



Grimm's Fairy Tales

Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm (1785 - 1863)

Translated by Marian Edwardes and Edgar Taylor

Read by:	Bob Neufeld	Format:	MP3 CD in DVD case
Length:	11 hours 7 minutes	Catalog:	DB-1031
Language:	English	UPC:	0684758936486
Style:	Collaborative	MSLP:	\$9.99
Genre:	Children's Fiction, Myths, Legends & Fairy Tales		

Grimm's Fairy Tales is a collection of German fairy tales first published by brothers Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm in 1812 under the title *Children's and Household Tales*. The collection appeared at a time when the Romantic movement of the early 19th century revived an interest in traditional folk stories. At the same time native folklore was seen as an important part of an emerging German national identity as the political system changed from a group of 200 principalities to a single state some sixty years later. At first the collection was thought to be unsuitable for children due to subject matter and the level of scholarly detail. Changes were made through the years with each edition to remove sexual references; violence, however, was seldom reduced and sometime increased.

The collection grew from 86 stories in the first edition to a total of 211 tales in the seventh edition, which appeared in 1857. A smaller edition of 50 titles for child readers called *Kleine Ausgabe* was released in 1825 and went through ten editions from 1825 to 1858. The work of the brothers inspired others to do similar work in their own cultures in Russia, England, Norway, and elsewhere. The tales have been translated into over 100 languages and have inspired numerous film, television, and theatrical treatments. This collection includes 63 of the best known tales, including classics such as "The Frog Prince", "Rapunzel", "Hansel and Gretel", "Tom Thumb", "Rumpelstiltskin", "Sleeping Beauty" and "Snow White".

The Brothers Grimm is the popular name by which the brothers **Jacob** (1785 – 1863) and **Wilhelm** (1786 – 1589) are known. They were the second and third of nine children from a prominent family in the town of Hanau; their father Philip was a magistrate and their mother Dorothea the daughter of a city councilman. The untimely death of their father in their pre-teens created financial strain and forced the family to rely on support from her mother's relatives and the brothers into assuming adult responsibilities. They were able to attend the prestigious Friedreichgymnasium and then the University of Marburg, where a law professor inspired an interest in history and philology that led to study of medieval German literature. In 1808 Jacob was appointed court librarian to the King of Westphalia and arranged for Wilhelm to join him as assistant, and at the urging of German romantic Clemens Brentano they began to collect folk tales, which they published first in 1812, followed quickly by a collection of German legends and a volume of early German literary history. In 1830 they moved to the University of Gottingen in the Kingdom of Hanover, where both became professors and Jacob served as head librarian. They established a discipline in German studies and Jacob published the well-regarded *German Mythology*. During a period of popular political unrest they were asked and refused to sign an oath of allegiance to King Ernest Augustus I and were dismissed. Relying on the support of friends they began work on a lifelong project to write a definitive German dictionary, which continued after finding teaching posts 1840 at the University of Berlin. The brothers were elected to the civil parliament for a brief period after the Revolutions of 1848, but became disillusioned and returned to private life, where Jacob published *The History of the German Language* and both worked on the dictionary until their deaths.