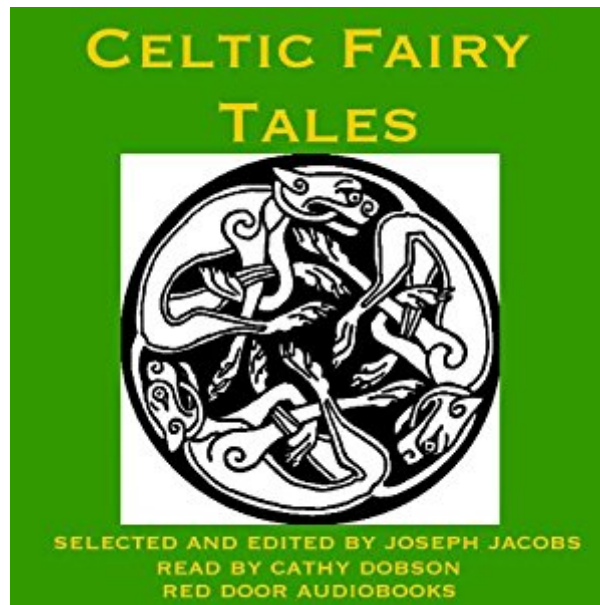


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Celtic Fairy Tales: Traditional Stories From Ireland, Wales And Scotland



Synopsis

The definitive collection of traditional Celtic fairy tales. Joseph Jacobs' 1892 anthology of the most enduring folklore from Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and Cornwall is a delight for both young and old. Leprechauns, giants, witches, princesses, castles, and sea monsters all abound in this compendium of the best mythology Britain and Ireland have to offer. Includes: 'Connla and the Fairy Maiden', 'Guleesh', 'The Field of Boliauns', 'The Horned Women', 'Hudden and Dudden and Donald O'Neary', 'The Shepherd of Myddvai', 'The Sprightly Tailor', 'The Story of Deirdre', 'Munachar and Manachar', 'Gold Tree and Silver Tree', 'King O'Toole and his Goose', 'Jack and his Comrades', 'The Shee An', 'Gannon and the Gruagach Gaire', 'The Storyteller at Fault', 'The Sea Maiden', 'A Legend of Knockmany', 'Fair, Brown and Trembling', 'Jack and his Master', 'Beth Gellert', 'The Tale of Ivan', 'Andrew Coffey', 'The Battle of the Birds', 'Brewery of Eggshells', and 'The Lad with the Goatskin'.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have owned this book for years and read the stories to my son growing up. This collection is superior to a lot of others in that it presents a wide variety of stories - from silly fairy stories to more dramatic folk tales. It also gives a broader variety of countries, including genuine Welsh, Irish, and Scottish tales. It is an excellent sampler of the folklore of the Celts, and just plain fun to read.

I like this book for some easy reading, and fun. The Fairy Tales are written pretty much as they would have been spoken from generation to generation. The language and words sometimes used helps to authenticate the Fairy Tales and in my opinion gives even more enjoyment to the stories. Unfortunately, that same aspect can sometimes slow the story down as there is not a Celtic to English dictionary included. But I would definitely buy this again.

Because the author chose to include old Irish words, some of this book becomes a little difficult. My guess is that it is meant for Gaelic scholars. I am not one, although I am a fan of all things Faerie. The notes and commentary at the end of the book are wonderful and it would be lovely if this could be formatted to allow for links to the notes. Excellent resource book.

Thrilled with the purchase. Truly a relevant and concise gathering of Jacobs' fairy tales. The only criticism I have is in regard to the book cover. It is rather bland and banal but the work within is truly great. A great buy for the money!

Tiny book (About the length & width of an index card.) But nice value. Surprisingly easy to read at this size, nice quality & illustrations.

I'm pretty sure this is the best of Jacobs's fairy tale collections, and I'm not saying that merely as a fan of Irish and Scottish folktales. Whereas Jacobs works for England and India seemed quite repetitive, especially for anyone familiar with Grimm and Andersen, so many of the tales in this book are distinctly Celtic. There are a few exceptions--notably "Fair, Brown, and Trembling," which is basically Cinderella--but quite a few of these draw upon the history and legends of the Celts, and not widely-traveled tales. My favorite in this collection is "A Legend of Knockmany," in which Fin M'Coil must face off against legendary warrior Cucullin, but...he runs home to his wife, Oonagh, instead. Cucullin is sure to follow, so Oonagh crafts several tricks to convince the hero that not only is her husband stronger, but her husband's son is stronger than Cucullin himself! It's a pretty good laugh, and a great illustration of how to defeat brawn with brains. And how your partner may have a different and possibly greater power than you. This book is in the public domain, so don't go throwing money away on an expensive copy. Look around and you should find something pretty nice for cheap. Especially since they don't have to pay the author! And if you're getting it online, make sure it's free! You can also get a free audiobook version from Librivox.

I found this very entertaining and highly enjoyable. It's nice to read about fairy-tales (especially ones that may have been largely forgotten over time) in these so-called "modern times", with all these electronic gadgets (iPhones, iPods, tablets, and even movies and video games) making fairy-tales a bit of a thing of the past (save for the most popular ones such as Cinderella, Snow White, Rapunzel, and even the Little Mermaid). -SPOILER ALERT (sort of)- The story of Fair, Brown, and Trembling reminds me so much of the story of Cinderella that it makes me wonder which one came out first =0)

I discovered the free books section on the kindle app and kind of went on an ebook bender. This, I think, might be one of my favorites of the ~20 books I picked up. I have always been a fan of myths, legends, and tall tales, and this is some solid material. I will definitely be stealing ideas from some of these tales to pass them off as my own (like any good writer would).

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