

## LoveReading Reader reviews of A Company of Swans by Eva Ibbotson

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading members.

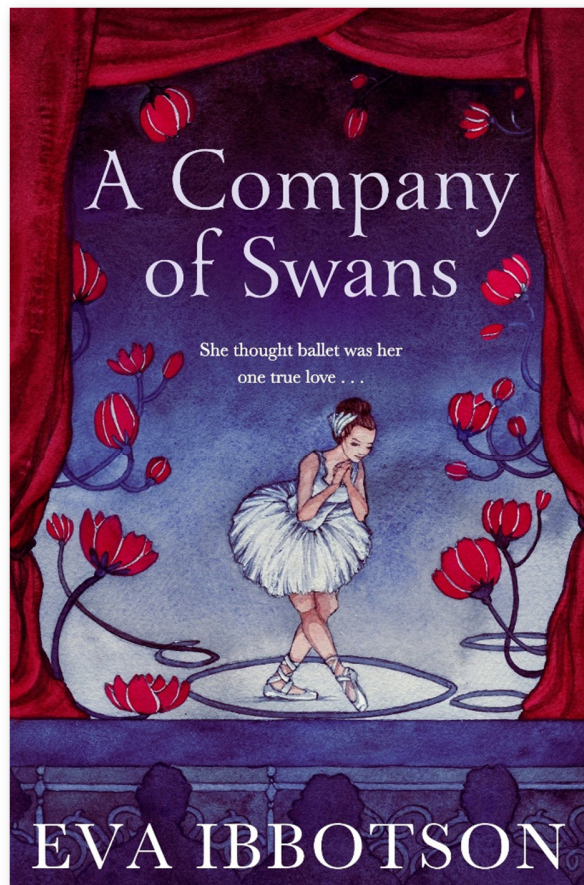
**Catherine Bryce**

***A historical romance story, intimate in places, but well worth reading even if you are not a ballet fan.***

*A historical romantic fiction writing from the author who keeps the Reader's attention throughout the book. The main character in the book is Harriet and this story describes her innocence and ambitiousness to leave her rather harrowing family home and try to improve her life via her love for ballet.*

*The author takes the reader to South America and her description of the surroundings of the Amazon is first class. Written into the novel are rather some 'risqué' emotional issues which I think gives life to the book but some readers may be of the opposite opinion. Set in the Edwardian era, the book also comes into the historical fiction genre and I can certainly say that readers of the book will not be disappointed.*

*The only criticism I have is the ending of the story but that is only my opinion. Well worth reading and is written in a light informal style similar to the author's other novels.*



### **Hannah Ward**

*Thank you Lovereading for sending me this book. **If you're a fan of the ballet this is the book for you.** Even though I am not really, I still enjoyed this book but not as much as Eva Ibbotson's other books. The story is all about a young girl called Harriet Morton who loves ballet and she gets a chance to run away and join a ballet tour so she decides to leave her incredibly dull life. I think this book would be great for the younger girl and the cover looks lovely too.*

<http://echoesinanemptyroom.com/2015/10/04/a-company-of-swans-by-eva-ibbotson/>

### **Janet Gilliard**

*This novel combines ballet and adventure in the Amazon. Harriet escapes from a loveless home to join a ballet troupe touring in the Amazon. She falls in love but is tracked down by her father determined to drag her home. **As a fan of ballet novels in my childhood I really enjoyed this. Well written and intelligent.***

### **Edel Waugh**

*The story is set in Cambridge in 1912. The main character Harriet is a book loving adventurous person at heart who dreams about getting out into the world but the only life she is allowed to have is in the ballet where her family wish her to be. Stifled by her father and aunt she takes off on an adventure away from her family where she can do what she likes. I think the author captured well how dependent young women were in the early 1900's, they had few choices and their future was often led by family and not their own choice so it was inspiring seeing this young 19 year old go out into the world and meet people and have some fun and relationships in a completely different country. **Harriet is a brave and very likeable character who was a lot of fun to read about having all these experiences away from the safety of home especially as her family wanted her back!***

<http://www.edelwaugh.blogspot.com>

### **Charnell Vevers**

***This books takes you on a journey, along with Harriet, as she leaves her sheltered life in London so that she can join a touring ballet***

**company as they travel the Amazon.** Ballet plays such a vital role in this book, it is what allows Harriet to finally escape from her overbearing parents. Even if you know little about ballet, you won't find it hard to follow and you will learn so much from it. Ibbotson also explain the plots of the ballets being performed during the book, which is fascinating to read about.

The Amazon is a beautiful setting for this book and the touring aspect means that we get to visit many different places along with our characters. Eva Ibbotson does what she always does, gives us the adorable kind of romance you can't help but love, whilst teaching you something about history, about art, about music and about a world you have never been able to visit yourself.

<http://reviewsfromabookworm.blogspot.co.uk/>