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The Nutcracker
A Young Reader's Edition of the Holiday Classic

Illustrated by Don Daily
From the Story by E.T.A. Hoffmann
Maria watched the snow fall in the city.

Today was Christmas Eve and tonight was a big party.

Food, presents, and family would be at the party if the snow did not keep people home.

Adapted from the original text, *The Nutcracker*, by E.T.A. Hoffman
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Maria opened her window.

People began to arrive for the party.

Fritz and Maria waited for Papa Drosselmeyer.
Fritz picked up Maria.

Maria threw a snowball at him.

Maria and Fritz ran down the stairs to watch the adults decorate.

Adapted from the original text, *The Nutcracker*, by E.T.A. Hoffman
Maria ran down the stairs. She saw a mouse. Mice scare Maria.

Adapted from the original text, *The Nutcracker*, by E.T.A. Hoffman
Adapted from the original text, The Nutcracker, by E.T.A. Hoffman.
Children looked through the door hole.
The tree was lit.
Children walked in the big room.

Adapted from the original text, The Nutcracker, by E.T.A. Hoffman
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Everyone danced and ate.

Maria saw a doll with a moustache.

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Maria looked at the doll.

Papa Drosselmeyer walked in.

He brought dolls dressed as shepherds.

Adapted from the original text, The Nutcracker, by E.T.A. Hoffman
Papa Drosselmeyer showed Maria the doll cracks nuts.

The nut cracker was magical.

Adapted from the original text, The Nutcracker, by E.T.A. Hoffman.
Fritz took the doll.

Fritz broke the nut cracker.
Maria bandaged the doll.

People sang.

People danced.

Adapted from the original text, The Nutcracker, by E.T.A. Hoffman
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Papa Drosselmeyer made the nut cracker alive.

He left the house.
Mice were making noise in the walls.

Downstairs the mice were running.
Maria picked up the nut cracker.

She heard mice.

She hid under the couch.

Everything in the room got larger.
Adapted from the original text, *The Nutcracker*, by E.T.A. Hoffman
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The mice and nut cracker were large adults.

They were going into battle.

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The Mouse King attacked the nut cracker.

Nut cracker stabbed Mouse King.

Mouse King ran away.
Maria threw her slipper at Mouse King.

He turned to her.

Nutcracker stabbed Mouse King.

No more mice were in the house.
Nut cracker became a prince.

She broke the magic spell.

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Nut cracker brought Maria to his castle.

She rode a magic sleigh.

His castle was in the forest.

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Adapted from the original text, The Nutcracker, by E.T.A. Hoffman.
She saw fairies, it was snowing.

The snow disappeared.

Adapted from the original text, *The Nutcracker*, by E.T.A. Hoffman
Grass was green.

Her sleigh was a boat now.

The castle appeared on the horizon.

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Sugar Plum Fairy brought them inside.

At the castle Maria and Nut cracker ate.

People danced.

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A tall woman danced with little children who ran from under her skirt. Sugar Plum Fairy and a man danced for Maria and Nutcracker.

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Chapter 5

Maria woke up from her dream.

Mother fed her breakfast in bed.

They went downstairs, Christmas morning was here!

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THE END!!

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