

Seagulls In The Attic by Anna Bentinck, Tessa Hainsworth



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Tessa Hainsworth used to have it all - except time, peace of mind and leisure to enjoy the fruits of her labours. One momentous spring, she and her husband decide to start again in Cornwall - and the story of Tessa's first turbulent year in adapting to her new life was told in her first book. Seagulls in the Attic now finds Tessa a fully-fledged member of the community, but that doesn't mean life becomes any easier. Her initial delight now has to be tempered with the reality of financial downsizing and learning a whole new way of living. But Tessa's natural exuberance and sense of fun help her to turn all the hardships to her advantage - eventually.



Reviews of the Seagulls In The Attic by Anna Bentinck, Tessa Hainsworth

Zan

The continuing story of a London family who disliked the rat-race and decided to move to lovely Cornwall with their family. Prices are high for homes in Cornwall as Londoners like to have second homes there for vacations and holidays. Jobs are also hard to come by especially as her husband is an actor. But he is also a certified therapist as well as a good cook. Soon Mom and Dad manage to find jobs even if temporary. They are settling in and enjoying their new found freedom from the

stress of London and their jobs. Here in Cornwall there is a gorgeous beach, lots of fresh air and many locals who don't mind talking/teasing/advising to their new postie. Tessa plants a garden and learns a few things about flora and fauna. Meanwhile her best friend, Annie has fallen in love with Pete and they plan to be wed in Cornwall in a few months where Pete lives.

If you like stories about folks turning their backs to big cities and all the worries and competitiveness, you will appreciate all the antics here. Her first book should be read before this one; it does help to do so. Tessa learns how to forage for food around in the wild land and on other folks properties, like sorrel, wild garlic and nettles. She carries a special rucksack for her goodies. You will laugh and cheer at times when you read about her cooking exploits. A jolly good read!

Dakora

very happy

Jarortr

Well written and interesting book that details life in a small Cornish town, the author having moved from South east England. Makes one want to move to the same simpler life. All in all an interesting and fun account of a lifestyle change that most of us would envy!

saafari

Love these books! I was given the first in the series and have enjoyed the later ones

I've bought.

Ceck

Loved reading this book and didn't want it to end.

Narder

The second book by Tessa Hainsworth about her family moving from London to Cornwall and starting a new life there was as enjoyable as the first one.

By now, we find the author fully settled in her work as a postwoman. Her children have made many friends and seem to go through their daily lives entirely trouble-free. Her husband still works at a café to make ends meet, but has also found work as an actor again. This takes him away from the family home for months, with only brief visits in between, but that does not cause any major problems, either.

In her spare time, Tessa works on her allotment, raises a baby seagull, tries to find her son's pet snake* and helps with the planning of a wedding.

There isn't a minute boredom in her life, and she greatly enjoys Cornwall's wonderful landscape and being so close to the Sea.

The reader meets again some of the characters that were introduced in the first book, but new ones also appear - some less pleasant than others.

In the first book, I liked the division into chapters according to the months of the year. This one is not quite so "neat", but we still follow the family for a whole year. They even manage to have a camping holiday together, but the year's highlight is certainly their friends' wedding, which is described in amazingly little detail.

Of course, the book leaves room for more, and I will soon read the 3rd one of the series.

*In my opinion, snakes don't make good pets. I am just not convinced that the average family home can offer a suitable environment for a snake, in order for it to live its life the way a snake is supposed to. Also, as recommendable as it is from Tessa to try and overcome her snake phobia to make her son happy, maybe there would have been other ways to help a little boy developing his sense of responsibility and indulge his love for animals.

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