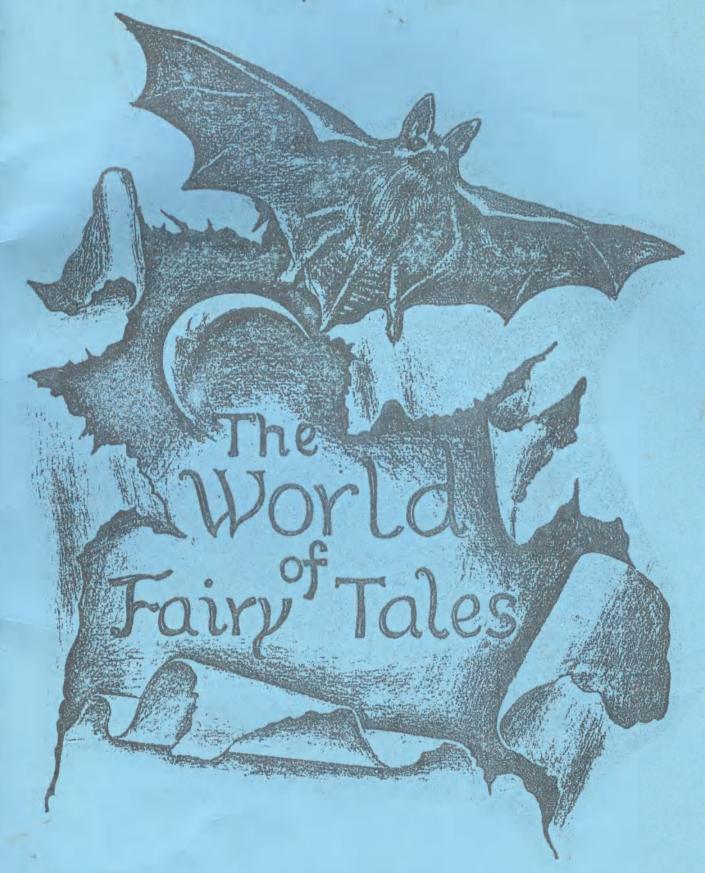
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The World of Fairy Tales

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Адресуется студентам факультета дошкольного воспитания для проведения семинарских занятий с целью обучения студентов работе со сказкой. Данное пособие может быть использовано также на факультете начальных классов с дополнительной специальностью «Иностранный язык» и в спецшколах.

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INTRODUCTION

The fairy tale as authorised is a relatively late genre of literature. It stems from the Middle Ages' folklore heritage. However, at the Enlightenment period the fairy-tale was replaced by so-called moral tales for children which in fact were the feeble imitation of the literature genre. As a result for almost two centuries children books were confined to the moralising stories written with the purpose to explain how to behave in which situation. And it was until the epoch of Romanticism when the world of fantasy was isolated from the English literature.

Thus, the end of the 18-th century is acknowledged as a cradle of the authentic fairy tale in England. The first fairy tales were embodied in "The Three Bears" (Robert Southey), "The Peacock At Home" (Catherine Dorset), "The King Of The Golden River" (John Ruskin) and many others, which were dashing with human emotion, tentative humour and symbolic heroes idolising the best virtues of the mankind.

The further development of the fairy tale goes in line with experimenting in the field of fantasy making. The exaggeration techniques introduced by Katherine Sinclair determined the mainstream of the English fairy tale. And the leading writers of the 19-th century picked up the habit of mingle satire and exaggeration in order to show ridiculous foibles of the society.

In private, this remarkable tradition of absurdities, mockery and word puns was perpetuated in the creative work of A. Milne, P. Travers, A. Lang, L. Carroll, etc. Their tales are appreciated both as a reflection of our mercenary and evil society with its prejudices and foolishness, and as a fantastic, unrational, and incredible world which would surely attract a young reader.

As for L. Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland", this masterpiece of literature is known for one more valuable peculiarity. It is claimed to be the first dream-story in England literature.

By the end of the 19-th century the English authorised fairy tale got a new pessimistic sounding due to the tragically ending tales by Oscar Wilde. Here the traditional English humour and mystery give way to human suffering and misery experienced by the main characters. At the same time the difference between the good and evil isn't so evident as it was before, which makes the fairy tale closer to the real world with its contradictions and puzzles.

O. Wilde, P. Travers, L. Carroll, B. Potter, Ch. and M. Lamb and other English writers made an invaluable contribution to the development of the English fairy tale and determined its prosperity as a genre of literature which gained the highest reputation all over the world.

Along with authentic fairy tales the English literature was afraid to lose links with the old folklore motives. J. Jacobs, A. Lang and others attracted by folk fairy tales were enthusiastic to bring them back to life and make understandable for children.

Today's fairy tale is a mixture of various tendencies and its themes range from social to psychological ones. A. Milne, J. Tolkien, E. Nesbit, etc went on experimenting with varieties of image-creating techniques, "Peter Pan" by J. Barrie joined the worldwide recognition list with its refreshing flavour of science fiction and detective. No wonder, the citizen of Landuno are keen on walking past Peter's sculpture, as well as Alice's sculpture in Kensington Garden Park.

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