



The Fairy-Tale Princess: Seven Classic Stories from the Enchanted Forest

Su Blackwell (Illustrator) , Wendy Jones (Retelling)

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This is a beautiful collection of seven fairy tales Sleeping Beauty, The Frog Prince, Rapunzel, Cinderella, Snow White, The Princess and the Pea, and The Twelve Dancing Princesses organized around the theme of the fairytale princess and retold in a fresh and lyrical voice by Wendy Jones. They are illustrated with glorious papercut sculptures specially created by Su Blackwell. The characters and the kingdoms they inhabit emerge from the pages through a series of exquisite paper sculptures. Each tale has a unique visual flavor: while Sleeping Beauty is blue and dreamy, The Princess and the Pea is green and summery. The magic and otherworldliness of traditional fairytale collections meet glorious, contemporary paper constructions in The Fairytale Princess, which makes a charming addition to the shelf of bedtime stories.

The Fairy-Tale Princess: Seven Classic Stories from the Enchanted Forest Details

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Author : Su Blackwell (Illustrator) , Wendy Jones (Retelling)

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From Reader Review The Fairy-Tale Princess: Seven Classic Stories from the Enchanted Forest for online ebook

Wendy says

I loved the artwork- it is all made out of books! I am not a huge fan of reading all the princess stories in a row, though. Too many princesses waiting around to find a prince- boring!

Liz says

The Fairy-Tale Princess collection presents seven well-known fairy tales retold by Wendy Jones and lavishly illustrated by Su Blackwell. The real beauty here is in the illustrations which are photographs of miniature paper sculptures. Each story has been painstakingly recreated from the pages of old books that have been cut, layered, and creatively lit by Blackwell before being photographed by Tim Clinch. Readers and listeners could spend hours pouring over the tiniest details from the bows on each of the twelve dancing princesses' shoes to the owl flying through Sleeping Beauty's forest. This is a perfect collection for kids and adults alike who are fairy tale & fantasy fans.

Pair this collection with *If You Hold a Seed* by Elly McKay for another beautiful example of creative paper cut illustrations. For kids who are interested in more princess tales, pair it with Grimm's *The Twelve Dancing Princesses* illustrated by Brigitte Barrager or *Rapunzel* illustrated by Sarah Gibb or Caldecott winner Paul Zelinsky.

Reviewed from a library copy.

Tina says

Reading Level: Primary & Intermediate

Genre: Picture Book, Folklore

Review: If I could give this book 6 stars, I would. First, the stories are easy to read and true to tradition, covering Cinderella, The Frog Prince, The Twelve Dancing Princesses, The Princess and the Pea, Snow White, Rapunzel, and Sleeping Beauty. However, the magic of this book lies in the artwork of Su Blackwell- cut pages of old books that create miniature paper sculptures. Even as an adult, it is hard not to become completely captivated by the imagery on every page. Beautiful!

Jamie Brown says

Many readers think that fairy tales are only for children but this book could definitely change their opinion. The author retells seven classic stories about timeless princesses - Cinderella, The Frog Prince, The Twelve Dancing Princesses, The Princess and the Pea, Snow White, Rapunzel, and Sleeping Beauty.

Artist Su Blackwell adds a new dimension to these stories with her breathtaking paper sculptures created for each story. The placement of the sculptures are perfectly embedded in each fairy tale to emphasize the

retelling of these classic stories.

Lynette Willerton says

Once upon time there were seven girls who lived in a normal homes, just like yourself, but they turned out to be destined for much more then ordinary lives. While they lived day to day, they never complained about what chores they had to do or where they were expected to sleep when were invited to spend the night.

Get ready to jump into this book full of seven classic stories, were the heroines all live in paper kingdoms. While it may seem that these stories are made for children, they are enjoyed by all ages. Although not everyone believes in fairytales, we all like to dream that we will live happily ever after.

Carolyn says

The art is phenomenal!
All of it is made from pages of old books.

Ellen says

The illustrations in the book are great. They are paper sculptures, very intricate paper sculptures by Su Blackwell. The stories are retold by Wendy Jones. I love the illustrations.

Jo Bennie says

Seven classic fairytales featuring princesses are smoothly retold by Wendy Jones: Cinderella; The Frog Prince; The Twelve Dancing Princesses; The Princess and the Pea; Snow White; Rapunzel and Sleeping Beauty. The book itself is large and satisfying, pictures on every page, each fairytale is of an ideal bedtime story length, not too long or too short. But the real star is Su Blackwells beautifully created and photographed paper sculptures. From one book a wave filled lake emerges in the Twelve Dancing Princesses, a castle rises from the opposite page, tiny paper boats float on the lake and delicate trees surround it. Snow White flees from the huntsman through the trees that rise out of another book, from a third a princess lifts a frog from a well. Enchanting

Rebecca says

The illustrations here are standout, being not only papercut but paper sculptures made from cut-up fairytale books themselves (so meta!), with the addition of tiny lighted windows, wee props, and dramatic stage lighting. I'm glad to see photographer Tim Clinch credited along with artist Su Blackwell. Princess fans will

like that repeating theme in these retellings, with simple vocabulary and lots of white space.

Vonia says

This is pretty much one of the most admirable, beautiful, intricate, and whimsical picture books I have ever read. I have long been a fan of paper crafts, especially when they are extraordinarily intricate and creative. The artist behind every single one of these impressive images, Su Blackwell, has definitely moved to the top of my list.

Aside from the countless papercraft images included in this magnificent collection of fairy tales, the most significant thing I learned was how much Disney has altered the state of fairy tales. Obviously, I knew that this was true, but until now, I had no reason to research at this much. This is, I suppose, what is defined as "loosely based on".

Perhaps everyone else but me knows these things, but some differences are: Snow White's Prince does not save her by "True Love's Kiss". The truth is much less "Disney"; much less romantic, that is. He trips on his way out from the forest, dislodging a piece of the poison apple.

In "Sleeping Beauty", the Prince does not actually wake her with any sort of kiss. He simply coincidentally made his way through the forest surrounding the castle, reaching her bedside, right as the one-hundred-year spell came to an end.

In "Rapunzel", the witch actually throws the prince into the thorny shrubbery below, causing him to become blind. When he finds Rapunzel, deserted in the forest, it is she who magically makes him see again.

My favorite one, although very difficult to decide on, was probably "The Twelve Dancing Princesses". Found at the end for "The Princess & The Pea", I loved the little paper cut craft illustrating the illustrious "Pea" being placed in a museum for all to admire.

I would love to see a live art exhibition by Su Blackwell, but until then, I desperately await her coming portable art masterpieces!

Callum McLaughlin says

The tales themselves are ones we already know inside out, but it's Su Blackwell's stunningly intricate paper sculptures used to illustrate them that breathe new beauty into the stories. This is truly a book for book lovers.

Haylee says

I love Su Blackwell's book art! In fact, I think minimizing the text and enlarging the art would be the only thing to improve the book.

Christiane says

I found the re-telling's to be fine (nothing special) but check this out to look at the amazing cut-paper illustrations! I loved the tiny mice in Cinderella, the wedding cake in The Princess and the Pea, and the castle with thorn hedge in Sleeping Beauty. This is a lovely introduction to these well-known fairy tales.

Cassie says

Ages 6 and up. The retellings of these seven classic fairytales were entertaining and fun to read, but the real magic was the artwork! Su Blackwell's paper sculptures added an element to the stories that was magical. Very enjoyable, and great to look at.

Heidi-Marie says

The best part of these 7 fairy tales are the illustrations. I am a big fan of "book art" and each illustration contains such. Some are so impressive. One of my favorites would be the 12 dancing princesses (with the boats). Such talent--and such patience to be able to make all of those! I am vastly impressed. The tales were rather standard and brief, though some included renditions I have not heard before. I think one reason I love retellings is that, if done well, they fill in the gaps where the tales don't quite make sense for me. But this book isn't really about the words as they are the illustrations. A child of any age could thoroughly enjoy a lap-read by just looking at the book art.
