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Juliana Horatia Gatty Ewing

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Juliana Horatia Gatty Ewing : Old-Fashioned Fairy Tales before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Old-Fashioned Fairy Tales:

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Unique Fairy Tales By Customer This is not a book of traditional fairy tales, but instead is a book of new fairy tales written to read like old fairy tales. They accomplish this goal quite successfully, and manage to avoid the condescending and childish tone that some books of non-traditional fairy tales adopt. The stories, as you can read in the preface, were written to follow certain ideas and types that the authors identified as being part of traditional fairy tales. The three main ones are; "...the idea of outwitting the strong; the failure of man to choose wisely when he may have his wish; or the desire of sprites to exchange their careless and unfettered existence for the pains and penalties of humanity, if they may thereby share in the hopes of the human soul." Unfortunately, the overall book lacks its own soul, and while the stories are fun (at least until the generally

unhappy ending) they come off a bit bland to the...experienced fairy tale reader. I'd still recommend it, as it was a fast read and the fairy tales were, of course, unique. Old Fashioned Fairy Tales has an active table of contents, properly-linked footnotes in one or two of the stories, no mentionable scanning or formatting errors and contains the following stories: Good Luck is Better than Gold, The Hillman and the Housewife, The Neck (it's a type of water-fairy-sprite-thing), The Nix in Mischief, The Cobbler and the Ghosts, The Laird and the Man of Peace, The Ogre Courting, The Magician's Gift, The Widows and the Strangers, Kind William and the Water Sprite, Murdoch's Rath, The Little Darnier, The Fiddler in the Fairy Ring, "I Won't", The Magic Jar, The First Wife's Wedding-Ring, The Magician Turned Mischief-Maker, Knave and Fool, Under the Sun.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Mixed Bag of Good and So-So Stories. By Litlovingmama. I first heard of this author while reading G.K. Chesterton's book on Victorian writers. While I did not love this book, it did grow on me. Unfortunately the book starts out with several mediocre tales. Maybe it's just my modern sensibilities but I prefer the more upbeat stories of virtue being rewarded rather than the more gritty stories of foolishness being punished. Some of the later stories were quite good, especially the one about the two women who lived just outside the monastery. The best part of the book was the introduction in which Ewing makes a strong case for the telling of fairy tales. She wrote, Fairy tales have positive uses in education, which no cramming of facts, and no merely domestic fiction can serve. Like Proverbs and Parables, they deal with first principles under the simplest forms. . . They cultivate the imagination, that great gift which time and experience lead one more and more to value handmaid of Faith, of Hope, and perhaps most of all, of Charity. (p.6)

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A book in my Kindle Virtual Collection of Myths and Stories and Some-Facts. By ErSing. I like stories especially well written books that allow one's imagination to seek its own level and involvement in the presented story. It is always a refreshing time to become immersed without the distraction of movie/cable/TV commercials, inappropriate sexual scenes, crude language and actions supported by annoying colors, disgusting switching between unrelated other themes, loud sounds and noise (?music?) to support extremely poor content, and people reading their lines. I recommend this book for those who like to use their imagination.

About the Author: Author of the classic Old-Fashioned Fairy Tales.