



The World's Best Fairy Tales

Belle Becker Sideman, Fritz Kredel (Illustrator), Katriina Viljamaa-Rissanen

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A collection of stories from many islands, each of which has the special flavour of its country of origin.

The World's Best Fairy Tales Details

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From Reader Review The World's Best Fairy Tales for online ebook

Erinn Gillespie says

here is my review : https://youtu.be/_mfs-MiYF94

Cookav says

The World's Best Fairy Tales is a compilation of classic fairy tales, from the ones that are more well known, like Rapunzel and the Three Bears, to some more unknown stories, such as Jordina and Joringel and Billy Beg and his Bull.

Some of the stories are touching and cute, like the Steadfast Tin Soldier and Snegourka, the Snow Maiden. But some of them are actually really odd, like The Red Shoes, a story about a girl who puts on shoes that make her dance incessantly and has to have her feet cut off because of it.

The one thing I found most interesting about this book is that at the end of every story the author's name and the story's nationality is mentioned. It shows a lot about each of the different cultures that the stories came from and traditions from that area.

But something that comes from the aural stories is many variations. In most of these stories that are passed down, Reader's Digest compiles all of the variations, which can sometimes make for a confusing story.

All in all though, I found this book interesting and I would recommend it.

Dee Maselle says

Beautiful illustrations; a favorite when I was a child.

Kellie says

This is the collection I had as a child and picked it up on eBay to read to my girls. My two older kids (8 and 10) loved it, though my five-year-old had trouble following the stories. The language is pretty dense and there is usually only one picture for each story (each one is about 7-20 pages). The illustrations are lovely though. The stories themselves are very Hans Christian Andersen and Brothers Grimm heavy. There are a few stories that take place in Asia. I like this book a lot because it has both stories that everyone knows (like Snow White or Cinderella) and the lesser known ones (The Steadfast Tin Soldier or Jorinda and Joringel). The plots are intense and often violent - the sort of thing I would never let them watch on TV but is a little more digestible in a book. It is very interesting to talk to the kids about how the stories are different from the watered down versions they know from Disney. Overall, a great book, but probably best for 8+.

Catherine says

This was my favourite collection of fairy tales when I was a child, but a friend borrowed the books shortly before moving overseas and I never saw them again... until I recently found a set on Ebay! Re-reading these is like getting to know old friends anew.

Jennifer Zeven says

We had two volumes of these, and they were the bedrock of my love affair with folk tales. I would love to track these down again!

Candice says

This is an excellent collection of fairy tales. I loved reading ones I knew and also those I didn't - fairy tales are awesome! Basic storytelling is a great form. The simplicity of fairy tales is what makes them amazing - no fluff, talking animals, celebration of nature, and always a moral that you can remember forever. Great book!

Jessica Crane says

I loved reading this :)

Jill McGivering says

This was one of my favourite childhood books – and I still read it. As well as all the best-known tales, it included many stories I've never seen elsewhere – and spans the magical, the adventurous, the comic and the clever. It's also a constant reminder that a great story is at the heart of all good writing.

Jackie Shales says

an amazing compilation of stories that i've read since i was a little girl, some scary some fun, but all amazing!

Pandan Arum says

page 70 :

There the tin soldier lay and felt a truly terrible heat. Whether he was suffering from real fire or from love he

did not know. All his color had disappeared. Whether this had happened on his travels or whether it was the result of trouble, who can say? He looked at the little lady, she looked at him, and he felt that he was melting.

Maria says

This is a beautiful, gilt-edged two-volume collection of fairy tales. It contains all sorts of stories, from the well-known to the very obscure. It is what I grew up reading and it helped to foster my love of fiction, especially fantasy. Overall, it is a wonderful read for both children and the young-at-heart.

Jenny says

I would have given this a 5, but some of the stories included are the slightly "cleaned-up" version of these tales, and not 100% true to the originals.

For instance, in the original Grim's Cinderella, the two step-sisters get their eyes clawed out by Cinderella's bird friends.

Monique says

Read for research to help me beat the King's Quest games. I enjoyed it as much as I did when I was a little girl. Great collection.

Kimberly Fields says

I grew up on this set of fairytales (there are two volumes to my knowledge). It has a wide variety of fairytales, both well-known, and lesser-known. As a child I spent hours poring over these books and loving the characters-- it was these books that introduced me to most of the fairytales I know and love. The stories themselves are short-- generally about 5 to 10 pages-- so they're a quick read. They also have pretty color illustrations, about one per story. I highly recommend this set for a good, basic collection of fairytales-- you can't go wrong with the World's Best!
