



BETSY McCALL VISITS THE PLAZA

Hi! Guess where we are! At the Plaza, along with dukes and duchesses and movie stars. And a make-believe girl named Eloise, but I'll tell you about her later. Daddy had to come to New York on business, and Mommy said that, since we kids had this long Easter vacation, why shouldn't we all go along. The Plaza was Mommy's idea, too: Her mother took her there when she was about my age, and she never forgot how elegant it was—violins playing, white-gloved waiters, views of Central Park. Well, I was sort of worried it would be *too* grand. But it's fun, and friendly. First, as we entered, we saw an ENORMOUS chocolate Easter egg as tall as the twins! Close to our rooms is an adorable children's room named for

Eloise, who was the "heroine" of this children's book for grown-ups. She lived in the Plaza, and must have made people's lives miserable with the crazy

things she did and the silly words she used, like *skiddle* and *sklonk* and *skibble*. Daddy says, "Eloise was a skrewball." But the room is lovely, with old-fashioned children's furniture and toys. My favorite is the ice-cream parlor, downstairs, all done in ice-cream colors. They learn your name very quickly here: "Hi, Betsy," the waitress said. I couldn't believe it! "Like to try a Betsy McCall Surprise?" I nodded, even though I was surprised *enough!* Well, this THING appeared—a tremendous sundae with fresh strawberries and thick whipped cream on top, then chocolate-chip ice cream and preserved strawberries, and inside it all, *The Surprise*. No, I won't tell you what it was. You'll have to find that out for yourself!



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