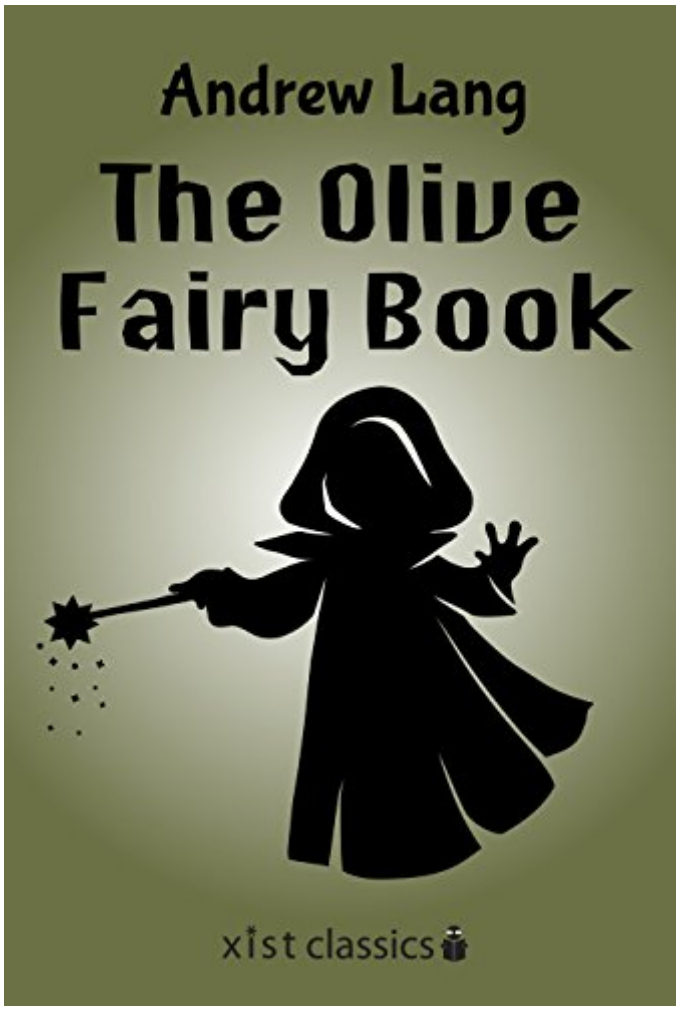
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The Olive Fairy Book (Xist Classics)



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Synopsis

The Olive Fairy Book is a collection of fairy tales by compiled by Andrew Lang. This collection includes more than twenty classic stories sure to enchant children and adult readers alike. This Xist Classics edition has been professionally formatted for e-readers with a linked table of contents. This ebook also contains a bonus book club leadership guide and discussion questions. We hope youÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll share this book with your friends, neighbors and colleagues and canÃ¢â ¬â„¢t wait to hear what you have to say about it.Xist Publishing is a digital-first publisher. Xist Publishing creates books for the touchscreen generation and is dedicated to helping everyone develop a lifetime love of reading, no matter what form it takes Get your next Xist Classic title for Kindle here: http://amzn.to/1A7cKKl Find all our our books for Kindle here: http://amzn.to/1PooxLl Sign up for the Xist Publishing NewsletterÃ Â here. Find more great titles on our website.

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Customer Reviews

ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Green Fairy Book,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• published in 1892, is the third of twelve collected fairy story books that were researched, translated and compiled by Andrew Lang (1844-1912) and his wife, Leonora Blanche Alleyne Lang, Andrew Lang, a Scotsman, was a literary critic, novelist, poet, and a contributor to the field of anthropology,The sources for this book include those from Spanish and Chinese traditional stories.Included are ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Enchanted Watch,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Spindle, Shuttle, and Needle.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• (my favorite in this collection), ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Blue Bird,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Story of Hok Lee and the DrawfsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ and much more! These are the refreshingly original versions, in all their straightforward, sometimes violent, glory. Not all fairy tales are the sappy sweet rewritten Disney rip-off versions; thatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s phony.Some of these stories have archaic writing styles, some are quick reads due to the brevity of the tale, and some just donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t make a lot of sense in the way they end. However, they all are delightful in their own waysAll in all, I do recommend this book for literary and psychological research and analysis, and just for the fun of it, if you are so inclined.

ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Olive Fairy Book,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• published in 1907, is the eleventh of twelve collected fairy story books that were researched, translated and compiled by Andrew Lang (1844-1912) and his wife, Leonora Blanche Alleyne Lang. Andrew Lang, a Scotsman, was a literary critic, novelist, poet, and a contributor to the field of anthropology.The twenty-eight stories in this book come from the exotic traditions of from Turkey, India, Denmark, Armenia, the Sudan, and others. Included are ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Green Knight,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Diamond Cut Diamond,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• The Silent Princess,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• among others.This was an enjoyable and easy-to-read book. The stories were interesting and held my interest, and I looked forward to reading each one. Not many endings were odd, nor were they predictable.

In the late 19th century, historian, scholar, and anthropologist, Andrew Lang, began publishing collections of fairy tales from around the world. The first volume was `The Blue Fairy Book' published in 1887. Lang was not a true ethnologist, like the German Brothers Grimm. He was far more the `translator' than collector of tales from the source, stories transcribed from being told by people to whom the tales were passed down by word of mouth. In fact, many stories in his first volume, such as Rumpelstiltskin; Snow White; Sleeping Beauty; Cinderella; and Hansel and Gretel were translated from Grimm's books of fairy tales. Some of his `fairy tales' were even `copied from relatively recent fantasy fiction, such as A Voyage to Lilliput, the first of the four episodes in

Jonathan Swift's Gulliver's Travels. My inspiration for commenting Lang's series of fairy tale books is for the sheer quantity of tales, the wonderful woodcut illustrations, some few of which may have become almost as popular as the tales (although not quite in the same league as Sir John Tenniel's illustrations for Lewis Carroll's great fantasies), and the fact that I had these when I was young. With twelve of these books, with between 30 and 36 stories in each book, this gives one about 400 different stories. If I were to recommend anything as standard equipment at a grandparents' house, it would be a complete set of these books. Needless to say, there are a few `warnings' to accompany books assembled over 100 years ago. You will encounter a fair number of words with which even an adult may be unfamiliar, let alone a five year old. For example, on the second page of The Princess Mayblossom in The Red Fairy Book, a character puts sulfur in a witch's porridge. This requires at least three explanations. What is sulfur, what is porridge, and why is sulfur in porridge such a bad thing. More difficult still is when a prince entered the town on a white horse which `pranced and caracoled to the sound of the trumpets'. In 19th century London, caracoling (making half turns to the right and the left) was probably as common and as well known as `stepping on the gas' is today. But, if you're a grandparent, that's half the fun, explaining new words and ideas to the young-uns. There is another `danger' which may require just a bit more explanation, although in today's world of crime dramas on TV, I'm not sure that most kids are already totally immune to being shocked by death and dead bodies. In these stories, lots of people and creatures get killed in very unpleasant ways, and lots of very good people and creatures suffer in very unpleasant ways. It's ironic that the critics in Lang's own time felt the stories were 'unreality, brutality, and escapism to be harmful for young readers, while holding that such stories were beneath the serious consideration of those of mature age'. The success of a whole library of Walt Disney feature length cartoons based on these stories is a testament to how well they work with children. But do be warned, Uncle Walt did clean things up a bit. Lang's versions hold back on very little that was ugly and unpleasant in some of these stories. The down side to the great quantity of stories is that even when some come from very different parts of the world, there is a remarkable amount of overlap in theme, plot, and characters. But by the time you get to another story of a beautiful young girl mistreated by a stepmother, it will have been several month since you read Cinderella or the Little Glass Slipper in The Blue Fairy Book. The other side of the coin is that you can play the game of trying to recall what that other story was with a similar theme. There is one very big word of caution about buying these books through or a similar on line outlet. I stopped counting when I got to twelve different editions of The Blue Fairy Book, or a volume including several of these books. Not all of these editions have the original woodcuts and even worse, not all have a table of contents and

introduction. The one publisher which has all twelve volumes is by Dover. Other publishers, such as Flying Chipmunk Publishing (yes, that's it's name) also have all the original illustrations, table of contents, and introduction, but I'm not certain that publisher has all twelve volumes. Dover most certainly does, as I just bought all twelve of them from . While I suspect these stories may have been `old hat' for quite some time, it may be that with the popularity of Lord of the Rings, the Narnia stories, and the Harry Potter stories, all of which have their share of suffering and death, that these may be in for a revival. Again, the main attraction is that for relatively little money and space, Grammy and Grandad get a great resource for bonding with children.

I've never written a review about any product that I have purchased through because the products I received were what I anticipated. This book, however, has brought me to this point. I am a former librarian and have even written an ABC book which I admit has a couple of mistakes. I've seen other books with a couple of errors that can be overlooked. However, this product ranks far below my expectations. I particularly wanted the "Kupti and Imani" story. When I received the book, I looked in the table of contents for the page number where the story should be found then learned that there are no, you see that correctly, no page numbers on the pages. Finding any story proved to be a challenge. While reading within the story itself, I encountered numerous paragraphing/writing errors. The following is an example. "Of course the old fakir had not a word to say, or, if he had, he was really too astonished and troubled to say (end of paragraph.....one is left dangling) (beginning of new paragraph) it; but the young princess went off with him smiling, and tripped along quite gaily, whilst he hobbled home with her in perplexed silence." This particular problem occurred again and again throughout the story. The apostrophe is used repeatedly for the quotation mark. Illustrations are not labeled near the illustration; the labeling occurs paragraphs ahead or behind in the middle of a paragraph which makes reading the story most difficult. Near the end of the story "OL.K" occurs in the middle of a broken paragraph. What does that mean? A new story begins just like a new paragraph would begin. The problems continue to mount. I would not recommend purchase of this book. So sad.

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