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Romanian Fairy Tales



Synopsis

We choose three exceptional stories written by Petre Ispirescu to inaugurate a series of bilingual illustrated books for children. The first volume consists of the following stories: "The Wonderful Bird", "Youth without Age and Life without Death", and "The Morning Star and The Evening Star". Petre Ispirescu's folk stories and fables have brought joy to everyone throughout the years, and continue to fill with joy future generations. The purpose of this series is to help readers, parents and teachers, to find wonderful stories for children, as well as preserving the history of Romanian literature. The book is illustrated by a young illustrator, Diana Andriuca. Her illustrations encourage imagination, as well as creates realm for dreams and creativity.

Book Information

Paperback: 114 pages

Publisher: Reflection Publishing; Bilingual edition (November 27, 2009)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.3 x 6 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (15 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #424,904 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Collections #464 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural #7233 inÂ Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Education Theory

Customer Reviews

There are very few English translations of Romanian fairy tales (at least I can't seem to find them on).It is a pity, there are some beautiful, fantastic and unique stories kids are missing on.This one was the only folk stories version that I could find that was bilingual and illustrated.Illustrations by Diana Andriuca are sketchy black and white, they look like something a 6 year old would doThe English translation seems forced, heavy at times, might be too hard for younger kids(by the way there is no mention who the translator is.)It does try to stay close to the richness of the Romanian text.I gave it four stars just because it is a first, it's still great to get kids exposed to the wonderful Romanian folklore!It stands no comparison though with the Impudent Rooster amazingly illustrated by Holly Berry. Too bad that a Romanian illustrator can't make these exotic stories more appealing!

There is something strange about the fairy tales collected and published by Petre Ispirescu around the middle of the XIX-th century. Some of his "collected" fairy tales have a deeper meaning than expected: for example the story "Youth without Age and Life without Death" is describing the fate of a hero who leaves his country as a very young man and he travels a lot in all kind of countries and far away places, but when he returns home, even though he is still young, he notices that in his own country many generations have passed... Nobody would remember anything about his time! This is the best description (ante factum - before the fact) of Albert Einstein's twin's paradox, which is a consequence of the Theory of Relativity!!! A great way to prepare your children to understand The Theory of Relativity, when they would reach the college years!

I chose this book because I love the fact that it is in both English and Romanian. Its hard to find books in these languages together. This book contains 3 stories which I loved! Its also a perfect book to study your Romanian as I am, by practicing your reading.

This is a wonderful bilingual book. I grew up listening to fairy tales by Petre Ispirescu and I wanted my children to know the stories of my childhood. This is a book that all the American-Romanian families need to have in their house. The book is a great gift too.

I bought this as a Christmas present for a dear friend of mine who lives in the U.S. but is from Romania. She had been having a difficult time this past year, and I thought this would be a great treat to take her back to lovelier, simpler times in her life filled with magic and wonder. She cried when she received this gift because she thought it was so thoughtful. On the left page, it is written in English and on the right page, it is written in Romanian. There are beautiful, simple drawings throughout, and my friend even said she wanted to get out her Crayolas and color as she read. If that does not make you want to buy this book...

My granddaughter is 1/2 Romanian, and so I think her mother was just as happy with the gift-if not more-as my granddaughter. This will give them a chance to be together with stories from her home country and my granddaughter an opportunity to learn the language.

The English translation is very poor quality. It's not that word choices were off. Entire sentences are left out or totally incorrect words are used. This book is OK for anyone just interested in reading

about fairy tales from the region, but it's not useful for language learners.

I bought this for my sponsored romanian child. She is only 3 so her mother can read them, but I believe books to be the most precious thing I can give her. If you open it up the right side will be english and the left side romanian of the same thing so she can use it for an english primer as she gets older, as well. Well made, cute stories and I know she will love it.

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