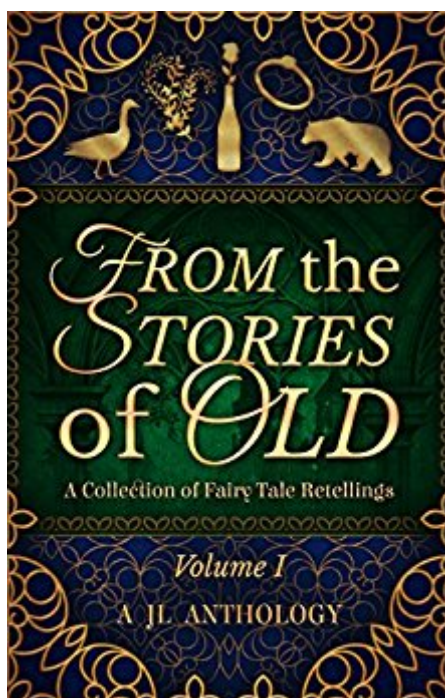


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From The Stories Of Old: A Collection Of Fairy Tale Retellings



Synopsis

In this international collection, new life is given to fairy tales, both classic and obscure. Mythical creatures put the fairy in Fairy Tale. Mermaids, selkies, and ocean guardians experience the best and worst of humanity; sisters encounter an unusually friendly bear; a brave bride meets a silly goose; and a spinner of gold sets the record straight. Urban fantasies modernize classics: a Frenchman learns the truth about magic, his past, and his girlfriend; a girl sets out to find love but receives a curse; and today's naughty list makes Old Saint Nick not-so-jolly. New worlds bring a fresh sense of wonder! In the future, a young woman fights for her people and herself; a bastard son finds acceptance in a world ruled by women; and a farmer's wits win the heart of a frosty king. Discover unexpected twists on old favorites, and fall in love with new tales and worlds to explore!

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Customer Reviews

Best anthology I've ever read! I love the cover and hey, they're fairytale retellings so win-win for me! There's something for everyone with these 13 stories. I'd put this probably at a YA level, which it was nice to have all the stories targeting the same age range. A good choice for me as an adult too as they're clean and that's what I like. Matt Dewar's *Female Warrior* takes a post-apocalyptic twist on the *Ballad of Mulan*. The fight scenes were amazing and I loved the plot twist at the end and how it was handled. Heather Hayden's selkie story is the first selkie story I've ever enjoyed. I normally HATE selkie stories because they're always about a mom who abandons her child (and possibly a good husband). Kiesel is a young selkie, who DOESN'T become a parent in the tale and for the first time I felt myself sad for a selkie's plight without feeling like they pull a "worst parent" move. Kelsie Engen's story has that delightfully mystical feel to it with the characters of Scarlett and Crystal. There's something about the sisters that is strong, and unique, while the story maintains an olden fairy-tale feel. (ie. the girls come across as self-sufficient and intelligent despite the setting being one where the FMC's are usually less independent.) *The Goose and His Girl* was one of the most original retellings of *East of the Sun; West of the Moon* that I've read. That's easily one of my top 2 fairytales, so I was happy to see a version of that. I winced when the poor goose started plucking his own feathers out. I can definitely see how that honking laugh would be grating. I'd stay that Kris and Krampus scared the stockings off me, but I don't want to be put on the naughty list. (Okay, so this one was a bit dark for my taste as I'm a fluffy rainbow and unicorn person, but if you like darker tales than this one you'll love.) *Daughter of the Air* took an interesting path with *The Little Mermaid*. Instead of retelling tale, this takes place after that story ends. Creative, and unique, my only complaint is that I don't understand why the Sons of Air create storms. *Her Dearest Treasure* was my favorite romance retelling. I liked the wit of the FMC and I never stop loving how the story ends. To make a romance believable in so short a time is a true feat and I must take my hat off to the author. Lots of stories I liked in here. Some are more up my alley than others, but they're all well-written and I can see the authors put a lot of time into making them. There's also an amazing illustration for each story!!! They're so pretty and now I get to set this book on my shelf. If it ever gets produced in hardcover, I'm definitely going to buy one of those because that cover is made to be in hardcover.

Creative and fun! This anthology provides a great mix of fairy tales, and the retellings are fresh. I'm not usually one for retellings, but I definitely enjoyed these. They're quick reads which combine to make a fun book to read by the fire with a cup of tea or hot chocolate. I, however, don't have a

fireplace, so I substituted a looping play of a fireplace on my computer and the effect was greatly similar without the risk of me falling into the flames and requiring the EMTs . . . again. But I digress. If you're looking for some fun that will make you rethink some favorite stories--and introduce you to some new ones--you'll like this anthology.

Such a great book! I couldn't put it down! I read this anthology really quickly and am wondering when they will have more volumes! I bought two more to give to my sister and my mom!

Absolutely love this! I was tired of overused fairy tale themes, the same characters and plots, but each story here is absolutely unique and original! The writers delve into tales you don't hear about commonly, and they work their magic to refresh and give a new perspective on those, so what you read is unlike anything you've ever read before! Each story I found was a piece of art in its own, and extremely interesting! The book is also beautifully illustrated with pieces in a classic and beautiful style.

From the Stories of Old collects a variety of short stories retelling classic fairy tales. I think people who haven't read many such collections would get more enjoyment out of it than those who read a ton of retellings (like myself). They're fairly straight forward retellings, without much subversions or twists. My absolute favorite was "The Glass Maker" by McKayla Eaton, with a gender inversion of "Cinderella," and also some cool world building. I would read more in that setting. I also quite liked "The Bear in the Forest" by Kelsie Engen, a "Snow White and Rose Red" retelling, and "The Goose and His Girl" by Lynden Wade, a unique YA "Goose Girl" short story. Here are my reviews of individual stories: "Beneath his Skin" by Heather Hayden: A selkie makes friends with a little human girl, but when the sea calls to him, he leaves, entrusting her with a magic that can bring him back every seven years. But when she uses the magic shortly after, he's captured. Well written story, though I thought the selkie was a little dense. 3.5/5 "Her Dearest Treasure" by B.C. Marine: A retelling of "A Peasant's Wise Daughter," which is a pleasant surprise. I think I've only read one other retelling of that fairy tale, but it's such a good one. This version sticks pretty close to the original, with some magic to try and make the king have some motivation and not seem like such a jerk (always a hard thing to do with the kings). 3.5/5 "Daughter of the Air" by Renee Harvey: What happens when the Little Mermaid is turned into a creature of the air and must help people for 300 years before gaining a soul? This story explores one of her encounters, but it brings her too close for comfort to her past. 3/5 "Rose and Thorn" by Allie May: A modern interpretation of the Disney

movie "Sleeping Beauty." Kind of odd that it used the Disney movie and not the fairy tale. 2.5/5 "The Bear in the Forest" by Kelsie Engen: A retelling of "Snow White and Rose Red." Two sisters are keepers of a forest, but after freeing a giant bear from a trap, they realize something weird is going on. Good tale. 4/5 "Mother's Gift" by Corinne Morier: A modern reinterpretation of "The Goose Girl." 2/5 "The Goose and His Girl" by Lynden Wade: Inspired by "East of the Sun, West of the Moon." This one was cute. A witch flees from a group of angry villagers, when a goose lands and speaks to her. She rides the talking goose far away, and the two fall in love. It's a unique retelling, and I thought it may have been inspired by an alternate version of East of the Sun, West of the Moon. 4/5 "The Princess of Atlantilus" by J.L. Bernard: A retelling of "The Little Mermaid." When a mermaid is kidnapped, a prince faces a difficult decision. 1.5/5 "Kris and Krampus" by Louise Ross: Its inspiration should be obvious by its title. Kris (good ole Santa) decides to go out in public, but finds himself surrounded by naughty children. Unfortunately, children influence his own personality. Cute idea. 3/5 "The Glass Maker" by McKayla Eaton: A retelling of "Cinderella." This one's my favorite of the collection. A female general needs to find a husband, and a bastard, talented glass maker a purpose. At a masked ball, they meet, and both find an unexpected love, but not without complications. 4/5 "The Guardian's Secret" by Julian Elliot: A retelling of "Urashima Taro." So the day before I read this, I was telling my husband this fairy tale after we went and saw The Red Turtle. And then I got to the end, and forgot what was in the box! Glad I read this so I could tell my husband the end. :) 3/5 "The Miller's Daughter" by Katelyn Barbee: A retelling of "Rumpelstiltskin." As 99.99% of this tale's retellings go, Rumpelstiltskin got the short end of the stick in the Grimm's version of the tale. 2.5/5 "The Female Warrior" by Matthew Dewar: A retelling of "Mulan." The twist on this one is that it's happening in some kind of apocalypse. 2.5/5 This short story collection was given to me in exchange for an honest review.

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