Fairy tales have never known geographical, disciplinary, or cultural borders. In many ways, they provided a model for thinking about storytelling on a transnational level long before comparative literature began transforming itself into world literature. As the simple expression of complex thought, fairy tales have increasingly become the focus of intense scholarly inquiry. In this Companion, international scholars from a range of academic disciplines explore the historical origins, cultural dissemination, and psychological power of these stories, and offer model interpretations of tales from a variety of traditions and sources, including Charles Perrault, the Brothers Grimm, and the Thousand and One Nights. Rather than disenchanting the stories, the essays in this volume broaden our understanding of them and deepen our appreciation of the cultural work they do. A chronology and guide to further reading contribute to the usefulness of the volume for students and scholars.

Maria Tatar is the John L. Loeb Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures, and chairs the Program in Folklore and Mythology at Harvard University. She is the author of The Annotated Brothers Grimm (2012), Enchanted Hunters: The Power of Stories in Childhood (2009), and may other volumes.

A complete list of books in the series is at the back of the book.
THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO
FAIRY TALES

EDITED BY
MARIA TATAR

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1550–3</td>
<td>The Pleasant Nights, a collection of fairy tales by the Venetian Giovanni Francesco Straparola, appears in print.</td>
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<td>1634–6</td>
<td>Giambattista Basile’s The Tale of Tales, or Entertainments for the Little Ones, also known as The Pentamerone, is published after the author’s death in 1632.</td>
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<td>1697</td>
<td>Marie-Catherine d’Aulnoy publishes Tales of the Fairies. Charles Perrault publishes Stories, or Tales from Times Past.</td>
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<td>1704–17</td>
<td>Antoine Galland translates the Thousand and One Nights into French.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1740</td>
<td>Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve publishes Beauty and the Beast.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1785–9</td>
<td>Forty-one volumes of The Fairies’ Cabinet, or Collection from Fairy Tales and Other Tales of Wonder appear in France.</td>
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<td>1812–15</td>
<td>Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm publish Children’s Stories and Household Tales in two volumes.</td>
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<td>1835</td>
<td>Hans Christian Andersen publishes his first volume of fairy tales, including “The Tinderbox” and “The Princess on the Pea.”</td>
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<td>1841–4</td>
<td>Peter Christen Asbjørnsen and Jørgen Moe publish Norwegian Folktales.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1846</td>
<td>Nathaniel Hawthorne’s “Feathertop” appears in print, followed by A Wonder-Book for Girls and Boys in 1851.</td>
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Chronology

1853–4 George Cruikshank publishes his *Fairy Library*, with new renditions of “Cinderella” and “Jack and the Beanstalk.”


1890 Joseph Jacobs publishes *English Fairy Tales*, followed by volumes on *Indian Fairy Tales* (1892), *Celtic Fairy Tales* (1892), and other collections.

1900 L. Frank Baum publishes *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.*

1910 Finnish scholar Antti Aarne publishes the *Index of the Types of the Folktale.*

1935 Zora Neale Hurston’s *Mules and Men* appears in print.

1937 Disney’s *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* is released to theaters.

1939 Birthdate of Margaret Atwood, author of works ranging from *The Robber Bridegroom* and “Bluebeard’s Egg” to *Lady Oracle*, and other works of fiction.

1943 Tex Avery makes *Red Hot Riding Hood.*

1956 Italo Calvino publishes *Italian Folktales.*

1961 Anne Sexton publishes *Transformations*, fairy-tale poems inspired by the Brothers Grimm collection.

1973 Maurice Sendak illustrates the Brothers Grimm in *The Juniper Tree and Other Tales from the Brothers Grimm.*

1976 Bruno Bettelheim publishes *The Uses of Enchantment.*

1979 Angela Carter publishes *The Bloody Chamber and Other Stories.*


1982–7 *Shelley Duvall’s Faerie Tale Theater* features twenty-seven adaptations of fairy tales.

2004 Hans-Jörg Uther publishes his three-volume *The Types of International Folktales: A Classification and a Bibliography.*
Many of the contributions in this volume refer to specific fairy tales as belonging to a certain “tale type.” The concept of the tale type was originally developed by the Finnish scholar Antti Aarne, who published the *Index of the Types of the Folktale* (*Verzeichnis der Märchentypen*) in 1910 as a classification system for stories that belong to oral traditions. The volume was twice revised and expanded by the American folklorist Stith Thompson. Despite its flaws, which are carefully enumerated by Hans-Jörg Uther in his introduction to the 2004 revision of the work, it remains a standard work for folklorists today, giving them a shorthand form for identifying and situating in a larger storytelling matrix the tales they analyze. In the chapters that follow, ATU 425C, for example, will refer to “Beauty and the Beast.” To avoid confusion, the tale type number will not appear in isolation and will be followed by the standard name for that tale type: for example, ATU 327 (“The Children and the Ogre”).