

Fairy Tales and the Literary Tradition Syllabus

COURSE OVERVIEW

Instructor

Prof. Elana GomeI

Email

egomeI@post.tau.ac.il

Office Location

Webb 510

Office Hours

Wed. 10-12

REQUIRED SECONDARY TEXTS

Spells and Enchantments: The Wondrous Fairy Tales of Western Culture (Introduction), *Jack Zipes*

Morphology of the Folk Tale, *Vladimir Propp*

From the Beast to the Blonde: On Fairy Tales and Their Tellers, *Marina Warner*

Critical and Creative Perspective on Fairy Tales: An Intertextual Dialogue, *Vanessa Joosen*

The Cambridge Companion to Fairy Tales, *Maria Tatar, ed.*

Contemporary Fiction and the Fairy Tales, *Stephen Benson*

SYLLABUS

March 15. Introduction

Unit 1. [Folk Tales](#)

March 19. “East of the Sun and West of the Moon”, “The Giant who Had No Heart”, “The Widow’s Sun”, “Jack and the Beanstalk”

March 22. “Gilitrutt”, “The Man Who Came Out Only at Night”, “And Seven”, “Pome and Peel”

March 26. “The Snake”, “Silent for Seven Years”, Vladimir Propp, “Morphology of the Folk Tale” (excerpts).

Unit 2. [The Beginning of the Literary Tradition](#)

March 29. Apuleius, “Cupid and Psyche”

April 2. Giovanni Straparola, “The Pig Prince”, Giambattista Basile, “The Merchant’s Two Sons”

April 5. Marie-Catherine D’Aulnoy, “The Green Serpent”, Charles Perrault,

“Bluebeard”, “Riquet with the Tuft”, Voltaire, “The White Bull”.

Unit 3. [German Stories](#)

April 19. Goethe, “The Fairy Tale”, Ludwig Tieck, “Eckbert the Blond”

April 23. E. T. A. Hoffmann, “The Mines of Falun”, Jermias Gotthelf, “The Black Spider”

Unit 4. [The Invention of Childhood](#)

April 26. The Grimm Brothers, “Ashputtle”, “Snow White and Rose Red”, “Hansel and Gretel”

April 30. Hans-Christian Andersen, “The Little Mermaid”, “Snow Queen”, “The Shadow”

May 3. George MacDonald, “The Day Boy and the Night Girl”, “The Golden Key”

May 7. Lucy Clifford, “The New Mother”, Oscar Wilde, “The Star Child”, “The Happy Prince”

Unit 5. [Politics, War and Sex](#)

May 10. Herman Hesse, “The Forest Dweller”, Georg Kaiser, “The Fairy Tale of the King”

May 14. Ingeborg Bacmann, “The Smile of the Sphinx”, Philip K. Dick, “The King of the Elves”, Italo Calvino, “The Enchanted Palace”

Unit 6. [The Feminist Rebellion](#)

May 17. Angela Carter, *The Bloody Chamber*

May 21. Tanith Lee, *Red as Blood*

Unit 7. [German Tales Redux](#)

May 24. Lisa Goldstein, “Breadcrumbs and Stones”, Louise Murphy, *The True Story of Hansel and Gretel*

June 4. Jane Yolen, *Briar Rose*

June 7. *Briar Rose*

Unit 8. [Disney and Its Discontents](#)

June 11. Jonathan Carroll, *Bones of the Moon*

June 14. Carroll

June 18. Naomi Novik, *Uprooted*

June 21. *Uprooted*

June 25. Round-table discussion

June 28. Conclusion

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