



BEHIND THE MOUSE

About the Author

Katharine Holabird grew up in Chicago, where she remembers dressing up and dancing around the family home with her three sisters, “just like Angelina...”

“We were always reading books and using our imagination,” she says, “and we loved to make believe we were ballerinas and princesses.”

Ms. Holabird remembers special occasions when she attended ballets like *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker Suite* with her grandmother and how much she enjoyed entertaining her family with performances of her own.

Ms. Holabird received a B.A. in Literature from Bennington College in Vermont in 1969 and was a journalist in Italy for three years before moving to England in 1973. She worked as a nursery school teacher in London, and then became a freelance writer when her first daughter was born in 1976.

Ms. Holabird began writing children’s books in 1982 and published *Angelina Ballerina*™ with English illustrator Helen Craig in 1983. The *Angelina* storybooks relate to childhood themes such as friendship, jealousy, loyalty and dedication. The 23 books have inspired an animated series as well as 10 Home Entertainment titles.

As a creative consultant to *Angelina Ballerina The Next Steps*, Ms. Holabird consults on all aspects of the production, including the designs, scripts and music.