Fiction Books on Dollhouses and Miniatures

**The Bears’ House**
By Marilyn Sachs
Kindle Edition Available
Grade 3 and up

Everyone in Miss Thompson’s fourth grade class loves The Bears’ House—Fran Ellen Smith most of all. When Fran Ellen goes into The Bears’ House, she can forget about how awful things are at home. At the end of the term Miss Thompson is giving the house away, but Fran Ellen knows it won’t be to her. How is she going to get along without a place to hide?

**The House of Dolls**
By Francesca Lia Block
Kindle Edition Available
Grade 5 and up

In a little house from another time, with lace curtains in every window and paintings hung in gold doily frames, Wildflower, Rockstar, and Miss Selene live a warm and cozy life. They wear fancy dresses, bake play-dough cakes, and spend their days enjoying one another’s company.

For the three dolls, life is small but good. But life is not good for Madison Blackberry, the owner of the dollhouse. Her grandmother pays more attention to the dolls than to her. The dolls have one another, but she is lonely in her big, empty apartment. Then one day, as things always do—even for dolls—everything changes.

**The Lambkins**
By Eve Bunting
Used copies available on line
Grade 4 and up

Kyle Wilson was the size of a regular ninth grader until crazy Mrs. Shepherd injected him with a shrinking formula. Now he’s a prisoner in her dollhouse, the fourth Lambkin in Mrs. Shepherd’s collection! She loves them and would never harm them, she says ... as long as they don’t make her angry. One thing is certain—Kyle and the others must figure out how to escape, and fast.

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Sweet Miss Honeywell's Revenge
By Kathryn Reiss
Used copies available on line
Grade 6 and up

Zibby Thorne doesn’t know what possessed her to buy an antique dollhouse—she doesn’t even like dolls. But when her friends and family start having bizarre accidents clearly connected to the dollhouse, she can’t ignore the menacing structure any longer.

Zibby is sure that one particularly creepy doll in a gray dress is somehow responsible for the trouble. She discovers the doll is controlled by the spirit of “sweet” Miss Honeywell, a vengeful governess who seeks to control Zibby and her friends from beyond the grave. They must find a way to stop Miss Honeywell before her wrath becomes deadly.

The Racketty-Packetty House
By Frances Hodgson-Burnett
Kindle Edition Available
Grade 2 and up

Acclaimed illustrator Wendy Anderson Halperin celebrates Frances Hodgson Burnett’s classic, a tale of two dollhouses, just in time for its 100th anniversary. When Tidy Castle arrives, brand-new and grand in every way, the Racketty-Packetty House has never looked shabbier, and it is shoved in the corner of Cynthia’s nursery. But the Racketty family still dances, sings, and laughs louder than all the fancy dolls combined.

When a real-life princess visits the nursery, the Rackettys learn that the humans are planning to destroy their house. Only a miracle—or some very unusual magic—can save them now!

The Doll’s House
By Rumer Godden
Grade 3 and up
Illustrated by Tasha Tudor
Used copies available on-line

For Tottie Plantaganet, a little wooden doll, belonging to Emily and Charlotte Dane is wonderful. The only thing missing is a dollhouse that Tottie and her family could call their very own. But when the dollhouse finally does arrive, Tottie’s problems really begin. That dreadful doll Marchpane comes to live with them, disrupting the harmony of the Plantaganet family with her lies and conceited way. Will Tottie ever be able to call the dollhouse home?
**Miss Happiness and Miss Flower**  
By Rumer Godden  
Grade Kindergarten and up  
Used copies available on-line

When Nona is sent from her home in India to live with her relatives in England, she is miserable. Then a box arrives for her and inside are two little Japanese dolls. Nona thinks that they must feel lonely too, so far away from home. Then, Nona has an idea - she will build her dolls the perfect house!

**Lucie Babbage’s House**  
By Sylvia Cassedy  
Grade 4 and up  
Used copies available on-line

Lonely and unhappy Lucie is bullied at school and struggles to fit in. The arrival of a new baby brings some happiness to Lucie, and when she receives some letters from a girl in England, a mystery begins to unfold as Lucy realizes their lives are connected.

**The Doll People Series**  
By Ann M. Martin  
Grade 3 and up  
Copies available on-line  
Illustrated by Brian Selznick

Meet Annabelle Doll and Tiffany Funcraft in this series of books about dollhouse dolls.

**Mindy’s Mysterious Miniature Series**  
By Jane Louise Curry  
Grade 4 and up  
Used copies available on-line

Mindy discovers a dollhouse at a country sale and convinces her parents to let her bid on it. When she begins to clean the dollhouse, a mystery begins to unfold. Great for learning architectural vocabulary.

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Toby wants a dollhouse for his birthday, but the grownups around him have their own ideas. “He means a fort. I always wanted a fort, when I was a boy,” says Grandad. Auntie insists that he wants a farmyard. His father, gesticulating enthusiastically, is sure it’s “a multi-story car-park full of toy cars.”

Toby says polite thank-yous for the presents, then converts the gift boxes into a two-story house for the paper dolls he’s been making. British author Scamell (A Prickly Problem) undergirds the simple tale with some droll observations.

In this realistic story with a touch of magic, Rosy loves making special things for her dollhouse with her dad on Saturday mornings. One morning, he isn’t there; he’s gone to the hospital, and in his absence she finds a fairy with a hurt wing in the dollhouse. Rosy puts cream and bandages on Thistle’s wing, plays with her in secret, and, as the fairy starts to mend, helps her practice flying.

Every Christmas, the Dollhouse family comes to life and, when no one is around, laughs and dances. But this year they are in trouble—the boys are growing up and no longer want to play with dolls. How can the Dollhouses warn the humans of an impending burglary?
George and Matilda Mouse and the Dolls’ House
By Heather S. Buchanan
Grade 2 and up
Used copies available on-line

A city mouse and a country mouse fall in love, marry, and move into a rundown abandoned dollhouse that they work to improve until, on Christmas morning, they and their seven new babies share the holiday in a beautiful home.

The Dollhouse Murders
By Betty Ren Wright
Grade 4 and up
 Kindle Edition Available

Twelve-year-old Amy knows there’s some connection between Aunt Claire’s old dollhouse in her great-grandparents’ attic and a deadly family secret from years ago. Aunt Claire seems upset about the dollhouse, which is a replica of the house they’re in, but she’s not talking.

Then Amy discovers that the dolls, who look like her relatives, move! They seem to be trying to tell her something, but Aunt Claire refuses to believe her, or answer any questions. Can Amy unravel the mystery and liberate her aunt from her burden? This fast-paced adventure is a solid, suspenseful story sure to appeal to young mystery lovers.

The Dollhouse Magic
By Yona Zeldis McDonough
Grade 3 and up
Used copies available on-line

Lila and her little sister Jane have long admired the dollhouse in the window of Miss Whitcomb’s house down the street. Since Daddy lost his job, the girls can only dream of owning a dollhouse as grand. One day, Miss Whitcomb invites them inside, and a warm friendship soon develops. But after a devastating incident, how will the girls continue to find hope in a time of need?
This Is My Dollhouse
By Giselle Potter
Grade K and up
Used copies available on-line

A little girl proudly walks the reader through her handmade dollhouse, pointing out the bricks she painted on the outside, the wallpaper she drew on the inside, the fancy clothes she made for her dolls, and the little elevator she made out of a paper cup.

She’s proud of her house and has lots of fun using her imagination to play with it—until she discovers her friend Sophie’s “perfect” store-bought house. Sophie thinks her house, with everything matching and even a toilet seat that goes up and down, is pretty perfect too, until both girls discover that the narrator’s handmade dollhouse is really a lot more fun.

A Christmas Dollhouse
By Richard Rudnicki
Grade 1 and up
Used copies available on-line

Dot’s family is having a hard time. Her father has work, but her mother is terribly sick, and there is barely enough to make ends meet—and definitely not enough money for a lot of presents this Christmas. In the window of the town’s drugstore, Dot sees a beautiful dollhouse that is being raffled away. But her family doesn’t even have a dollar to spend there so she can enter the contest.

A Christmas Dollhouse is about hope in the face of hardship and about communities gathering close and taking care of each other. Set in Nova Scotia during the Great Depression, this is a story that will appeal to anyone who believes in the magic of Christmas.

Big Susan
By Elizabeth Orton Jones
Grade 1 and up
New and used copies on-line

Mr. and Mrs. Doll and their six children, Nurse and the old Cook all lived in a house which had no front and belong to Susan. Susan was just an ordinary-sized little girl with taffy colored pigtails. But to the dolls she was a very Big, very Wonderful, very Important Person. There was one short night in every year when they needed no help from Susan - that Wonderful Night when all Dolls come alive and can speak.

An exciting story full of ups and downs scaled to dollhouse proportions, full of sense and nonsense, fantasy and truth, with glimpses of the Christmas miracle that can happen anywhere - even in a dollhouse. A different sort of Christmas book, one that will be enjoyed at any time of the year and by the whole family.

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Almost everybody who has grown up in Chicago knows about the Thorne Rooms. Housed in the Children’s Galleries of the Chicago Art Institute, they are a collection of 68 exquisitely crafted miniature rooms made in the 1930s by Mrs. James Ward Thorne. Each of the 68 rooms is designed in the style of a different historic period, and every detail is perfect, from the knobs on the doors to the candles in the candlesticks. Some might even say, the rooms are magic.

Imagine—what if you discovered a key that allowed you to shrink so that you were small enough to sneak inside and explore the rooms’ secrets? What if you discovered that others had done so before you? And that someone had left something important behind?

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