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Adult Services Librarians of Monroe County
2017



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Fairy Tale Retellings



A selection of Fairy Tale Retelling titles available at libraries
in the Monroe County Library System.



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Fairy Tale Retellings



Enchantment

Orson Scott Card

This story reworks the fairytale *Sleeping Beauty* and intertwines it with Russian mythology. A young man, Ivan, returns to a forest in Russia that is stuck in the 9th century, only to find a sleeping princess, Katerina. The adventure begins after the princess is awakened with a kiss and the two must escape a witch who has taken over the kingdom. Filled with magic, time travel, romance and adventure, the book takes readers on a journey through time and back again.

The Star-Touched Queen

Roshani Chokshi

In spite of being a princess and living in a harem, Maya lives a lonely life, filled only by her dreams of far off places she reads about in her father's library. Her dreams are realized when, on her wedding day, she escapes with her bridegroom to his kingdom beyond the Otherworld.

[For readers unfamiliar with the folklore of India which is featured in this book, there is a glossary in the back.]

The Great Hunt

Wendy Higgins

A fantasy, re-interrupting a Brothers Grimm classic fairy tale, has enough complexity to capture an adult imagination. You have romance, suspense and, of course, a killer beast which must be slain. Just when you think you know exactly what the outcome will be, there's a unexpected turn of events necessitating a follow-up book you will want to read.

The Snow Child

Eowyn Ivey

Based on the Russian folktale *Snegurochka*, this is the story of homesteaders in the wilderness of Alaska in the 1920s who "discovered" a child one day while outside in the snow. This child is able to survive on her own despite the cold and snow, and is a magical and loving daughter to the homesteaders.

Fairest

Gail Carson Levine

Set in the kingdom of Ayortha, this retelling of *Snow White* reminds us the perception of beauty differs among people groups. Though Aza's fairness is more than skin deep, still she desires to be pleasing to the eye. Her journey brings her to the brink of death and onto a new life, changing her perspective along the way!

Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister

Gregory Maguire

The tale of Cinderella told seriously, with insight into beauty and character. Enjoy the well developed back story, set in seventeenth-century Holland, imparted by a not-so-beautiful, but very intelligent stepsister.

The Golem and the Jinni

Helene Wecker

Set in New York City in 1899, this is the story of two supernatural creatures who find each other and become friends in spite of their very different natures. The golem is made of clay and brought to life by the dark magic of a rabbi; the jinni is a being of fire and was trapped in a copper flask until released by a tinsmith. They must find a way to survive while keeping their true natures secret.

The Girls at the Kingfisher Club

Genevieve Valentine

Scandalized by his inability to bear an heir, Mr. Hamilton keeps his 12 daughters locked up inside their Fifth Avenue brownstone. Each night, dancing shoes in hand, the girls sneak out to explore the speakeasies of Jazz Age New York. In this re-imagining of the *Twelve Dancing Princesses*, it's up to Josephine, the eldest, to keep her sisters off the police's radar and protect them from being married off to men of their father's choosing.

The Crimson Thread: A Retelling of "Rumpelstiltskin"

Suzanne Weyn

This book is one of the "Once Upon a Time" series. Although considered a fairy tale, the historical descriptions of late 1800s New York add to the delight of the story.