



The Penderwicks in Spring

By Jeanne Birdsall

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The Penderwicks in Spring By Jeanne Birdsall

With over one million copies sold, this series of modern classics about the charming Penderwick family, from National Book Award winner and *New York Times* bestseller Jeanne Birdsall, is perfect for fans of Noel Streatfeild and Edward Eager.

Springtime is finally arriving on Gardam Street, and there are surprises in store for each member of the family.

Some surprises are just wonderful, like neighbor Nick Geiger coming home from war. And some are ridiculous, like Batty's new dog-walking business. Batty is saving up her dog-walking money for an extra-special surprise for her family, which she plans to present on her upcoming birthday. But when some unwelcome surprises make themselves known, the best-laid plans fall apart.

Filled with all the heart, hilarity, and charm that has come to define this beloved clan, *The Penderwicks in Spring* is about fun and family and friends (and dogs), and what happens when you bring what's hidden into the bright light of the spring sun.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4–7—The Penderwick family is back in the fourth book of Birdsall's popular series. With the addition of younger sister Lydia and the recent death of beloved dog Hound, the cast of characters has changed a bit. Though told from the perspectives of Batty and Ben—the younger brother added to the clan in *The Penderwicks on Gardam Street* (Knopf, 2008)—this is truly Batty's story. Rosalind is in college, and Skye and Jane are both in high school. In this volume, Batty discovers that she has a talent for singing, which she keeps a secret from the rest of her family so that she can plan a Grand Birthday Concert. Jeffrey, their family friend, will be visiting for Skye's birthday, and Batty wants to ask him to be her mentor. She also takes on a job walking dogs to pay for voice lessons. She's conflicted about this because she believes that it was her fault that Hound died and she doesn't want to "curse" any more dogs. Fans of the series may find the time jump jarring—Batty, who was only four during the first book, is now 10—and the lack of OPS (Older Penderwick Sisters) dismaying. Throughout the series, Birdsall has demonstrated considerable skill at crafting a modern classic, merging modern-day wit with an old-fashioned charm. Birdsall is a master at making the everyday exciting. VERDICT This latest addition to the beloved series ends on a satisfying note, and readers will eagerly await the final book.—Jessica Ko, Los Angeles Public Library

Review

"The warmth and compassion of the Penderwick family comes through in every page of this slice-of-life novel, healing emotional bruises and reassuring readers that most problems can be overcome."

—*Publishers Weekly* starred review

"...chock full of all the qualities fans love (humor, heart, and the honest exploration of emotions)...[t]he Penderwicks have a strong bench, so, happily, expect more."

—*Booklist* starred review

About the Author

When Jeanne Birdsall was young, she promised herself she'd be a writer someday—so that she could write books for children to discover and enjoy, just as she did at her local library. She is the author of *The Penderwicks*, which won the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, *The Penderwicks on Gardam Street*, and *The Penderwicks at Point Mouette*.

Jeanne lives in Northampton, Massachusetts, with her husband and an assortment of animals, including a dog named Cagney. You can find out more about Jeanne, her books, and her animal friends at JeanneBirdsall.com.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jesse Williams:

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Terri Hatfield:

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Ida Vanwormer:

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Wilbert Westerfield:

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