



Where does the story come from?

Although the story of Snow White is one of the most famous fairy tales, no one knows exactly where it comes from, who first told it, or how old it is.

As far as we know, the first time Snow White was written down was in a collection of folk stories and legends put together more than 180 years ago by two German brothers: Jacob Ludwig Grimm (1785-1863) and Wilhelm Carl Grimm (1786-1859).

The Brothers Grimm were fascinated by both language and myths. They spent many years travelling around Germany, collecting words for what was to become a well-respected dictionary, and finding out about the stories peasant farmers and country villagers had learned from their grandparents and were now passing on to their grandchildren.

They finally published a book called *Kinder und Hausmärchen* (*Children's and Household Tales*) between 1815 and 1818, which contained many of these folk tales. As there were very few books around at the time, and almost nothing written especially for children, the book became very popular and many of the tales in it became children's favourites.

The first English book of Grimms' fairy tales appeared in 1823 with drawings by George Cruikshank, who later illustrated many of Charles Dickens' novels.

the fairest story of them all



The story has changed!

In the original tale, the stepmother does not die while trying to kill the dwarfs. Instead she suffers a far more grisly fate by having to wear a pair of red hot shoes!

The story of Snow White, which we all know today, is not the same as the original one that the Brothers Grimm first wrote down. Over the years, parts of the story have changed, especially after the Disney cartoon was released.

There is no kiss to wake up Snow White in the original story. Instead, she is taken away by the prince on a cart, and the poisoned apple stuck in her throat becomes dislodged when his cart hits a pothole.

In the original tale, the wicked stepmother tries three times to kill Snow White, not just once.

More than 50 names and personalities were considered by Disney, including Tubby, Eurpy, and Biggy-Wiggy, before the final names were chosen. When Walt Disney won an Oscar for the film, seven small versions of the famous statuette were also awarded - one for each dwarf!

In the very original version of the story collected by the Grimms, Snow White is a princess who is hated by her own mother, the Queen. The mother tries to kill the daughter, and nearly succeeds, until her father - the King - finds out what is happening. He is so angry that that he executes the Queen. Gruesome stuff! The Grimms altered parts of this tale, making the evil queen into a stepmother and introducing the Prince who rescues Snow White.

In the original story, the dwarfs don't feature very much; all we know is that there are seven friendly little men who look after Snow White. The names Doc, Dopey, Sneezy, Grumpy, Sleepy, Happy and Bashful were all created by the makers of the Walt Disney film.

Famous Mirrors



Mirrors can be found in many of our best-loved tales. In *Through the Looking-Glass*, the sequel to *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Alice steps through a mirror into a magical land where she meets Tweedledum and Tweedledee, Humpty Dumpty and the Red Queen, who wants to cut off her head!



Can you draw your own reflection here?



In Greek mythology, Perseus defeats Medusa, whose look turns men to stone, by using his shield as a mirror. The snake-haired monster sees her own reflection and is instantly killed by her own powers! Another Greek story tells of Narcissus who, not understanding that he is seeing his own reflection in a pool of water, falls in love with himself - he certainly thought he was the fairest of them all!



More recently, Harry Potter sees his heart's desire reflected in the Mirror of Erised in the first of J K Rowling's stories about the young wizard, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. And, in *Lord of the Rings*, Frodo is invited by the Elf Queen to look into the Mirror of Galadriel, a basin filled with water in which one may see visions of the past, present and future.

Can you think of any other stories involving mirrors?



The Enchanted Forest



The sounds of the animals scare you and you lose your way - go back to 22.

You find a bear caught in a hunter's trap - you free it and it lets you ride on its back - go to 42.

Your dress gets caught in a thorny bush - go back to 18.

You meet a wood cutter who shows you the way - go to 16.

You find a map of the forest - go to 28.

You are chased by hungry wolves - go back to 3.

Roll a 4-6 to start and escape from the evil queen's castle.

Help Snow White find the way through the enchanted forest to the safety of the dwarfs' cottage. There are many dangers in the forest which may lead her astray. You will need a die and a button to mark your journey through the forest. This game can be played with one or more players.



66 67 68 69

You are seen by the evil queen in her magic mirror and she tricks you into going the wrong way - go back to 58.

65

Finish

You meet a pedlar woman who gives you a delicious-looking apple. If you roll 1-3 you take a bite and fall asleep - go back to 44. If you roll 4-6 you are found asleep by the seven dwarfs - roll again.

72 71 70

You get lost in the mines - roll a 4-6 to go forward or go back to 33.

You see a deer, follow it and find a secret path - go to 66.

62 61 60

You meet a seamstress who gives you a beautiful bodice - when she tightens it for you, you faint - roll a 4-6 to spot the evil queen in disguise (roll again) or go back to 44.

59 58 57

You meet a dwarf coming back from the mines and he shows you a shortcut through the forest - go to 54.

51 50 49 48 47 46

You find a rowing boat by the river and try to cross in it. Roll a 4-6 to get across safely or get swept downstream to 36.

55 54 53 52 51 50 49 48 47 46 45 44 43 42 41 40 39 38 37 36

Colour in



MINING MAZE



A dwarf has got lost in the mines.
Can you show him the way out?
See if you can find some gems on
the way but avoid the grumpy bear!

WITCHAMISARY NAAMAR

WHAT DO YOU THINK
THESE DWARFS WERE
FEELING WHEN THEY HAD
THEIR PORTRAITS PAINTED?

GIVE EACH ONE A
NAME THAT WOULD
SUIT THEIR EXPRESSION.



For example
Sneaky

For example Boffin

Wild Wood

Snow White is lost in the woods and
can hear the sounds of animals all around.
Can you spot all 20 creatures in the woods?



Word Search

Can you find all the words in the list below, hidden in the wordsquare? They may run upwards, downwards, backwards, forwards and even diagonally! When you have found them all, there will be twenty-four letters left over, which will spell out a secret message!
(A clue: it's what the Wicked Stepmother might ask the magical mirror.)



APPLE

GLASS

SLEEP

COFFIN

CAVERNS

MIRROR

SNOW WHITE

DWARFS

COTTAGE

OLD LADY

STEPMOTHER

KISS

DIAMONDS

POISON

WICKED

MINING

PRINCE

SEVEN

WORK

Answers

Word Search

W	E	D	N	O	M	A	I	D	H	O	P
I	A	T	C	A	V	E	R	N	S	C	R
S	P	T	E	N	M	E	F	N	A	O	I
E	P	N	R	P	I	L	O	S	L	F	N
G	L	E	O	D	M	W	N	D	S	F	C
A	E	V	R	S	N	O	L	I	R	I	E
T	E	E	R	N	I	A	T	S	N	N	S
T	T	S	L	O	D	O	R	N	F	O	R
O	T	T	M	Y	H	E	P	E	M	O	
C	E	A	D	E	N	C	I	W	S	R	V
L	P	E	E	L	S	S	A	L	S	L	

Message: Who is the fairest of them all?

Mining Maze



Wild Wood



Answers

Mining Maze



Word Search



Message: Who is the fairest of them all?

Wild Wood

