

The Nutcracker - A Story

Adapted by

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"The Nutcracker Ballet" with text and illustrations by Vladimir
Vagin

September 10, 2020

Commonwealth Ballet Company

P.O. Box 892

Acton, MA 01720-0892

FADE IN

**INT. BACKGROUND - PARLOR WITH A FIREPLACE. THE READER IS SEATED
IN A VICTORIAN CHAIR HOLDING A BOOK CLOSED ON HER LAP.**

Music: Overture

READER

Gather around, children, and hear the story of The Nutcracker. I am here to read you a story that was written many years ago. This story is told in words, but did you know that a story can also be told in *dance*? *That* kind of storytelling is called a ballet, and the dancers you will see in their beautiful costumes, plus many more, are all part of the Commonwealth Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker*. They will help me tell the story.

She opens the book and begins to read.

READER

It was Christmas Eve, a night for magic. Anything could happen! CLARA and her brother FRITZ waited outside the door to the parlor.

Music: Party Scene opening.

READER begins to show the picture to the audience.

FADE TO:

PICTURE #1: CHILDREN PEEKING THROUGH THE DOOR.

CUT TO: