

CELEBRATING FAIRY TALES AND IMAGINATION

*Which Grimm
Fairy Tales do you
remember? Which
one has impacted
you the most? Is it
(or are they) from
a book or from an
adapted film
version? Do you
believe in fairy
tales?*



Brothers Grimm Society of North
America

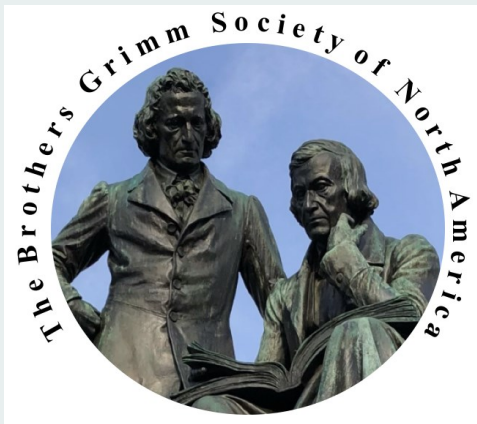
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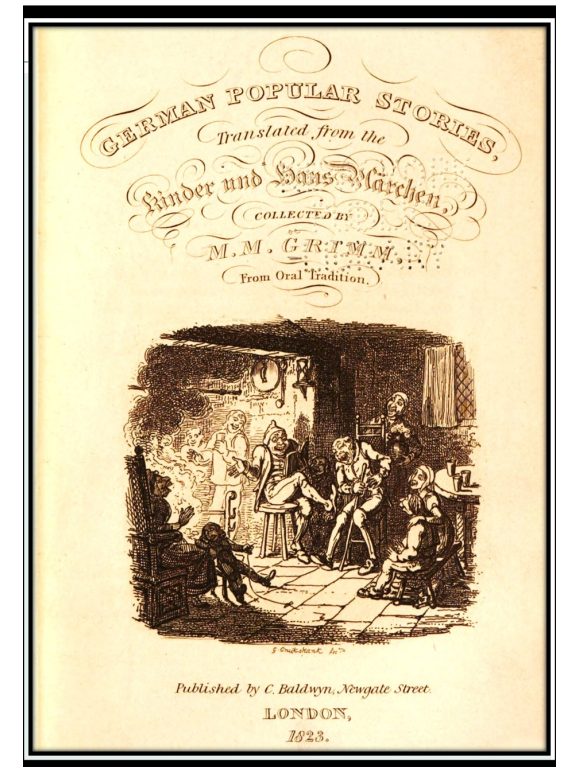
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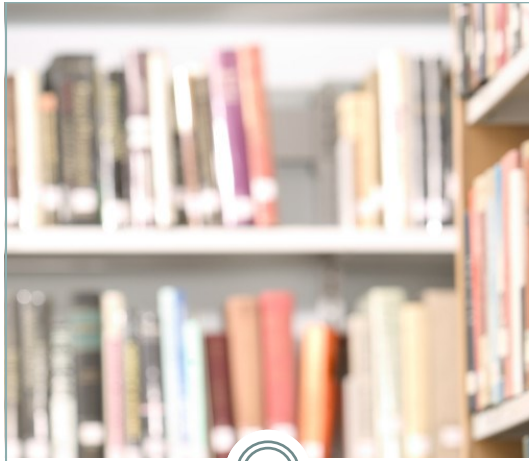
Jacob Grimm (1785-1863)

Wilhelm Grimm (1786-1859)

Celebrating the Grimms' Fairy Tales in North America



GERMAN POPULAR STORIES,
translated by Edgar Taylor and
illustrated by George Cruikshank.
London: C. Baldwin, 1823. (1826 Vol. 2)



How to educate, commemorate, and celebrate

Walt Disney popularized the tales and stories by the brothers Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm in the U.S. beyond his imagination, beginning with his legendary films *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (1937) and *Sleeping Beauty* (1959). All further adaptations of the Grimms' fairy tales in films, books, merchandise, and the entertainment parks and also in the gaming industry have become almost synonymous with American culture. In fact, the general population and most children in the U.S. believe that many fairy tale characters, such as Sleeping Beauty, Snow White and the Dwarfs, Rapunzel, Hansel and Gretel, the Frog King, etc., are Disney creations.

Learn in your library about the originally translated tales and the adapted versions since 1823. Check out books, audio material or a film of your favorite or an unfamiliar Grimms' fairy tale! Read fairy tales to your children! Teach them how to read with fairy tales!

THE LIVES AND LEGACY OF THE GRIMM BROTHERS

The brothers Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm and also Emil (1790-1863) were born in the town of Hanau in Germany. The family moved to Steinau in 1791, where the father was a bailiff. He died five years later. The mother moved with the five children to Kassel in 1805, where they went to school. Jacob and Wilhelm studied law at Marburg University and they got interested in folk tales. In 1806 French troops invaded Germany. After the French occupation, Jacob and Wilhelm became librarians and Emil was a painter and book illustrator. In 1812, the first selection of the folk tales Jacob and Wilhelm collected from the oral tradition were published.



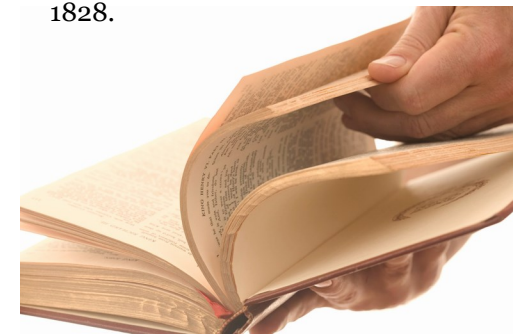
Jacob and Wilhelm became professors at the university in Göttingen in 1829. They were fired in 1837 because they protested against a breach of the constitution by the King of Hesse. In 1840 they were called to be professors at the Academy in Berlin. Whereas Wilhelm married and had family, Jacob dedicated his life to language research and politics, besides researching folk tales. Together they published seven editions of the *Kinder- und Hausmärchen* (the Grimms Fairy tales) and over 35 books. Jacob is known as the father of German linguistics.

THE ENGLISH PUBLICATIONS OF THE GERMAN POPULAR STORIES AND THE GERMAN POPULAR TALES AND HOUSEHOLD STORIES

Edgar Taylor translated the Grimms' *Kinder- und Hausmärchen* into English and George Cruikshank illustrated them for the first time in *German Popular Stories*. This book was published in London in 1823. A myriad of reprints and altered editions followed since there was no copyright in the 19th century. Emil Grimm now contributed to the illustrations. Arthur Rackham was a famous illustrator of the British publications.

Soon thereafter the first publications in the U.S. followed.

Jacob Grimm and Wilhelm Grimm: *German Popular Stories*. Boston: Cummings & Hilliard, 1826. ---. *German Popular Stories*. New York, Boston: Munroe & Francis, 1828.



The Grimms' Fairy Tales are translated into over 170 languages. They were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2005.