



The Golden Book of Fairy Tales

Adrienne Segur (Illustrator) , Marie Ponsot (Translator) , Marie-Catherine d'Aulnoy , Hans Christian Andersen , Jacob Grimm , Wilhelm Grimm , Charles Perrault , Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont , more... Comtesse de Ségur ...less

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Originally published in 1958, this book contains a selection of 28 traditional stories from the French, German, Danish, Russian and Japanese traditions. Includes *The Sleeping Beauty*, *The Frog Prince*, *Puss in Boots*, *Thumbelina*, *Cinderella*, *Little Red Riding Hood*, and *Beauty and the Beast*.

The Golden Book of Fairy Tales Details

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From Reader Review The Golden Book of Fairy Tales for online ebook

Nancy Lorenz says

The Golden Book of Fairy Tales
by Adirenne Segur (illustrations), and Marie Ponsol (Translation)

I had this book when I was a child, and loved it. I had it for years until a moving box got lost, and it vanished, like an enchantment. I thought it would be forever lost, as it was out of print. I since discovered that it was republished, and back in print, so even as an adult, I bought a copy to keep for posterity.

What makes this fairy tale book stand out is its incredible illustrations by Adrienne Segur. The most beautiful of the illustrations are the black and white drawings with a rose tint. Drawings of "Donkeyskin," the Japanese story, "Urashima and the Turtle," "Beauty and the Beast," are exquisite, and enhance the tales magnificently. The color illustrations are notable as well, especially, the cover story, "The Seven Crow Princes," along with "The Wild Swans."

The story book is taller than the usual book, brining a larger than life experience to the bedtime story. The cover illustration is both on the book and its jacket cover, as usual for titles in that era. The text is set in two columns on the page, with a line of graphics to separate the columns (flowers, animals, vines) This unusual layout makes reading easier in shorter lines of text in case children want to read themselves, or follow along. The flourish between column texts also offer embellishment for the mere fancy of it all.

The stories average about 5 pages with some at 4 and others at 9 in length, including the full page illustrations in the tale, making it a good bet for a mid-size bedtime story. I give this book five stars for its enchanting style and an old fashioned imaginative experience.

Maya Widiatmoko says

Untuk buku dongeng, buku ini cukup pelit ilustrasi. Tapi sekalinya ada ilustrasi itu bagus banget. Bener2 lukisan. Meskipun kadang lukisan-nya agak aneh. Mungkin karena dr cerita rakyat negara lain. Cerita dongeng-nya juga lumayan panjang2 dan yaah...namanya juga dongeng, agak2 ngga masuk akal hehehe

Lenny Husen says

I own an original edition and have delighted for 47 years in the exquisite paintings of princesses (all of whom are unique, fair and blonde save for a token brunette and redhead) as well as the extremely artful retelling of these old stories.

Often when I am sad I take this book down and leaf through it and reread some of my favorites... such as The Frog Princess.

My daughter loved this book as well.

How happy I was to find a new edition (not quite as wonderful as mine) but with all the same gorgeous artwork and whimsical wording of the tales!!! Yay!
Now I can gift this to everyone I know who has a little girl.

Matt Guendel says

I actually owned this book because my father's old company published it. This is a larger book with every fairy tale that you can think of in it. I personally read the fairy tale the Little Red Riding Hood in it. The illustrations in this book are great. They are all very realistic and detailed. In this story her grandmother makes this little girl, who is described as pretty as can be, a red hood. This led to everyone calling her little red riding hood. As the story goes on Little Red Riding Hood runs into a wolf, and they race to her grandmothers house. Little Red Riding Hood takes her time along the way, picking up flowers, while the wolf gets to the house as fast as he possibly can. When the wolf got to the house the grandmother let him in. He hadn't eaten in three days and ate her. Then he wrapped himself in her clothes. As little Red Riding hood gets to the house the wolf, trying to sound like grandma, tells her to come in. As he try's to eat her she realizes what has happened. He ended up eating her as she couldn't escape. Sad right?.. but the story doesn't end there. The woodsman runs in with his ax, cuts the wolf in half, and out pop grandma and little red riding hood. It was a clever ending to a story that took a couple twist and turns. I really recommend reading this book and keeping it in a classroom. It has every fairytale that you could imagine. Great book.

Erik says

The illustrations alone make this book worth getting. They're such lovely, breathtaking pictures - especially of the animals and the women. (I'm not too keen on how the guys were drawn. Some of them look creepy.)

The story selection is pretty good. It's so refreshing that there are no Brothers Grimm stories in the collection (no offense to them, but it's nice to see other people's stories sometimes). Also bonus for including Madame d'Aulnoy stories! I wasn't too thrilled with the renaming of many of the stories. One renaming I particularly disliked was "Grace and Derek" (Graciosa and Percinet). But at least they're not too different from the originals. I like that the stories aren't Bowdlerized like many modern fairy tale books are. (If I ever become a dad, I'm going to let my kids read the original versions instead of just the sanitized ones.)

Definitely recommended for those who like illustrations!

Jalilah says

This was my favourite Fairy Tale Collection as a child. I read it over and over again. You can read about it and see the beautiful pictures in this article by Terri Windling: <http://www.endicott-studio.com/rdrm/r...>

April says

I have the first edition from 1958 that was my mother's from when she was young. It was my absolute

favorite book when I was a little girl and continues to be one of my all time favorites. These fairy tales from around the world are enchanting and the illustrations are just spectacular. There's even a "Princess April" in one of the stories, which of course, I found irresistible. I couldn't love this book more.

Stephanie says

Fairy tales the way I remember them. Some are gruesome, and I creatively edit for my 4 year old. She's starting to catch on though, as I'm hesitating as I edit out that Sleeping Beauty's new mother in law wants to eat her little children! Yikers. The pictures are beautiful -- the kind that you remember and carry with you to adulthood.

Lisa says

Segur's version of the Golden Book of Fairy Tales includes a tales of Charles Perrault, Grimm Brothers, Japanese, and other origins. Ponsot's illustrations are intricate and bring the stories to life. The tales are true to the originals, including some disturbing material (Donkeyskin).

Ratrichibi says

I got a copy - an Indonesian version of this book when I was in elementary school. The illustrations were so beautiful, and the stories were the ones I kept dreaming about.

Years later - few months ago, I got the second-hand copy from my local second-hand bookstore and it brought me back to my younger days. And when I found this original (English) copy, this is truly the book I would want my future children and grandchildren to read and hopefully they will have the same beautiful memories like I did.

Alycia Kelly says

This story is about a Queen who had a cat, who had a kitten. The kitten's name is Kip. When the Queen had a daughter, the Princess and Kip became best friends. Kip disappeared for years. Kip came back when she became a cat and the Princess did not recognize Kip. When the Princess married, her husband and children enjoyed the stories about the enchanted cat named Kip. I had never heard this story before. However, this story is now one of my favorites!

Missy says

When my mom was a child in the 1950's, she was given this book as a birthday gift. It followed her throughout her young adult life and she would read it to my sisters and I when we were little. I loved that damn book. Loved the pictures, loved the stories.

Until the Cedar Fires of 2003 destroyed my parents house.

A few years later, I came across the book again at a book store. I paid WAY more than I should have (first edition 1958, but still!).

You can't put a price on nostalgia!

Linda says

The most beautifully detailed images of cats, princesses, and wildlife set in jeweled fairytale settings are in the this book. It's inspired many, many artists.

Bree says

Notes:

This book is quite large and contains more than a dozen stories, several new to us. Read a couple of them out loud to my kids (and the rest to myself). Their opinion was that the stories were okay but they much preferred other versions we've read. Illustrations are few and quite pretty.

Many of the tales are gory, disturbing and fear-filled -- heads get cut off as well as feet, people are killed, people eat the livers and flesh of humans (or so they think, but still). Some of the stories seem to drag on too long but most are a nice length. Overall, it was enjoyable but not a favorite here. We definitely prefer the newer translations that are sanitized but not Disney-ized.

Maggie says

This is a great book to share classic fairy tales with children-however, these tales are NOT sanitized and as such be careful which ones you choose while reading with younger kids...Kip the Enchanted Cat has a black-bearded giant that cut off a young princesses feet-a bit much for the 8 year-olds that I was reading with-we found another tale. The illustrations are excellent and the detailing is refreshing-it's a book to savor.
