



The Real Stories of the Brothers Grimm

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Welcome to the world of GRIMM!

We tried hard to keep the spirit of the Brothers Grimm alive, bringing their stories to audiences today just as they strove to do. In these plays, we have everything from silly stories to tales of grave darkness in pieces that run from just a few minutes to over half an hour. There is quite literally something for everyone here. One of my great joys putting together and producing the shows was seeing audiences realize what these folk tales really are -- to see them react to the true, wonderful, strange, and rich world that the Brothers actually recorded, not the watered down versions they thought they knew. It's difficult to fully imagine the era the stories come from. The Brothers' first edition of their book of stories came out the same year of Napoleon's disastrous retreat from Waterloo, but thanks to them, we can feel some of the joys, sorrows, and fears the people of the time felt.

I produced three different shows of Grimm tales over three years. Now, we present these plays here to you, and I sincerely hope you continue on with the storytelling that started so long ago. You can do an evening of dark tales, light fables, or a mixture of both as we did, not letting the audience know what was coming. We even did shows for adults in the evening with both the light and dark material, and then we'd take the lighter half of the show and put it on for children for weekend matinees. You have a lot to choose from. The order of the stories printed here is not random. The tales get darker, more adult, and more serious as they go. Pick what you want and go!

The shows were successes beyond our wildest expectations. We had fresh presentations of incredible stories people thought they knew. We also had that to market, and audiences and critics alike came and loved the show. We were showered with rave reviews and awards, and I have never been part of a show that was so easy to attract full crowds for.

I'd like to give a special thanks to JAC Publishing for creating quite literally a new chapter in the Grimm tales, the Met Theatre and Sacred Fools for staging the original productions, and single out for special thanks Elizabeth Amery, John Sylvain, Stephanie Bell, Allison and Amy Gammon, Lise Hart, Alexis Wesley and Brenda Varda. Most of all, I'd like to thank the Brothers. They have left us wonders in these tales. Please join us in sharing them.

- George Larkin, Producer

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