



## The Fifth Child (Paperback)

By Doris Lessing

HarperCollins Publishers, United Kingdom, 2010. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. A classic tale from Doris Lessing, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, of a family torn apart by the arrival of Ben, their feral fifth child. ` Listening to the laughter, the sounds of children playing, Harriet and David would reach for each other s hand, and smile, and breathe happiness. Four children, a beautiful old house, the love of relatives and friends - Harriet and David Lovatt s life is a glorious hymn to domestic bliss and old-fashioned family values. But when their fifth child is born, a sickly and implacable shadow is cast over this tender idyll. Large and ugly, violent and uncontrollable, the infant Ben, ` full of cold dislike , tears at Harriet s breast. Struggling to care for her new-born child, faced with a darkness and a strange defiance she has never known before, Harriet is deeply afraid of what, exactly, she has brought into the world .

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