

CHILDREN'S FICTION



The Trouble with Filly Tucker

Filly filled the room with multicolored sparkles as she waved her arms this way and that. This time she thought it was actually going to happen. She could feel it. However, when she'd finished and the sparkles fell to the floor, the old cracked plates still lay exactly as before on the wooden table, crumbs and all.

"I really thought I had it this time," Filly said, as she began to gather up the dishes. Walking into the kitchen, she let out a cry of amazement, as on the small wooden table, still in its original box, sat a new Royal Doulton dinner set. It had tiny periwinkle blue cornflowers around the edges, and it shone in the late afternoon sun.

"Oh! Grandma, Tabasco, come quickly! I've done it," Filly called, astonished.

"Well now, I'll be, what have we here," Grandma said as she removed her eyeglasses and surveyed the scene.

"Hmph," was all Tabasco said as he slowly walked back to the living room. He was now feeling too tired to jump up on the couch, so he curled up in the center of the old floral rug in front of the waltz fireplace. It was naptime.

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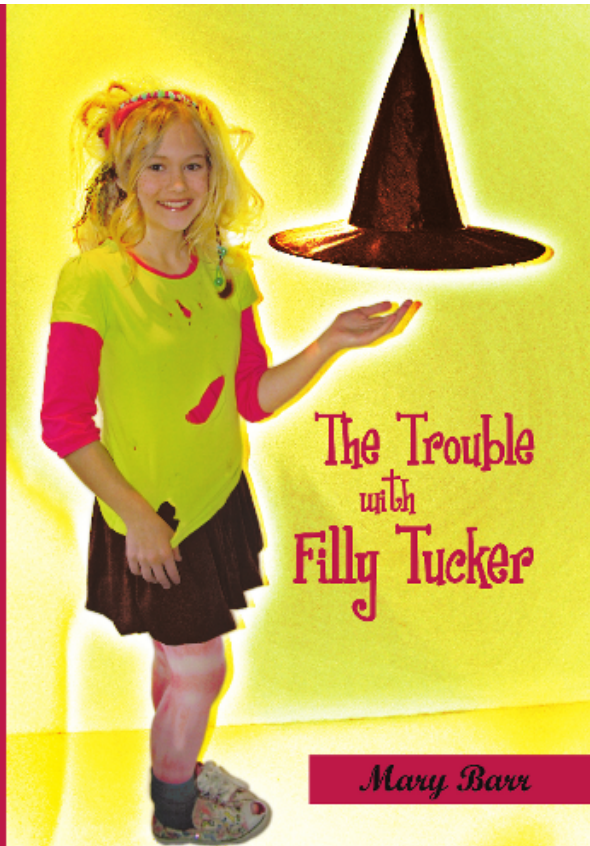


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THE TROUBLE WITH FILLY TUCKER

—Book One—

Mary Barr



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Young witch Filly Tucker

has a problem. In order to earn her wand, she must master her basic spells before her tenth birthday. In a cozy cottage where she lives with her Grandma—a famous witch extraordinaire—and her octery magic cat, Tabasco, Filly struggles to get even the simplest spell right.

One afternoon, as Filly arrives home from rolling down grassy hills with her friends, she discovers a large cardboard box outside her front door—waiting to transport her to the home of the terrible Twistie twins, known for their unruly, ruckus lifestyle and obnoxious spells. As the Twistie twins rely on their horrid personalities and crazy tricks to create green meatballs, coax a dozen Canada geese to soar around the chandelier, and convince a cat who thinks he is a cowboy to ride around the room on the back of a flying Collie dog, Filly realizes she should have paid better attention while learning her spells.

Filly quickly learns it is up to her to make things right, but she needs to master her spells first. Only time will tell if Filly Tucker will ever earn her wand.