

Is there anyone who's never heard of "Little Red Riding Hood"? But what about "Bluebeard", "Rapunzel", "Jack and the Beanstalk"? Do you remember the adventures of "Thumbelina"?

These beautiful stories and many others have populated children's imaginations for many years. At first they were told and passed along from person to person. Later, writers picked up their plumes and set these stories down on paper. Thanks to the founders of folktale collections, Charles Perrault, the brothers Grimm and Hans Christian Andersen and many lesser-known writers, these traditional tales have made their way to us.

As you leaf through these pages, you'll revisit these famous folktales and perhaps discover a few unfamiliar ones.

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Bluebeard

Once upon a time, there lived a man **feared** by all. His blue beard made him terrifying to behold, as did the **MYSTIRY** surrounding the disappearance of his many wives. On morning, Bluebeard told his new wife that he had urgent matters to attend to in a faroff land. He left her his key ring, which contained all the to the house, but warned her:

"I forbid you to open the door at the end of the hall. If I find out that you've disobeyed me, my anger will have no bounds!"

The young woman promised. But after her husband left, her curiosity became stronger than her common sense and she opened the forbidden door. She was filled with horror, because there in the small, dark room, were the **bloody** bodies of Bluebeard's missing wives. Overcome with fear, she dropped the key into a pool of **BLOOD**. When he returned, Bluebeard discovered the blood-stained key and realized that his wife had disobeyed him. He flew into a terrible rage and threatened to **KILL**.

Fortunately, the girl's brothers arrived just in time and killed Bluebeard with a single sword stroke.

THE FROG PRINCE

A bored princess received a golden ball from her father to play with. Unfortunately, the princess dropped her ball to the bottom of a deep well. She was crying so hard that a frog heard her.

"I can go and get your if you'll let me eat and sleep near you", said the frog.

The princess agreed. But as soon as the frog gave her the ball, she ran back to the castle.

"I refuse to bring such a **DISGUSTING** creature into my home!" thought the princess.

But at suppertime, the frog came knocking at the castle door and asked to speak to the princess. She turned The Post of the worried wing, he ordered her to keep her promise. So she ate with the frog, and after the meal, took him into her bedroom. But the princess was still angry, so instead of putting the frog in her bed, she threw it against a wall, and . . . Poof. The fog disappeared! In his place was a handsome Prince Charming!

"I love you", declared the prince. "Will you marry me?"

The princess agreed once again, and this time she kept her promise . . . forever after

Honsel and Gretel

Abandoned by their parents who didn't have enough money to feed their children anymore, the brother and sister got lost in the forest. After walking several hours, they discovered a house made of **GINGERBREAD** and **CARBY**. What joy!

"Who's nibbling on my house?" an old woman suddenly demanded when she saw the two hungry children. She hurried to add:

"Come in, come in. I have other things for you to eat."

Once inside the house, how surprised the children were to discover that she was a **WITCH!** She locked Hansel in a **cage** with the intention of making a feast of him later.

When the witch decided to eat Hansel, she lit her oven. She leaned over to check the temperature and Gretel pushed her into the FLAMES, slamming the oven door shut.

Gretel ran to set her brother free. They grabbed the witch's treasure and quickly escaped. In the distance they could hear the voices of their parents, who, **consumed** by sadness and remorse, were out looking for them. They would never abandon their children again.



When seven wanted to eat his bread and jam, the little tailor killed them all with a single stroke. Afterwards, he made a belt embroidered with the saying: "SEVEN WITH ONE STROKE."

"I'm going to tell the whole world about my deed!" he exclaimed with pride.

Everywhere he went people feared and respected him, since they all believed he'd killed seven with one stroke! That's how, along the way, he was able to scare the giants who were after him.

One morning, he came to a castle courtyard. When the king's knights saw the little tailor's **EELT**, they all got frightened and ran away. The king decided he'd have to get rid of the little tailor, and told him:

"I'll give you half of my kingdom and my only daughter if you're successful with these **Challenges**: kill two giants, trap one unicorn and catch a wild boar."

The king was sure the little man would never be able to meet the challenges and would leave his land. But with much courage and cunning, the valiant little tailor successfully met all three challenges . . . so well in fact that the king had no choice but to keep his promise.



A young peasant was very upset about having received nothing but a lowly cat as an inheritance.

"Meow! Bring me a hat and a pair of boots, master, and I'll make you a BIEH man!" announced the cat with confidence.

And off he went chasing rabbits, and giving all of his catches, not to his master, but to the king of the land.

"Your highness, here's a gift from the **Marquis of Garabas**", he said to the king, who was surprised but flattered.

And a few days later, the sly feline asked his master to go swimming in the river and to follow his instructions. The cat knew that the king would be crossing the bridge that day. When the king's carriage arrived at the right place, the cat started yelling:

"HELP! the Marquis de Carabas is drowning!"

Hearing the screams, the king ran to help the marquis and then gave him dry clothing. Now that his master was dressed like a wealthy man, the cat set off in search of a castle. He went to the castle owned by the most terrifying **CERE** of the land, who had the power to turn himself into all kinds of animals. He asked the ogre to turn into a mouse. Suspecting nothing, the ogre did so and . . . **CRUNCH:** The cat ate him! Seeing that the marquis owned a rich castle and much land, the king offered his daughter in marriage to his new friend.

From that time on, the peasant lived a luxurious and happy life with his wife . . . and his **a** **!

The Emperor's New Clothes

In a faraway land lived a very vain and elegant emperor who admired himself in the constantly. One day, two men who pretended to be tailors said to the emperor:

"We could weave you an extraordinary fabric so fine and light that it would be MUSUELE to the eyes of anyone too stupid or incompetent to see it."

The emperor immediately gave bags filled with GOLD to the two men so they would make him new clothes for his next procession. When he went to the workshop, neither his ministers nor even the emperor himself could the fabric!

Were they all imbeciles? Of course not, because the two men were in fact thieves who pretended to weave.

The day of the parade, the emperor wore his new clothes anyway. As he paraded in his birthday suit, no one dared admit to seeing nothing, for fear of seeming like an idiot. And then a child exclaimed:

"The emperor is naked! Look, the emperor is naked!"

This news spread through the crowd like wildfire and everyone started to 7. The emperor knew that his people were right, but he finished to parade with his head held high.



Rapunzel was a beautiful young girl who had blond hair as long as a three-story house! An EVIL WITCH had locked her in a very high without windows or doors in the middle of the forest. To go up to see the young girl, the witch would say:

"Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your ."

Rapunzel would undo her braid and let her long hair fall through the only window, and the witch would climb it to reach her. One summer morning while Rapunzel was singing sadly to herself, a prince happened by. At the sound of the young girl's soft voice, he fell immediately in with her! Suddenly, he noticed the witch, who was taking lunch up to the poor girl. He hid behind a bush and watched how the witch climbed the tower. When she left, the prince himself called out:

"Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair."

He was thus able to conquer the heart of his beloved by visiting her every night, until the day the witch found out. Crazed with rage, she cut off Rapunzel's braid and sent her to the other end of the land. Then she waited for the prince to climb the tower and pushed him out the window. The prince fell on a restored bush and went blind. Fortunately, guided by the voice of his adored Rapunzel, who sang night after night, the two lovers found each other again. Rapunzel's TEARS of joy fell on the prince's face and restored his eyesight. And they lived happily ever after.



An old lady baked a delicious gingerbread man for her grandchildren. When she took it out of the oven, the little man stood up before her and said:

"RUN RUN 45 F451 45 YOU CAN!

You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

Then he jumped out the window and ran like the wind. Along the way, he met a cow, a horse, and a rabbit. They all wanted to eat him. But each time, he repeated:

"RUN RUN A5 FA5T A5 YOU CAN!

You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!" and off he would run again.

Then the little gingerbread man met a TOX.

"Hmmm . . . what a sweet aroma", said the fox. I'd like to eat you!

The gingerbread man began his little rhyme, but the sly fox interrupted him.

"What? What did you say? I'm old and deaf. Come closer . . . "

The gingerbread man jumped on the fox's nose and began to sing his little tune again.

Before he had even finished, the fox had **EATEN** him!

DORKEY SKIN

The King promised his dying wife that he would remarry only if he found someone more beautiful than she. But the sole person who could rival her beauty was his own daughter!

"Impossible, thought the princess", "I can't marry my father!"

She was so desperate that she ran to her fairy god mother for advice.

"Tell your father that you'll marry him if he gives you a coat made of the skin of his magic donkey, from whose ears tumble bushels of coins; he will refuse, I'm sure."

Alas, it was not to be! The king accepted his daughter's request and killed his cherished donkey. The princess fled the castle, wearing the donkey skin. She found refuge in a neighbouring land where she worked as a farm girl. One day the princess put on her most beautiful dress the COLOUR OF SUNSHIP. As he passed by, the prince of the kingdom saw her and fell immediately in love. When he returned to the castle, the prince told his parents that he wished to marry the princess who lived on the farm. DISGUSTED by the idea that her son wished to marry the girl who was always dressed in a donkey skin, his mother opposed the prince's wishes and the prince fell seriously ill with sorrow.

Donkey Skin baked him a cake into which she let her ring fall. Overcome with joy, the prince went to Donkey Skin, for no one else in the kingdom had a finger slender enough for the .! When the king and queen saw the beautiful princess who had been hiding behind the donkey skin, they agreed to the marriage.

LITTLE JOHN AND

THE WHITE HORSE

Little John took care of the horses at the king's castle. One day, a white works explained to him that every seven years, the king had to sacrifice one of his daughters to the seven-headed beast. Little John was courageous and decided to confront the monster to save the princess.

"Since you've taken such good care of me, we'll go and kill the beast together!" the horse told him, and gave him the most beautiful sabre ever seen.

Along the way, he saw the princess being taken to her tragic destination.

"I'LL SAVE YOU!" shouted Little John as he dashed to the mountain towards the beast's piercing cries.

Little John fought with extraordinary courage and succeeded in killing all seven heads. Then he for out the beast's seven tongues and wrapped them in his handkerchief. When he returned to the castle to announce the news, he was shocked when a coalman passed in front of him and took credit for the feat.

Little John then revealed the seven , and everyone knew that he was indeed the hero who had killed the seven-headed beast. To thank him, the king offered Little John his daughter in MARRIAGE.

Thumbeling.

Avery long time ago, a little girl no taller than your thumb was born in a flower. Her mother named her Thumbeling and fashioned a bed for her out of a walnut shell. One night, a nasty snuck though the window and kidnapped Thumbelina. Back on his lily pad, he said to her:

"I want to marry you!"

"Marry a toad, **NEVER!**" cried the tiny girl.

With the help of the fish that lived in the river, Thumbelina managed to escape. But she was far from home and didn't know where to go. She found refuge in the den of a mouse. She stayed there all **Winter** and took care of a wounded swallow. In the spring, the mouse wanted to marry Thumbelina to his neighbour, **Mr. Mele**. Thumbelina no more wanted to marry a mole than a toad but since the mouse threatened to bite her, she agreed in tears. Her friend, the swallow, hated seeing Thumbelina so sad. So they flew away together to a warm land. There, the swallow set the little girl down on a flower, and to her great surprise, Thumbelina saw a tiny man no taller than a thumb and as handsome as could be.

"I'm the Prince of **Newers**", he said. "And what is your name?"

Charmed by her beauty, the prince placed his on Thumbelina's head and asked for her hand in marriage. This time, she accepted with joy!

The Princess and the Pea

o princess seemed to be good enough for Prince Capricious. Too much of this, not enough of that. How could he find a real princess worthy of the title?

One SPRMY night, there was a knock on the door of his castle.

"Excuse me sire, I'm a princess and I'm lost. May I rest here until the storm passes?"

"She, a princess?" thought the prince, as he stared at the dripping vagabond. But his mother, the queen, had an idea . . . She had the visitor sleep in a made of a mountain of mattresses and blankets, underneath which she had slipped one little pince. In the morning, the prince and the queen hurried to ask the young girl how she had slept.

"OH! IT Was TERRIBLE! All night long, I tossed and turned in that uncomfortable bed!" answered the Princess.

The queen smiled because only a real princess, with tender and delicate skin, could feel a single pea through the mattress. A short time later, the Princess was to Prince Capricious, and they lived happily ever after!

Jack and the BEAUSTALK

Along the way, he met a strange man who offered him five magic beans for the animal. Jack agreed immediately and returned to the house.

"How could you be such an idiot? You're a good-for-nothing!" cried his mother, throwing the beans at him in a *** C**.

From his window the next morning, Jack saw a long beanstalk that shot right up to the sky. The beans really were **Pragic!** Curious, he climbed to the top of the beanstalk and discovered a castle, home to a scary giant and his wife. Jack managed to walk off with their magic purse and a hen that laid golden eggs before getting caught. The **GUNT**, who was also a child-eater, had smelled his presence.

"Fi_Fi_FO_FUM, I smell the blood of an Englishman!" exclaimed the giant.

Fortunately, Jack was able to escape. After hastily climbing back down the beanstalk, he felled it with an . The giant crashed to the ground and broke his neck.

From that day on Jack and his mother were very rich and lived happily ever after.

The Ugity Duckling

Though his brothers and sisters were cute and **yellow**, he was big and **black!** Everyone teased him and pecked at him:

"Hey! Go back where you belong you big crow, CAAAW, CAAAW!"

No longer able to stand being the butt of their jokes, he decided to leave his family. He wandered for a long time, a very long time, without finding anywhere peaceful. No matter where he went, he'd be teased and mocked, just because he was different. The long, cold passed.

In the spring, our ugly duckling took flight for the first time. What a joy for him to finally soar expressed! From the air, he saw a lake dotted with magnificent white swans. The little duckling landed on the water. How beautiful and elegant he thought the swans looked! But he didn't dare approach them for fear that the taunting and blows would start again. But that's not what happened. The swans seemed to welcome him like one of their own.

At that moment, the ugly duckling saw his **reflection** in the water Oh! What a surprise. After all this time, he'd grown up to become . . . a majestic of brilliant white! He flew away with his new family to warm lands, and his heart would never be sad again.

Little Red Riding Hood

Little Red Riding Hood was a charming child. One day, her mother sent her to her sick GRONDMOTHER'S house with some cookies and a little pot of butter. Walking through the forest, she met a wolf. Without fear, Little Red Riding Hood told him where she was going and how to get there. The big bad ran ahead to the grandmother's house and knocked on her door.

"Who's there?" asked the grandmother.

"It's your granddaughter", answered the wolf in a tiny voice.

"Pull the latch-pin and the lock will open!"

No sooner inside, the wolf **A** the grandmother and slid into her bed. Then Little Red Riding Hood arrived, but did not recognize the wolf's voice when he asked her to come in. As she neared her grandmother's bed, she exclaimed:

"Oh! Grandmother, what big ears you have!"

"All the better to hear you with my dear", said the wolf.

"Oh! Grandmother, what big eyes you have!"

"All the better to see you with my dear."

"Oh! Grandmother, what big teeth you have!"

"ALL THE BETTER TO EAT YOU WITH MY DEAR", roared the wolf as he leapt out of bed and devoured her.

Goldiecks BEARS and the Three BEARS

Papa Bear, Mama Bear and Baby Bear lived in the One day, their breakfast was too hot, so they went for a walk.

A little girl with blond curly hair, whose name was Goldlocks, happened by and noticed the bears' house. Hungry and exhausted, she went in. There were three bowls of steam porridge on the table. A small one, a medium one and a big one. The porridge in the small bowl was neither too hot nor too cold. It was just right!

"SomeBody's Been eating my porridge", grumbled Papa Bear.

"SomeBody's Been sitting in my chair . . . and Broke it!" cried Baby Bear

Up in their bedroom they saw Goldilocks sleeping on Baby Bear's little bed. Awakened by the noise, the young girl saw the three bears. She was so **frightened** that she ran away, never to be seen again.

Beauty and the

An old merchant had two daughters. Belle, the eldest, was a great beauty. One day as the merchant travelled the roads doing business, a storm forced him to take shelter in a castle belonging to an egotistical and angry prince. A fairy disguised as an old woman had turned him into a HIPEOUS BEAST when he refused her hospitality. To free himself from the spell, the prince was required to fall in love and make someone fall in love with him before a magic wilted.

Alas, the merchant was taken prisoner. Belle was worried and went off to look for him. Putting her own life in danger, she agreed to take her father's place if the Beast would set him free. The Beast's castle was magnificent but so mysterious! Little by little, Belle discovered that hidden beneath the Beast's terrifying appearance and poor manners was a good and gentle.

One day, the villagers decided to save Belle. They MORTALLY wounded the Beast. As he drew his last breath, Belle said to him: "Do not die. I love you."

Belle was amazed to see the Beast turn into a handsome **young** man! The curse was lifted and the prince came back to life.

Cinderella

That a sweet young girl Cinderella was! Nothing like her two haughty and capricious step-sisters. And what can be said about her **HORRID** step-mother who gave her all kinds of chores to do!

One day, when her step-sisters left for a ball in honour of the **prince**, Cinderella began to cry.

Her fairy godmother consoled her by turning a into a carriage, mice into magnificent horses and a rat into a coachman. And Cinderella's ugly dress became the most of gowns. On her feet appeared a pair of glass slippers. But her fairy godmother warned her:

"You must leave the ball by midnight, for when the last stroke of midnight sounds, the spell will be broken."

At the castle, the prince only had eyes for Cinderella, but at the first stroke of midnight, she ran out into the night. The only souvenir the prince had of this mysterious young woman was the glass she had lost while running away.

The next day, he promised to marry the one to whom the glass slipper belonged. It was so small and delicate that it fit none of the young girls in the kingdom. None except for Cinderella, who then pulled the other glass slipper out of her pocket. And that is how she married the prince.



S now White's step-mother was a very beautiful woman. Every day she asked her ::

"Mirror, mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all?"

"You are, my queen", the mirror had been answering for years.

But one day, the mirror had to admit that Princess Snow White was the loveliest. The Queen was so **jealous** that she wanted Snow White dead. A hunter took the princess into the to kill her but her great beauty made him incapable of such an act. In exchange for her promise never to return to the castle, he let Snow White go and she ran off into the woods.

7 dwarfs gave her shelter in their pretty little house but one day the wicked queen found out that Snow White was still alive. She disguised herself as an old woman and went to give Snow White a poisoned . The young girl took a big bite and died. The seven dwarves laid her inanimate body in the mountain.

A prince saw Snow White, fell madly in \(\begin{aligned}
\text{\$\psi\$} \text{\$\psi\$} \text{\$\psi\$} \text{ with her and decided to take her with him. On the way to the castle, one of the coffin bearers stumbled, dislodging a piece of poison apple that had been caught in Snow White's throat. She suddenly awakened. The prince immediately asked her to marry him.

Sleeping Reauty

The newborn princess's opulent baptism took place at the castle, where the fairles of the kingdom gave her many gifts: beauty, grace, sweetness, intelligence . . . But one fairy, angry not to have been invited, cast a DEADLY spell on her before disappearing into a puff of smoke:

"The princess will PRICK herself with a spindle and die."

One fairy still hadn't given the princess her gift and so she tried to ward off the spell:

"The princess will not die; she will sleep for 100 years."

Even though all of the spinning wheels in the kingdom had been burned, the princess pricked her finger on the spindle of a mysterious forgotten spinning wheel and fell asleep. The spell reached out and affected everyone living at the castle. Years passed and the story of this sleeping beauty fascinated princes in every neighbouring kingdom. Some tried in vain to cross the the hedge that had grown over time. After one hundred years, a prince passed by the castle. He made his way through the brier hedge and into the castle. When he saw the princess, he found her so beautiful that he kissed her.

She woke up and fell in **ve** with him.

THE THREE BESS

nce upon a time three little brother pigs had grown big enough to leave their mother's home, so they each built a house of their own.

The first chose to build his house out of .The second built his house out of .The second out of .One day the big bad wolf passed by and smelled their tender pink flesh.

"Let me in little piggy or I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down", he said to the pig who lived in the straw house.

"Not by the hair of my chinny, chin chin", the pig answered.

So the wolf huffed and Put to very hard and blew the house down. The little pig ran to take refuge in his brother's wooden house. The next day, the wolf showed up at the second pig's house and blew away the planks of LOOD. The two brothers ran to the to house as fast as their little legs could carry them. This time, although the wolf huffed and puffed with all his might, nothing moved.

Furious, he climbed on the roof and slid down the But the youngest little pig, who was also the craftiest, had placed a **CAULDRON** of water in the fire. The wolf fell into the pot and boiled!

The Latries

nce upon a time a widow had two young daughters. The eldest was as **disagreeable** as her mother, who adored her. The youngest, full of sweetness and beauty, did all of the chores.

That is why, one day at the fountain, an old woman asked the young girl for a drink of water. She offered the lady a pitcher full of the clear liquid. The lady, who was really a fairy, took a drink and said:

"For your goodness I bestow upon you a gift. With every word you speak a flower or a precious stone shall fall from your mouth."

The young girl returned to the house, saying she was sorry for being late. Two , two pearls and two big fell from her mouth. She related what had happened when she was at the fountain. The next day, the mother sent her eldest daughter to the fountain. The same fairy, dressed like a rich woman, asked for a drink. The eldest daughter offered her some water. Detecting false virtue, the fairy said that with each word a TOAD or a SIACK would fall from her mouth.

The sweet young girl was held responsible for the fate of her sister. Having no other choice but to flee, she met a **prince** who married her!

Tom Thumby

ne day a woodcutter, who could no longer feed his 7 SONS, abandoned them in the FOREST. Tom Thumb, the youngest and wisest, led his brothers back to the family home guided by the little white STATES he had dropped to mark the path.

Money became scarce again though, and the woodcutter abandoned his children once more. This time, Tom Thumb marked the path with pieces of the forest. At nightfall, they found shelter in a cottage where lived an **OGRE**, his wife and his seven daughters. Since her husband was away, the ogre's wife welcomed the seven boys, then fed them and put them all to bed. But when the ogre returned, he could smell them:

"I smell fresh meat!" he bellowed to his wife.

His wife convinced him to wait till the next day to eat the boys. Afraid of being devoured during the night, Tom Thumb put the of the ogre's daughters upon his brothers' heads. So when the ogre entered the bedroom, he unknowingly ATE his own daughters. The boys hastily escaped. The next day, wearing his seven-league boots, the ogre went looking for them but had no luck. Exhausted, he fell asleep. Tom Thumb stole the boots and ran to the ogre's house to steal his treasures. The seven brothers returned home wealthy and alive!



A queen gave birth to the **UGLEST** baby of all time, but a **Pairt** assured her that he would have a great deal of sense and would be able to pass it on to the person he would eventually fall in love with. This child was called Riquet with the Tuft.

A few years later in a neighbouring kingdom two princesses were born: the eldest was more beautiful than the day, but as **Stupio** as she was pretty, and the youngest was extremely ugly but had a great deal of sense. A fairy who attended the birth reassured the mother:

"Don't worry madam; I will give your eldest the power to make handsome the person who will best please her."

One day, Riquet with the Tuft met the magnificent princess. He offered to give her the gift of GOOL SENSE if she promised to marry him in exactly one year. She then became very intelligent and an excellent conversationalist, so much so that she received many MARRIAGE proposals. One day she met a magnificent, rich and powerful PRINCE who wanted to marry her. She promised to think about it, despite her engagement to Riquet.

While contemplating the proposal in the Riquet busy preparing for their marriage. Overcoming her disgust and admiring the goodness and intelligence of the ugly prince with a tuft, the beautiful princess chose to marry him . . . and grant him the gift of beauty!

