

# Ripping Reads

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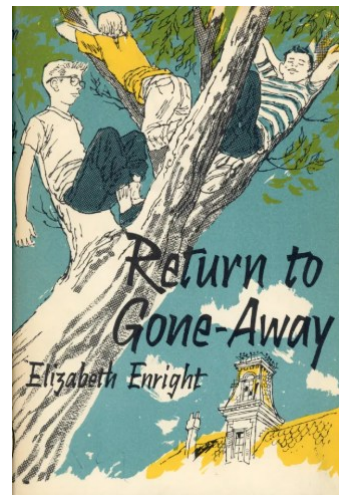


### Winter Reading by Heather Kaye

My favourite winter reading is *Winter Holiday* by Arthur Ransome. My mum bought me the book when I was nine years old, when we set off on our own epic winter holiday, and it has remained a firm favourite ever since. I have re-read the book almost every winter ever since. It just has the perfect combination of winter activities that we all love to read about,

and would do if we could. Sledging, skating, exploring, and weeks and weeks of snow, a proper winter! And the ending is absolutely fantastic, the best one Ransome ever wrote.

I also love *The Four Storey Mistake* by Elizabeth Enright, again the children get skating along their own frozen steam, through the woods, causing them to



make new friends.

The whole winter description is picturesque and atmospheric. I also like the winter section in *Return to Goneaway*, also by Elizabeth Enright, especially the pencil drawings in my hardback copy.

*The Secret Staircase* by Jill Barklem is another favourite, especially the description of the Winter Ball: “The air was crisp and cold and everything sparkled in the winter sunshine. The little mice hurrying along the path turned up their collars and blew on their paws in an effort to keep warm.”

