STORIES

OF

NATALIE AND CHRISTOPHER

(Being A Collection Of Gentle Stories For Children)

By

KARM ARGER

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NATALIE AND CHRISTOPHER

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THE MAGIC RINGS

ONCE upon a time there were two young children who lived with their parents in a comfortable house high upon a hill. The boy's name was Christopher and the girl was called Natalie. He was nearly ten years old and she was nearly twelve years old.

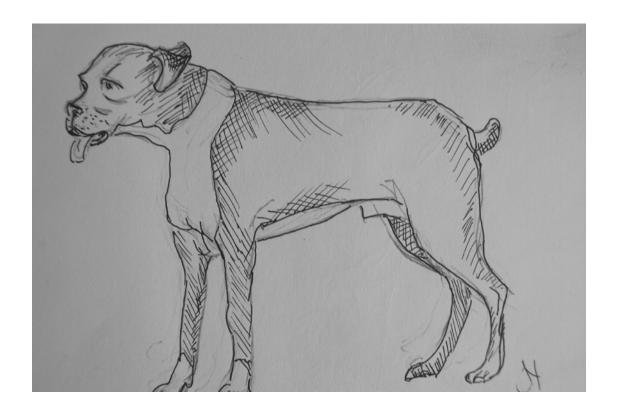


At the back of their house they had a long, sloping garden with plenty of shrubs and some trees. Their father had levelled off a section of the land and built for them a little pond there. In it were many different types of gold fish, frogs, newts and lots of *water boatmen*. Water boatmen are very light creatures, thin spindly-legged insects, capable of walking or even running on the surface of water. The children loved to watch these different beings. Sometimes, they would catch some of them but without causing them any harm.

For the children, out of the four seasons in the year, spring was the best time. Then the pond was teeming with new and exciting living things. On a really warm day, large and small dragonflies needing to stretch out their thin long bodies and fine delicate wings in the sun in order to dry them, came to perch on the plants, which grew in the pond. Their wings reflected the total colours of the rainbow as they rested in the sunshine. Dragonflies have huge, fearsome heads with strong jaws. They fed on the other insects.

Now, the children had a dog. It was a Boxer. He was a large, fierce-looking strong animal with a powerful, full-sized chest. His looks were what frightened people most of all but he was always very gentle with the children. Their father had named him *Blake von Beulah*. It was an impressive-sounding name. But to Natalie and Christopher he was simply *Blake*, of course, and he was their friend. Whenever the children went into the garden to play *Blake* went along with them. *Blake* loved to play ball with them. The children would fling the ball as far away as their little hands could throw. He would chase after it, leaping in the air as he

went, then pick up the ball in his large mouth and bring it back, as if inviting them to do it again, to play some more. *Blake* was an intelligent dog.



One day in the middle of May, when the weather was beginning to get warm the children asked their mother if they could go and play in the garden. Their mother agreed but warned them to be careful that they did not fall into the pond, not because the water was deep, or dangerous, but because she did not want the children getting wet.

"No, we won't; we will be careful mum," they both said as they dashed out into the garden. Inevitably, *Blake* was there, too, running after them at the same

me. He also wanted to play.	
* * *	
If you are interested in how the story ends, please order the book from or	ıır

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The author is a Lawyer. He was born in Malaya and received his early education in schools in Malaya and Singapore.

As with many of his contemporaries, he went for tertiary studies to England. He was enrolled at the University of Wales and graduated with a Law Degree. Subsequently he was Called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn.

This book of gentle stories was written specially for Natalie and Christopher and for young imaginative children.

He is married and lives with his wife in the County of Kent.



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