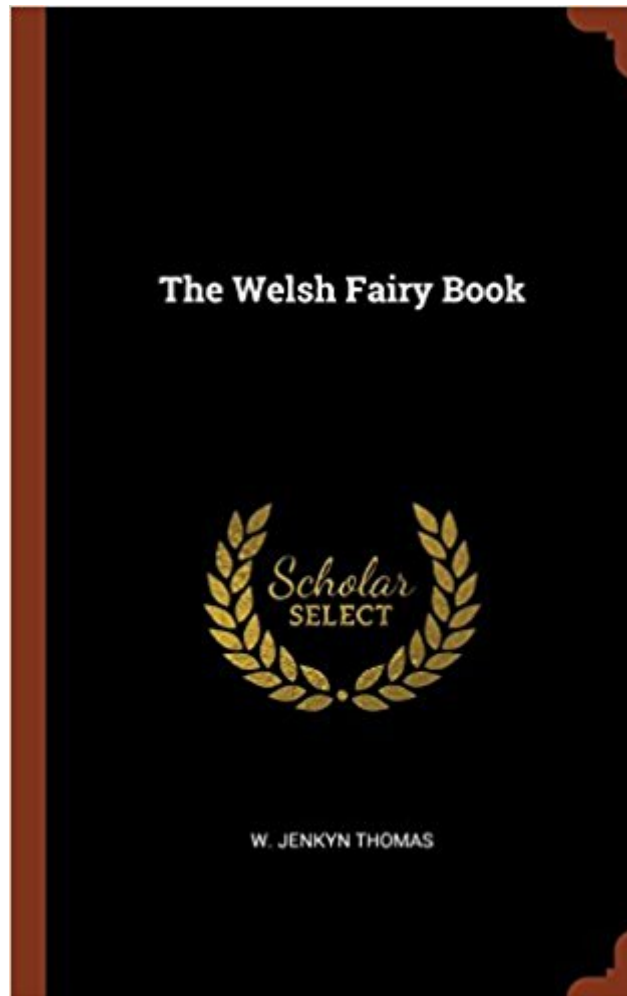


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The Welsh Fairy Book



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Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This anthology of Welsh fairy stories was published in 1907 and has since become a standard. This edition contains an introduction by folklore scholar Juliette Woods, who puts the book in context and reveals the changes that have occurred in Welsh folklore studies during this century. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

The Welsh Fairy Book is a classic collection of Welsh stories and legends. Reprinted many times since its first appearance in 1907, this collection has had a significant influence on peoples' conception of the nature and content of Welsh folk tradition. W. Jenkyn Thomas's refined prose and Willy Pogany's imaginative illustrations are characteristic of a romantic view of fairytales. However, the study of folklore has moved away from the romantic to become more rigorously, academic.

Juliette Wood's introduction places the author and the book in context and charts the changes in attitudes to collecting and editing folktales and the development of Welsh folk studies. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

This is a very entertaining set of fairy tales. The Welsh spellings are almost impossible to pronounce even with the help the author offers. I was recently in Wales, so it was easier for me than for someone with no first hand experience with the language. However, that in no way detracts from the wonderful stories!!!

Gave this to my teenaged granddaughter. She is a budding animator and is interested in turning our Welsh heritage into animation. As a warning: these ancient tales are full of gruesome punishments! Not for modern children.

This was a birthday gift for a friend who's getting into her Welsh roots. She was really thrilled with it. Nice little addition to the birthday bag at a reasonable price.

Nice compilation of faerie tales. Similar to those told in Ireland, but uniquely Welsh.

Very well received . My son is an artist and said he would get inspiration for his art from this.

I started taking myths and legends more seriously when I realised that most cultures on this planet have a Noah's Flood story that is spookily similar to all the others. As those guys didn't have email or SMS then it could be that there was a world wide event in ancient times that was relayed to future ages through the art of the story teller. The Welsh Fairy Book is a collection of ancient myths and legends and if you have the kind of open mind that accepts visitors from other worlds with unusual powers, flying vehicles and time warp then there is some fun reading here. For me though, it is also a handy guide to have around when I am trying to decipher the story in the original language for my Welsh homework.

Robert Wallace(The Would-Be Herbalist on Kindle): A very enjoyable collection of stories-- some are fairy tales proper, others ghost stories and stories involving folklore--divining for future husbands, etc. There are also a few stories concerning early Welsh saints. So it's a nice mix and while some stories are given the build-up and structure of a traditional fairy tale, other stories are

presented in a more anecdotal, semi-factual or historical way, somewhat akin to some of the accounts from Evans-Wentz's Fairy Faith in Celtic Countries which was near contemporaneous to the original publication of this work(1907). The inclusion of farmhouses, taverns, weddings, nights of merrymaking, musicians going home late at night from parties--all give this something of a different feel than if all the stories were placed in completely remote times. The writing is terse and purposeful with sometimes an underlying quiet and sly wit. The writing style is surprising unstrained to modern sensibilities, without the undue sentimentalising or moralising that sometimes accompanies these tales. Also the characters and their situations are presented with respect and sympathy rather than with condescension. One thing I would like to add, though: This book is part of the Dover Children's Classics series and was indeed collected by the author to entertain children but I would not advise it for too young a reader as it is not completely light entertainment--for example, in the first story one of the principal characters puts an end to his life and other stories also have dark themes.

I've had this book since I was a child and I've loved it! It covers nearly all of the old stories my grandmother used to tell me as a child (no mention of Magtiniwa or Agathor the Brave?) but it's still one of my all time favorites. Will definitely be passing it on to my children!

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