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Mara, Daughter Of The Nile (Puffin Story Books)



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Synopsis

This compelling story of adventure, romance, and intrigue, set in ancient Egypt, was written by the three-time Newbery Honor and Edgar Award winning author Eloise Jarvis McGraw. Ã Â Mara is a proud and beautiful slave girl who yearns for freedom in ancient Egypt, under the rule ofÃ Â Queen Hatshepsut. Mara is not like other slaves; she can read and write, as well as speak the language ofÃ Â Babylonian. So, to barter for her freedom,Ã Â she finds herself playing the dangerous role of double spy for two arch enemiesÃ¢â ¬â •each of whom supports a contender for the throne of Egypt. Ã Â Against her will, Mara finds herself falling in love with one of her masters, the noble Sheftu, and she starts to believe in his plans of restoring Thutmose III to the throne. But just when Mara is ready to offer Sheftu her help and her heart, her duplicity is discovered, and a battle ensues in which both MaraÃ¢â ¬â„¢s life and the fate of Egypt are at stake. Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Dangerous espionage, an unusual love story, and richly drawn background make this a book to capture quick and lasting interest.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Horn Book Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Thoroughly engrossing.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus Reviews

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Ã¢â ¬Å“Dangerous espionage, an unusual love story, and richly drawn background make this a book to capture quick and lasting interest.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Horn BookÃ Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Thoroughly engrossing.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus Reviews

Eloise Jarvis McGrawÃ Â was an American author ofÃ Â children's booksÃ Â and young adult novels. She won theÃ Â Newbery HonorÃ Â three times in three different decades, for her novelsÃ Â Moccasin TrailÃ Â (1952),Ã Â The Golden GobletÃ Â (1962), andÃ Â The MoorchildÃ Â (1997).Ã Â A Really Weird SummerÃ Â (1977) won anÃ Â Edgar AwardÃ Â for Best Juvenile Mystery from theÃ Â Mystery Writers of America. McGraw had a very strong interest inÃ Â history, and among the many books she wrote for children areÃ Â Greensleeves,Ã Â The Seventeenth Swap, andÃ Â Mara, Daughter of the Nile. AÃ Â Lewis Carroll Shelf AwardÃ Â was given toÃ Â Moccasin TrailÃ Â in 1963.Ã Â She also contributed to theÃ Â Oz seriesÃ Â started byÃ Â L. Frank Baum; working with her daughter, graphic artist and librarian Lauren Lynn McGraw, she wroteÃ Â Merry Go Round in OzÃ Â (the last of the Oz books issued by Baum's publisher) andÃ Â The Forbidden Fountain of Oz.

I first read this book 40 years ago and was so entranced that I actually wrote a letter to the author, begging her to write more about Mara and Sheftu. To my surprise and delight, she wrote me back, very graciously informing me that their tale was told and that I must use my imagination for the rest. So sweet of her! Wish I still had that note. Thanks to , I do have a copy of this marvelous novel, and have re-read it many times. Though it was first published in the 1950s it has stood the test of time and will always be one of my very most favorite books. I really want to lend my copy to my 10 year old niece but fear that the lack of text messaging, wizards, and Mean Girls will bore her. (In Cranky Old Lady voice:) These young folks today just don't know what they're missing.

The most influential book in my life, the first hard-cover book I owned, the first book that introduced me to ancient Egypt. Even though it's written in the 1950s there's a strong tone of female agency and power here; it spoke to me as an eleven-year-old in the 1960s and it still speaks to me today. I've bought and given so many copies of this! It should be noted that EJM fictionalized quite a bit of Hatshepsut's history (which is still being updated as more discoveries come to light) but this one story began my love of this era--I have stood in front of some of the artifacts of Hatshepsut mentioned in this book (at the Met Museum of Art in NYC) and...there are no words for the awe I felt. And it started with this book.For those who wished for more of Mara's story, as an FYI, fanfiction dot net has a number of Mara fanfics. Can't speak to the quality of all of them but it was nice to see some continuation, even if amateur, of Mara's world.

I read this story with my father for one of my sixth grade classes. He loved it so much that he stayed

up until 1:00am finishing the book. Twelve years later, this book is still my favorite. This book is written for young adults as the quality of writing is far greater than a sixth grade reading level. This is a story of espionage, intrigue, romance (the real kind of romance - pure, sweet, no adult scenes), and suspense. Eloise Jarvis McGraw (the author) develops dynamic characters that will be ingrained in your mind forever. You will cheer for the characters, cringe with the characters, love the characters, hate (some of) the characters, and when the book is finished, you will cry because you finished it. This is one of those books that you hate to finish because it is so good. This book has engaged everyone from an 11 year old female to a 40 year old male to a 60 year old grandmother. One of the characteristics of a great writer is her/his ability to appeal to all ages, and with Mara Daughter of the Nile, Eloise Jarvis McGraw does just that.

Absolutely my FAVORITE book Ever!!!! Flawless writing and a brilliant plot with engaging characters that you cheer on or boo as the pages will you to. I adore the Egypt setting so much! A spot on book that I wish I could give 10 stars too! Will definitely be reading again and again!

This has been my favorite book since childhood, seconded by The Gold en Goblet. As part of a military family, we were allowed only 33 lbs carry on luggage. It was always there until I accidentally left it on a train in Japan in 1971. I found a hard cover stateside and still have it, since 1971. I am 60 now.

I read this book as a child, and have loved it ever since. Revisiting it now, I still find it compelling and well-written. Mara is a slave forced into spying, and made by that both devious and brave. To win her freedom, she must serve the Pharoah Hatshepsut (here presented as the villain of the story). To win the man she loves, she must deceive both him and Pharoah. It’s a great love story, a fine coming-of-age story, and an excellent look at ancient Egypt. The prose is excellent; McGraw never talks down to her adolescent audience. The description of life and politics in ancient Egypt brings the entire fascinating era to life. I cannot recommend this book highly enough.

This book was originally read to me by my mother and I loved it and bought it for myself now that I’m older. I’ve since reread it three times and then read it aloud to my dyslexic friend and now she has it on her wishlist to buy. A great historical fiction with a side of romance and a ton of knowledge on Egypt that has never left me.I personally think it should be made into a movie with Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson playing Sheftu and Megan Fox as "Mara" But that’s just me.All in all a great book

that you should read.

We are fans of Eloise Jarvis McGraw, having read three of her novels now, and she has not let us down. This book is full of mystery and intrigue and as we watch the main character, Mara, develop through the story, we begin to care for her welfare. This story also included a bit of romance as well, but nothing that I consider provocative. We read this for literature while studying ancient Egypt in 9th grade. There are study guides available on the internet too. We are very happy with the choice we made to read this.

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