



Jim Henson's "the Storyteller"

By Anthony Minghella

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Jim Henson's **The Storyteller** is a book to enchant readers of all ages--inspired by the beloved guiding genius of Muppetdom and a whole world of creatures we have taken into our hearts. These nine delightfully illustrated stories, based on Henson's Emmy Award-winning television series, are fairy tales and folk tales beautifully told by Academy Award-winning director Anthony Minghella.

They deal with the universal themes of folk literature: fear and need; folly, greed, and enchantment; courage and generosity. They are about princesses and giants, about a soldier and a brave young boy (half-hedgehog and half-human), and about a storyteller terrified that he will run out of tales. Infused with the spellbinding Henson magic, these tales, treasured by generation after generation in the Old World, come to us now with a new radiance.

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Jim Henson's "the Storyteller" By Anthony Minghella Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

YA-- Using Henson's Emmy-Award Winning TV series as a format, Minghella has compiled nine European folktales in this exquisite volume and given them a new twist. Each tale is showcased by full-color jewel-like illustrations that are reminiscent of the illuminated manuscripts of the Middle Ages. "Hans My Hedgehog" is a wonderful tale much like Pinocchio, "The True Bride" will remind readers of the trials of Rumpelstiltskin, and throughout all of the selections, YAs will experience the issues of fear, need, enchantment, folly, courage, and sharing commonly found in folklore. This would be a perfect addition to European literature collections and could be well used in advanced writing seminars, history, psychology, and art classes. A fresh, interesting, and thoroughly enjoyable volume.

- Heidi M. Steinhauer, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, FL

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From Kirkus Reviews

Under the aegis of the late Jim Henson, here are nine stories that first appeared as The Storyteller TV series--traditional folk and fairy tales refreshed for a modern audience. Released now as an adult book, this appealing, abundantly illustrated offering is just as suitable for young readers. Minghella looks to a Tuscan proverb ("The tale is not beautiful if nothing is added to it") for inspiration and, like Italo Calvino in Italian Folktales, adds to and alters the stories, most already available in standard collections--"Hans My Hedgehog" and "The Luck Child," for example. Some of his variations lack resonance on paper (the troll in "The True Bride" speaks in scrambled phrases like "I'm founded dumb") and distract from the prime-time themes of fear, trust, fidelity, etc. Most, however, are interesting even when they deviate from the classic story line (Hans has soft bristles and a devoted mother) and often enough Minghella's own language sets the tone: "in a week with two Fridays," he writes, or "Suddenly everyone could live forever" or "Beggars are never what they seem." Darcy May's 41 full-color paintings, rendered in a subtle palette, are elegant, expressive compositions faithful to the spirit of the stories and kin to several old favorites. Image for image, they don't quite match the spiritual quality and inner flow of, say, Nonny Hogrogian's (juvenile) The Devil with the Three Golden Hairs, and they lack the penetrating aspect of the (much longer) Segal/Sendak collaboration The Juniper Tree. Good company to these and others already on library shelves, they have a soft, distinctive look that should draw in readers of all ages. -- Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

From the Inside Flap

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

James Rose:

The event that you get from Jim Henson's "the Storyteller" may be the more deep you looking the information that hide inside the words the more you get interested in reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to be aware of but Jim Henson's "the Storyteller" giving you thrill feeling of reading. The writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood through anyone who read this because the author of this book is well-known enough. This kind of book also makes your own personal vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We recommend you for having this Jim Henson's "the Storyteller" instantly.

William Carroll:

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