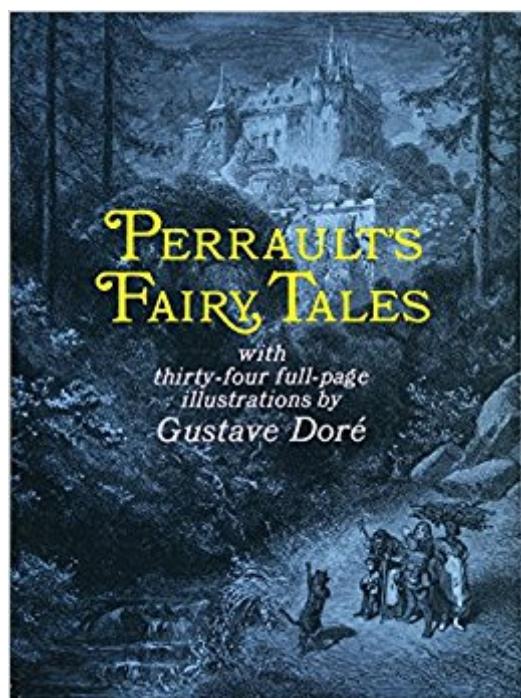


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Perrault's Fairy Tales (Dover Children's Classics)



Synopsis

Here are the original eight stories from the 1697 volume *Contes de temps passé* by the great Charles Perrault (1628–1703) in a translation that retains the charming and unsentimental simplicity that has won Perrault a permanent position in French literature. These were among the earliest versions of some of our most familiar fairy tales ("Cinderella," "Sleeping Beauty," "Little Red Riding Hood," "Puss in Boots," and "Tom Thumb") and are still among the few classic re-tellings of these perennial stories. In addition to the five well-known tales listed above, Perrault tells three others that are sure to delight any child or adult: "The Fairies," a short and very simple tale of two sisters, one sweet and one spiteful; "Ricky of the Tuft," a very unusual story of a brilliant but ugly prince and a beautiful but stupid princess; and "Blue Beard," a suspense story perhaps more famous as a classic thriller than as a fairy tale. The witty verse morals that Perrault included in the original edition (often omitted in later reprintings) are retained here in verse translations. This edition also includes 34 extraordinary full-page engravings by Gustave Doré that show clearly why this artist became the foremost illustrator of his time. These illustrations have long been considered the ideal accompaniment to Perrault's fairy tales. In many cases they created the pictorial image that we associate with the stories. Along with the collections of Andersen, Lang, and the Brothers Grimm, this volume is among the great books of European fairy tales. These stories have been enjoyed by generation after generation of children in many countries, and are here, with magnificent Doré illustrations, waiting to be enjoyed again.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English, French (translation)

Here are the original eight stories from the 1697 volume *Contes Du Temps Passe* by the great Charles Perrault (1628-1703) in a translation that retains the charming and unsentimental simplicity that has won Perrault a permanent position in French literature.

The illustrations are magnificent! They alone are worth the price of the book. And, for those interested, they look great on a Kindle (I'm viewing them on a Kindle DX). The formatting for the Kindle is great. And the stories are good also. Well, okay, actually they're a bit horrific, like an old-fashioned, pre-Disney fairy tale ought to be. My favorite version of Cinderella is in this book. The writing style is deliciously old-fashioned but still easy to read and enjoy. If you are interested enough to be reading this review, then you definitely should get this book.

I love the fact that I have heard and seen adaptations of so many of these stories and I had no idea who the author was or that he had written so many tales. It has been interesting reading the translated originals as an adult. I am glad that I stumbled across this collection as a result of a Google doodle a few weeks ago.

Excellent telling of classic fairy tales. A must read for any fairytale lover. I quite enjoyed this book!

I have a large collection of children's books, including a number of collectible volumes of classic stories illustrated by the greatest artists of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. To find a little collection like this that includes illustrations by Gustave Doré is truly a treasure. It's also fascinating to see familiar stories close to their original form, without the prudish edits they've collected over the years. Whether you're a fan of the artist and the writer or want a great storybook for your children, enjoy!

I have loved Perrault's stories since I was about four. They have an 'everlasting' quality. There are stories in this book I haven't read before. For many years I have enjoyed Gustave Dore's work and admired his faithful black and whites. His drawings always seem to carry a strong atmosphere in them. I bought the book because I couldn't wait to see how he would have done the illustrations. They are wonderful and bring the enchanted feeling of the text with them.

This is a good collection of entertaining fairy tales by an old master (though the rhyming morals at the end of each tale made me roll my eyes). The Kindle version worked perfectly on my phone--no skipped pages, no problems seeing the text.

Charles Perrault was a famous French literary writer, and at one point in his long and illustrious career, he wrote (possibly with his son) a series of fairy tales. They were eventually translated into English and were/are wildly popular. Basically it's a book of a few well-known and high-quality fairy tales that have appeal and appropriateness for all ages. The language is a bit old fashioned, as is some of the spelling ('inchant' rather than 'enchant,' for example) but it's definitely worth reading. Although, the word 'faggot' is used in the text to refer to sticks, which is historically what it meant, but if you're sensitive, that might be something to consider. There's an active table of contents, no illustrations (but the captions are left in the text to tease), the page numbers are left in the text, and the first letter of every story is mysteriously dropped. Oh, and the very last line of the last story was in an illustration, so that's missing. The stories included are: Little Red Riding Hood (Sans woodcutter) The Fairy Blue Beard The Sleeping Beauty in the Woods The Master Cat; or, Puss in Boots Cinderella; or, the Little Glass Slipper Little Thumb The Ridiculous Wishes Donkey-Skin

darker tales just loving this! I'm barely beginning to read but I really like it so far. awesome writing

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