



# Coppelia

By Fonteyn, Margot

HMH Books for Young Readers, 1998. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: Kindergarten-Grade 5-Who better to tell the story of Coppelia than a "prima ballerina assoluta?" Having danced the starring role many times, Fonteyn has developed a wonderful feel for the characters' personalities. The clever and passionate Swanilda contrasts well with the villain, Dr. Coppelius, the dollmaker who tries to bring his masterpiece to life. His conflicting nature is delightfully portrayed: he is lonely and deserving of sympathy, yet deceitful and wicked in trying to gain his ends; he is comical and a source of amusement to the village, but also the genius creator in love with his creation. Historical notes at the end of the book are brief but highly interesting. The lovely paintings are full of depth and texture enhanced with pieces of richly patterned fabric. There is a golden and sepia tone to them, suggestive of candlelight and late sun. This play of light and shadow effectively gives an illusion of life and movement. It seems the characters really dance about their daily lives, and when they are still, they find their feet naturally falling into classical positions. Pleasingly...



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