

## **Short History of *The Nutcracker***

*The Nutcracker* is a famous ballet that was first performed a long time ago, in 1892, in Russia. It is based on a story about a magical Nutcracker who comes to life. A man named Tchaikovsky wrote the beautiful music for the ballet, including famous songs like the "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy."

At first, *The Nutcracker* wasn't very popular, but when people in the United States saw it in the 1940s, they loved it! Now, it is performed all over the world, especially during the holidays, and many families enjoy going to see it every year.

## **Short Synopsis of *The Nutcracker***

Marie is a young girl who receives a special Nutcracker doll as a gift on Christmas Eve. That night, something magical happens—the Nutcracker comes to life! He leads Marie on an exciting adventure where they battle the evil Rat King and his army of mice. After they defeat the Rat King, the Nutcracker transforms into a handsome prince. He takes Marie to the Land of Sweets, where they are welcomed by the beautiful Sugar Plum Fairy and watch all sorts of magical dances from around the world. It's a night full of magic, friendship, and fun!