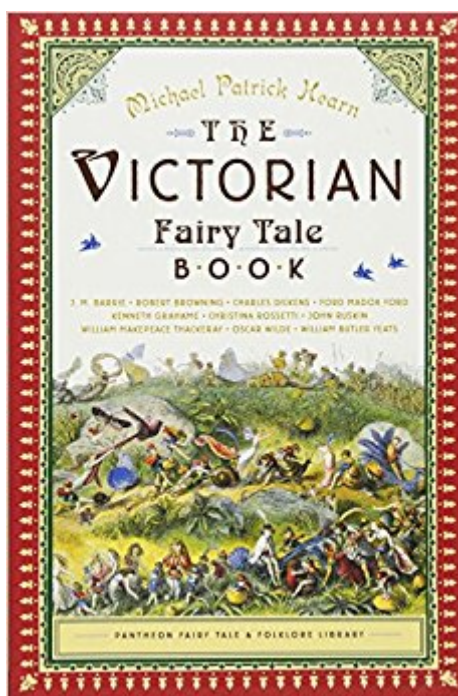


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# The Victorian Fairy Tale Book (The Pantheon Fairy Tale And Folklore Library)



## Synopsis

From Robert Browning's "Pied Piper of Hamelin" and William Makepeace Thackeray's "Rose and the Ring" to Kenneth Grahame's "Reluctant Dragon" and J. M. Barrie's "Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens," here are seventeen classic stories and poems from the golden age of the English fairy tale. Some of them amuse, some enchant, some satirize and criticize, but each one—in the words of Laurence Houseman, author of the classic *Rocking Horse Land*—"is an expression of the joy of living." Accompanied by the illustrations from the original editions of these works by such celebrated Victorian artists as Dante, Gabriel Rossetti, Maxfield Parrish, and Arthur Rackham, this collection will delight readers both young and old. Part of the Pantheon Fairy Tale and Folklore Library.

## Book Information

Series: The Pantheon Fairy Tale and Folklore Library

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## Customer Reviews

"A superb anthology. The keynote of the collection is pure

enchantment. The Washington Post Book World "The language is

elegant and lush, shot through with starlight and rainbows. The Philadelphia

Inquirer "A delight. Madeleine L'Engle

From Robert Browning's "Pied Piper of Hamelin" and William Makepeace Thackeray's "Rose "and

the "Ring to Kenneth Grahame's "Reluctant Dragon and J. M. Barrie's "Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens, here are seventeen classic stories and poems from the golden age of the English fairy tale. Some of them amuse, some enchant, some satirize and criticize, but each one-in the words of Laurence Houseman, author of the classic Rocking-Horse Land- "is an expression of the joy of living." Accompanied by the illustrations from the original editions of these works-by such celebrated Victorian artists as Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Maxfield Parrish, and Arthur Rackham-this collection will delight readers both young and old.

This book is charming. The story in it by Charles Dickens alone is worth the purchase (I should point out that the price point I bought this at was 5\$, still it's worth more). Wonderful absurd little bedtime stories.

Good, complex storytelling, interesting characters with real twists, and intriguing story lines paired with ruthless Victorian morals.

Out of the ordinary fairy tales. The black and white illustrations are a nice touch. Some of the stories are a bit mature for my youngster.

Most of the stories in this book are very long. Your young kid may not be able to pay attention long enough if they have short attention span. Older kids should be able to enjoy them though.

I enjoyed this very much. Sorry I don't have time to elaborate , but I am so behind on my reviews!

"Some amuse, some enchant, some satirize, some criticize--after all, no one creates an alternative world who is content with his own." ~Michael Patrick Hearn, from his introduction in "The Victorian Fairy Tale Book"(What a relevant quote!) Okay. Moving through my luscious pile of period literature and, oh boy, struck gold with this one! Now, I am admittedly a kind-of-Golden Age-fairy tale-lovin-kind-of-girl, and Michael Patrick Hearn's "The Victorian Fairy Tale Book" is just one peach of a great anthology! I was not disappointed. First, the introduction alone is worth the price of the book as Hearn offers one of the most thoughtful and lucid critiques of fairy tale lit I think I have ever read. I don't pretend to be a scholar in this genre, but it is nicely written (and digested) with interesting looks at the writers (among the greatest of their time) and their foray into this style. Did you know Charles Dickens wanted to marry Little Red Riding Hood? You did? Well, I did not, so

these little nuggets of insight were really fun for me. Hearn is a man who surely knows his stuff and who most definitely encouraged me to want to dig in and explore further into this most imaginative style of literature. I believe he selected the best Victorian tales and poems from many of the period's most celebrated writers including Charles Dickens, Oscar Wilde ("The Selfish Giant"), W.B. Yeats ("The Stolen Child"), and (oh yes, \*it\* is in this one!) Christina Rossetti ("The Goblin Market"). Each story is accompanied by either its original illustrations or paired with art from the period's most notable illustrators including Maxfield Parish, Arthur Rackham, and Dante Gabriel Rossetti. What a nice treat it was to see that! Highly recommended as a book not just for kids, as you will relish the moments reading this one aloud to them. I loved it, even if I had to read much of it aloud to myself. Ennnnnnunciate and Enjoy!

Unlike most of the Pantheon's collection of Fairy Tales, the Victorian book contains far fewer stories, but expanded into a really enjoyable, readable set of tales which often take on a characterization and depth of detail normally not seen in folk tales. It's a really nice change of pace from the very short, predictable ones you usually find in collections.

This is a delightful book for children and adults. It is easy and fun to read as fairy tales are supposed to be, but they are also very deep and thought provoking! It stimulates imagination, is instructive about life, and motivates moral aspirations.

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