
Church, Richard (1893–1972), British writer and civil servant, who wrote for both children and adults in a straightforward, lyrical style. Richard Thomas Church was concerned to make words musical and the sense immediately clear, thus giving both body and soul to the work. He in-

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tended his books for Everyman and Everywoman, and that included Every Child. As a children's author Church is chiefly remembered for *The Cave* (1950), published in America as *Five Boys in a Cave* (1951). With its depiction of group dynamics and character development, it is a minor classic of subterranean suspense. According to Church, *The Cave* was not so much the product of writing as it was dictated to a secretary at the urgent command of his first grandson. *A Squirrel Called Rufus* (1941), *Dog Toby* (1952), and *Down River* (1958), a sequel to *The Cave*, are other notable children's books by Church.

BJÖRN SUNDMARK