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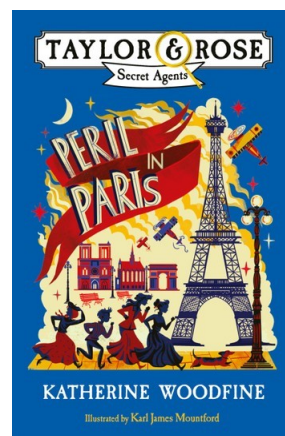


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CS Mentions in Other Books

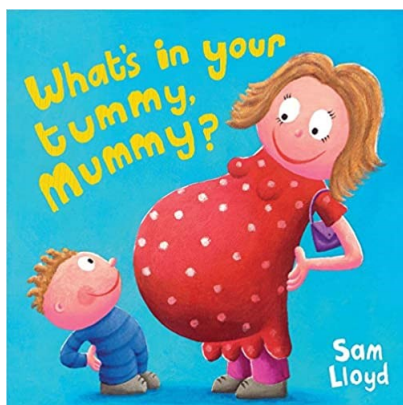
Jenny Marshall “I happily started reading Judy Astley’s *Away from it All* and came across the description of the main character, Alice Perry (home-schooled, loosely speaking) who writes school adventure stories about the fictional Gulliver School: ‘A long way from her first school stories scribbled down at the age of 12, a mixture of *Malory Towers*, the *Chalet School* and her own imaginative longings’.”

Anne Dawes “During lockdown, I have spent time every day listening to my grandchildren read over FaceTime and also reading several children’s classics to them. My granddaughter has been reading a series by Katherine Woodfine, an author we have both found fascinating. In one of the books, *Peril in Paris*, the girl detective Sophie Taylor, checks in to a hotel in Paris where she is told that they have many important guests staying. A recent visitor was the Crown Prince of Belsornia. The other detective is masquerading as a governess trying to help the young Prince and Princess of Arnovia who are in danger from their guardians, a Count and Countess. An escape follows, then a kidnapping takes place and eventually the plot is foiled and the children returned to their grandfather, the King of Arnovia. Not entirely to my surprise, in the author’s notes she states that her story was inspired by a grand tradition of stories set in fictional European countries such as *The Prisoner of Zenda* and *The Princess Of the Chalet School*!”



Knowledge Is Power

Sue Hoggarth “It seems so odd to us in this enlightened age that we, as children, knew very little and were told very little, about how babies came about



etc. When I was seven the lady next door to us had a baby and I remember her coming home with him and I kept looking at her and wondering if she was the same lady that went off to the hospital to have the baby because she looked different. I suppose it was the fact that she was no longer looking big with pregnancy, but I can clearly remember asking my mother several times if she was the same lady who used to live next door to us. On the same subject, when I was 12 the little boy whom I have just mentioned above and who was five at the time, came to tell us one day that he had got a new cousin. We congratulated



going to play? I can't think of anywhere large enough for a hockey pitch!

'I was thinking of that bit of rough grass at the bottom of the garden, beyond the apple trees,' said Madge. 'The boys seem to be able to manage to play football on it!'

'It's not big enough for a hockey pitch,' objected Grizel.

'I think we'll have to adapt to what we have,' said Madge firmly. 'After all, we won't be trying to fit 22 people onto it!'

'That's true,' said Grizel thoughtfully.

'How many can we manage?' asked

Rosalie.

'None of the younger ones, I'm sure,' said Jo, 'though there will be strong protests from the boys!'

'No,' said Madge, 'but I think we'll stretch a point and let Daisy play – she would be the only one of the 'school' children not playing.'

'So that's four of them,' calculated Grizel, 'Then Jo and Rosalie and me. Who else?'

'Perhaps Jacqueline could come sometimes, if her mother can spare her?' suggested Jo. 'And there's Gillian – and sometimes Joyce.'

'That's true. Jacqueline's a bit young, but she *has* started hockey in school,' said Grizel, more cheerfully. 'So we should be able to play four a side sometimes and five a side sometimes.'

'And I think at first, as everyone is out of practice, and Daisy hasn't played before, we should limit it to fifteen minutes a side,' said Madge firmly. Seeing the light of argument on Grizel's face she continued briskly, 'I can referee sometimes, when Josette doesn't need me, of course. I'll ask André to mow that area this afternoon – that should make it easier. And the more it gets mown the better it will be.'

'We never mowed the hockey pitch in January before,' protested Grizel.

'No,' agreed Joey. 'Jolly good reason, too. You couldn't see it for snow! In fact, sometimes it was *feet* deep by the time we went back to school. Even the goats couldn't mow it!'

Grizel fortunately saw the funny side of this, and joined in the reminiscent laughter at the thought of trying to mow anything in Austria in January.

The first game was played after coffee the following morning. Everyone had *some* kind of boots, though not necessarily hockey boots. Daisy was reduced to a pair of wellingtons until they could find something better! Madge had telephoned to see whether Jacqueline could be spared



In Her Sister's Shadow or
Whatever happened to
Primula Mary?
by Rachel Symons

In my article *We Are Family* (FOCS 125) I referred to the lost and found relationship between the Venables family, Margot, Daisy and Primula, and Dr Jem Russell. In *New House at the Chalet School*, we discovered that Primula Mary was the image of Jem Russell, a fragile baby of six weeks' old when her brothers died in Queensland. Her birthday is in November, and at two years' old, she is fragile with thick primrose coloured hair (from the *Chalet School Encyclopedia* by Alison McCallum).

From that point in time she becomes the fragile, delicate member of the Russell/Venables/Bettany/Maynard family. Like Robin, she is wrapped in cotton wool, not allowed near any illnesses that may sap her strength, such as the measles and whooping cough epidemics at Die Rosen. She attends the Annexe, and when illness threatens the Die Rosen household she is farmed out to live with the Carrs. At four years' old, she is still considered very delicate when the family leave Austria for Guernsey (in *The Chalet School in Exile*), and is considered too young to realise her loss when her mother dies.



Primula is in the second form and is one of Simone's bridesmaids. As she is considered too delicate to cope with the daily journey to school, she is a weekly boarder in *The Highland Twins at the Chalet School*. She is not considered to have brains, and appears to live sometimes with Jo and sometimes with Madge. However, by *Peggy of the Chalet School*, she is considered to be clever and frail, playing netball instead of hockey. While the Russells are in Canada, Primula Mary is staying with the Maynards, though by *Joey goes to the Oberland* she has been spending the summer holidays in Canada, which has done her a lot of good.

After Daisy marries Laurie Rosomon, Primula Mary will live with them – in a real home at last. At the age of 24 she marries a solicitor called Nicholas Garden.

