers- and pretty much any of Enid Blyton's work- is pure escapism from not just all

the hundreds of things pretending to be a well-adjusted adult requires me to do, but it's escape to a very specific part of my childhood. It's not just nostalgia that makes me think of these books with such fondness (despite the very problematic things about Blyton's writing), it's realising just how much I (still) relate and how much my own ideas of fairness and leadership are influenced by these books.

I keep talking about writing a paper about this- not just the ideals of childhood, but the queer subtext in her books. The more I read, the more I'm convinced this is something that needs to happen. 'Project Blyton Slash' is something I'll be working on in 2015.

Catherine Ford says

This was my least favourite book. I thought it didn't focus on Darrell and her friends enough; instead we were given a lot about the first and second formers. I still really enjoyed this series and if someone knows of similar books that take place in a boarding school please let me know.

Clare says

Listened to in audio format.

Darrell and her friends were now in the sixth form and then off to pastures new. Darrell, Sally and Alicia were going to St Andrews University. Mary Lou would be going into nursing and Bill and Clarissa would start a riding school.

Gwendolyn was due to start a finishing school but her father had a heart attack which nearly killed him. Gwendolyn had to leave school early to look after her father, he would never work again so Gwendolyn would have to get a job.

More humble Gwendolyn wrote to Darrell to apologise and said she had changed her ways.

I enjoyed this final book but I thought the characters deserved a better sending off.

In the words of Darrell, Bye Malory Towers see you soon.

C. says

I've spent the last few days rereading my copies of Enid Blyton's *Malory Towers* series. Unfortunately I only have the third, fifth and sixth, but I am now determined to get my hands on the other three and read them obsessively. I love them for a few of reasons, which I shall enumerate here:

1. They bring back so many memories, primarily of the days when I actually read the damn things (when I was about six to eight years old). At the time I was living in England, where people actually did say "you'd jolly well better not do that again!", where it seemed not only possible, but likely, that fairies lived down the bottom of the garden, where an adventure and a mystery was just waiting around every corner, and where life was so full of simple wonder.

2. It's just so GOOD! Good as in everyone is good and kind and perfect, except for the people who aren't. It's totally black and white, and the baddies always either get their comeuppance or admit their faults and are reformed, the goodies are always recognised and loved, the ending is always happy and OH MY GOD I LOVE ENID BLYTON. Example:

"Sometimes hard things are good for us," said Miss Grayling, and Miss Peters nodded. After all, the girls didn't come to Malory Towers only to learn lessons in class - they came to learn other things too - to be just and fair, generous, brave, kind. Perhaps those things were even more important than the lessons!"

3. The moment when Darrel steps out onto the stage to rapturous applause at the end of the pantomime which she wrote has remained in my subconscious for years as the ultimate image of success and happiness. I know that while Enid might have difficulty moving us to tears or making us ponder the deeper existentialist dilemmas, this is what she does brilliantly - portraying the glorious happiness that comes from the act of living life to the fullest.

This is also pretty hilarious, it has to be said. I won't deny that this has something to do with my enjoyment.

Kids these days don't read her, I've noticed. Perhaps even 'in my day' - gosh, that makes me sound old - they didn't. But I lived within miles of the house where darling Enid lived, and I was a sweet, innocent, happy child to whom the idea of gallivanting around in secret passages and tackling 'rogues' and playing lacrosse was ridiculously appealing, and for whatever reason I read and loved those books for so many years.

Then, all of a sudden, I went off them. This was because it abruptly dawned on me that the prose is crazy. Commonly used words include: 'super' as in 'oh super! Lacrosse game tomorrow!', 'rotten' as in 'rotten breakfasts they have here!', 'wizard' as in 'that's a wizard drawing, Belinda!', and many other wonderful examples that I noticed at the time but have now slipped my mind. Not to mention the overabundance of explanation marks, as evidenced by my thoughtfully chosen examples.

No matter. I am having a wonderful, nostalgic trip to the past and I am eternally grateful to Enid Blyton, because it was basically her (and Roald Dahl) who introduced me to reading, and it's really great. You should totally try it.

Stef Rozitis says

Oddly readable for a shallow book full of 2-dimensional characters. It consistently makes classist gibles as well as casually plays with racism. The children in the book are quite right wing and conformist in their views; meanwhile institutionalised bullying is wholeheartedly promoted. I think it's not a fantastic thing to give to actual children to read (I know we are all supposed to see Blyton as "innocent" but look at what she is actually and oh-so-lightly saying).

Reading critically as an adult, or using it as an example with children of why they ought to read carefully and critically it at least flows well, the writing draws you into reading on. There are some immature slapstick laughs in it as well as moments of joy.

The ending is as patronising as usual in a Blyton novel, for some reason she tends to use the final sentence to smash the fourth wall (I am not sure why).

