



1840 - 1893

Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky wrote the music for the Nutcracker ballet, performed in 1892. He loosely followed the Novella by E.T.A. Hoffmann, written in 1816, about a girl's magical Christmas Eve when she visits an enchanted land with her Nutcracker.

The stars of the Nutcracker Suite are the musicians. I showcase the different musical passages with an animal player and their instrument.



You're ready to listen!

You may want to listen to the Nutcracker Suite as you read the book, and if you are lucky, attend a performance of The Nutcracker Ballet. The ballet is famous for child dancers that perform important roles. The music written for the ballet is longer and not the same.

The Music in 8 parts

1. The Miniature Overture (imagine a family Christmas party)
2. March (the guests dance and the children play)
3. Dance of the Sugarplum Fairy (a starring role for a prima Ballerina)
4. Russian Dance (it's called Trepac, and is lively!)
5. Arabian Dance
6. Chinese Dance
7. Dance of the Reed Flutes
8. Waltz of the Flowers

