



## The Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde

*Oscar Wilde , Michael Hague (Illustrator)*

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Der berüchtigte Dubliner Dandy, brillante Ästhet und provozierende Kritiker der Londoner und Pariser Gesellschaft des ausgehenden 19. Jahrhunderts hat eine außergewöhnliche Sammlung bezaubernder Märchen, berühmter Erzählungen und sinnreicher Prosagedichte hinterlassen. Vom »Glücklichen Prinz« bis zu »Lord Arthur Saviles Verbrechen« und dem »Gespenst von Canterville« ist in dieser Ausgabe alles enthalten. Enthaltene Märchen, Erzählungen und Gedichte: Der glückliche Prinz, Die Nachtigall und die Rose, Der eifersüchtige Riese, Der opferwillige Freund, Die ungewöhnliche Rakete, Der jugne König, Der Geburtstag der Infantin, Der Fischer und seine Seele, Das Sternenkind, Lord Arthur Saviles Verbrechen, Das Gespenst von Canterville, Die Sphinx ohne Geheimnis, Der Millionär, Das Bildnis des Mr. W. H., Der Künstler, Der Heilbringer, Der Schüler, Der Meister, Das Haus des Gerichts, Der Lehrer der Weisheit.

## **The Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde Details**

Date : Published April 1st 1993 by Henry Holt & Company

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Author : Oscar Wilde , Michael Hague (Illustrator)

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## From Reader Review The Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde for online ebook

### Holly says

I love Oscar Wilde. I love the stories he tells and the way he tells them. This version of his fairy tales in particular I am completely in love with because the illustrations are so beautiful. And I am pretty much 100% comfortable saying that Wilde would love them, too.

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### Ryan says

I suppose that Wilde's tales are "fairy" tales. Animals talk, there are mermaids and princesses, and magical things happen. In Wilde's tales, however, the animals are often sarcastically silly (in a way that doesn't easily translate to disney-fication, I hope), and they mock the behaviors of humans. The mermaids cause men to give up their souls, the princesses break the hearts of those who love them and the magical is really more miraculous. The themes are more clearly religious - or perhaps I mean morale - and the commentary on society is not particularly flattering.

That being said, I love these tales and the pictures in this edition are stunning. Wilde's language is lovely and his descriptions are well-represented in the illustrations. This is one of those books people should just have and read periodically.

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### Kurt says

Wilde is a brilliant writer and this book is no exception. There's a bit too much Catholicism in this book for my taste, but it doesn't really distract from the stories at all. Every story is sad, and beware reading this to kids until you've read through it first. It doesn't shy away from killing off the most sympathetic character, or having them suffer trials and tribulations without any happy ending. These stories are tender and touching paeans to love and sacrifice written with such poignancy that it would be hard not to be moved. Wilde's prose is beautiful. The stories are filled with social commentary and satire and insight into human character, there's never a doubt that you're reading a master. Highly recommended. I found myself going back and re-reading passages over a few times just because they were so enjoyable to read and so beautifully written. There is a story of a dwarf in this book and when I was reading it to Laurie she mentioned that Oscar Wilde might be relating himself to the dwarf in the story, he's considered nothing more than an outcast, by those in upper society, as a clown or a source of amusement. It turns out that there's a long history of the dwarf representing the artist in art and literature; think Velasquez. Reading the story with this in mind the relationship is unmistakable.

<http://www.mezzo-mondo.com/arts/mm/ve...>

<http://farm4.static.flickr.com/3295/2...>

<http://www.logoi.com/pastimages/img/d...>

<http://www.billcasselman.com/velasque...>

[http://hoocher.com/Diego\\_Velazquez/Ve...](http://hoocher.com/Diego_Velazquez/Ve...)

And John Singer Sargent's take "after Velasquez"

### **Pattie Babbitt says**

The memory of having these stories recommended to me at a New Year's party will forever stay with me. A drunk artist from Norfolk who always waxes poetical about the beauty of Oscar Wilde and his short stories with one too many to drink. I have to agree with him that the stories were quite lovely, although I am not sure if Wilde loves or hates birds. He certainly liked to sacrifice them in his stories, although I feel it was out of respect rather than malice.

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### **Kristen says**

I was pleasantly surprised by these tales. I am a big fan of Oscar Wilde, but did not know what to expect from this collection of Fairy Tales. The writing is lovely and most of the tales have wonderful value. The later tales, are more dark but exemplify relevant concerns.

I actually read through these because I wanted to give it as a gift to a co-worker for his new daughter. I am glad that I did and I hope he will enjoy reading them to his daughter and sharing the lovely illustrations.

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### **Rebecca says**

I feel like I should give it a lower rating but rating things muddles me up.

I did enjoy these, very much. I went down the audiobook route, but I believe I have the illustrated version at my mother's, so I'll be sure to pick it up.

There are several quotes I loved from these stories, which are very relevant today. There was often a lot of irrelevant details that cropped up, but it didn't distract too much from the real story.

If I have learnt anything from reading this, it's why Fairy Tales were modernised in a way to make them happier.....

Because there really were a load of pricks in this and a lot of deflating endings. I mean, it probably teaches kids that the world is shit, so it's kind of useful in that sense.

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### **Tara Redd says**

My favorite when I was a kid was always The Happy Prince. But tonight it's The Nightingale and The Rose:

“What a silly thing love is!” said the student as he walked away. ‘It is not half as useful as logic, for it does not prove anything, and it is always telling one of things that are not going to happen, and making one believe things that are not true. In fact, it is quite unpractical, and, as in this age to be practical is everything,

I shall go back to philosophy and study metaphysics.'

So he returned to his room and pulled out a great dusty book, and began to read."

Every story in this book will have its moment in a reader's life, I think. You just have to keep coming back. Isabelle Brent's illustrations are wonderful as well.

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### **Rachel says**

These are "fairy tales", rather than "tales of faerie". They're charming and even sweet, but have some of Wilde's satirical bite, a surprising emphasis on social injustice, and moralizing along the lines of *Dorian Gray*. They don't have quite the mystery or layers of MacDonald's fairy tales, but sit in my mind nonetheless. Hague's illustrations are attractive but he doesn't always capture the heart of the stories.

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### **Mesembryanthemum says**

Hart Publishing Company, 1975. Subtitle on (yellow) cover: "Immortal Stories of Great Charm".

NOT A DIFFERENT EDITION of " The Complete Fairy Tales" by Oscar Wilde - this book has different stories.

Contents:

- The Young King
  - The Birthday of the Infanta
  - The Fisherman and His Soul
  - The Star-Child
  - The Happy Prince
  - The Nightingale and the Rose
  - The Selfish Giant
  - The Devoted Friend
  - The Remarkable Rocket
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### **AJ LeBlanc says**

This should be called The Most Depressing Fairy Tales Ever Written And If You Are The Least Little Bit Sad You Will Want To Jump Off A Bridge by Oscar Wilde.

I liked the reverse psychology angle - most stories have a negative character that doesn't learn a thing while the good character dies an awful death. We wouldn't want to be like that, would we children?

But man...I needed to watch a Lifetime or Hallmark movie where everything is puppies and rainbows to wash away the misery.

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### **Christine says**

beautiful :)

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### **Sher says**

This is a precious collection of some of OW's best stories. I certainly could not call myself a fan of Wilde's political views, but the man sure could write!! I only knew two of these stories before reading the book. "The Happy Prince" is a tender story of love, devotion and loyalty. I remember reading it, or having it read to me, when I was very young. And one of my all time favorites stories, "The Selfish Giant" just doesn't get old. I get the chills every time I read it. Now I have several other stories that I can learn to love as well.

This is a great book. If you have never read anything by OW, this is the place to start. And of course, it is great to share with your children. Not only is it good literature, but it will open up a myriad of discussions if you will let it. There is so much symbolism here that it is a great place to make children aware that often there are stories within stories.

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### **Shauna Hruby says**

I listened to an audiobook version of most of these tales by Interactive Media, narrated by Josh Verbae. I have read all these stories before, but it was fun to hear them read aloud. I am a great fan of Oscar Wilde's plays and witty quips, but I must admit that some of these so-called fairy tales are dark, strange, and depressing. However, "The Selfish Giant" and "The Happy Prince" are always worth reading. Overall, it's a mixed bag.

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### **Kathy Sebesta says**

Audiobook read by such dynamite stars as Judi Dench and Jeremy Irons. No lack of superb talent here.

These are fairy tales in the old, original style, where bad things happen and people suffer. No happily ever after in these stories. And ultimately that's why I stopped listening - not because they were poorly written, but because they are so utterly, depressingly, despairingly, hopeless. I just don't need that much more bleakness in my life.

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### **Danna says**

O Serendipity! How grateful I am for thee! I was at the library yesterday with a printout of my Goodreads "to

read" shelf, and Milwood had not a one of them. The APL system itself was also decidedly unhelpful and my lunchtime clock was ticking, so I completed my request for an audio copy of "The Importance of Being Earnest" to be sent to Milwood and in the process, stumbled upon this gem in the catalog. Lo and behold it was actually available and on the shelf. For anyone wanting to explore Wilde's fairy tales, I recommend this gorgeously illustrated edition; it's most excellent introduction caused me to enjoy the stories much more than I would have anyway. I could go on and on, but it's enough, I think, to say I was swept away!

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