



Once Upon a Beanstalk

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~EXCERPT~

Spinning around, Penelope found herself nose to nose with Prince Andrew, former scoundrel, puller of pigtailed, and the subject of entirely too many conversations that day. And to her dismay, he had not grown stodgy over the last few years, either. Quite the contrary.

In fact, he had grown shockingly handsome.

The prince's face broke into a sly smile. "I knew it was you," he said, leaning one elbow against the railing. "I recognized you the moment I saw the mud on that hem."

Indignant words filled Penelope's mouth, but when she glanced at her skirt she saw that it was indeed spotted with mud, probably from her trek through the stables. This was exactly why she hated skirts. They were always getting dirty, and climbing trees in them was a nightmare. She much preferred trousers.

She realized she'd just spoken the thought out loud when Andrew's smile widened. "If there was any doubt in my mind that it's you behind that pretty face," he said, "It's gone now. You're still climbing trees, eh? You haven't changed as much as I thought."

"Pretty face?" She replied, planting both hands on her hips. "Spare me whatever joke you're making at my expense."

"...And apparently you still can't take a compliment. You really haven't changed a bit, have you?" Despite the dismayed shake of his head, the prince looked pleased about it, too.

She scowled. "What do you want, Andrew?"

~SUMMARY~

In this humorous collection of fairy tale mashups combining modern day technology with fairy tale sensibilities, Rumpelstiltskin and Red Riding Hood are married and running a royal wedding planner venue, Rapunzel has been rescued from her tower and is about to start her happily ever after, and the Grimm Brothers are a group of notorious thieves who are forced to rescue a kidnapped princess in order to avoid execution.

This collection includes the short stories "Once Upon a Wedding," "Once Upon a Heist," and "Once Upon a Beanstalk."

Approximately 20,000 words in length.

Once Upon a Beanstalk Details

Date : Published August 30th 2011

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Author : Kate Avery Ellison

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From Reader Review Once Upon a Beanstalk for online ebook

Kelli Lamkins says

Cute

Patricia Lynne says

Very cute short stories that deal with fair tail beings we know and love. Had nice twists and the stories had a small connection one way or another.

Miss Banana says

I LOVE mash ups of fairy tales and so on, so the three shorts featured in here were highly amusing. I only wished they were longer (and even a more serious bent).

Jessica Grey says

Fun spin on/mashups of some of my favorite fairy tales. Loved that the stories were tied together. I'm looking forward to reading more from Ms. Ellison.

Denae Christine says

This was fun. I remember enjoying the stories well enough that I wished they were longer.

Karla says

I sat down to read a little of this book and ended up reading the entire thing. It was a fast read and very enjoyable. I love the way the author changed stories that we already know in a unique way. I also love how everything came together in the end. Super cute.

Michelle says

More a 3.5 since this is one of her first and some of the editing went awry! Also the 3rd story, that was blended first to the second to this one, was hard to get into. I think the characters just didn't get developed enough for me to get a sense of who they truly were.

Wendy Sparrow says

This inter-connected series of short stories was very cute and well done, but my favorite part was all the little allusions to fairy tales that were woven into the background. It made me smile every time I caught one. She blends a bit of modern technology into the fairy tales without making them either contemporary or historical--they're in their own little world--like fairy tales themselves.

While the characters were mostly of adult age, and could be enjoyed by an adult audience, I think the other reviewer pegging them as YA might be right. The content is appropriate for any age, though.

Doreen says

very enjoyable short stories. is penelope supposed to be princess and the pea?

Maria Freeman says

An entertaining set of short stories. I like remade fairytales and of the three short stories in this book the third one was by far my favorite. I read the book in about an hour, so it isn't long by any means, though it did make me want to look into her other books.

Danyelle Leafy says

Fun mashups. :)

Amy says

Quick read, 3 short stories, light and entertaining

Ashley Stoyanoff says

Once Upon a Beanstalk is a collection of three brilliantly written short stories. As always, Kate's writing was beautiful. Every page was filled with easily imaginable scenes and wonderful descriptions.

These stories had me laughing from start to finish. Ellison took our beloved fairy tale characters and added a few new twists. I thoroughly enjoyed every page and absolutely loved Rumpelstiltskin's wedding planning business.

My favorite tale was definitely “Once Upon a Beanstalk.” The Grimm Brothers were a treat. Ellison had me at the edge of my seat with some unexpected twists, and the ending had me grinning at the blossoming romances.

I would recommend this book to anyone looking for a quick and fun read that will have you giggling.

Katrina Milly Alcantara says

Wow! That was a fast read. This book brought me back to my childhood. Made me realize how old I am, because I can't even remember who Rumpelstiltskin is! haha

Laura Martin says

A fun and clever twist on well known fairy tales. Very enjoyable.
