



Marvel Fairy Tales

C.B. Cebulski , Claire Wendling (Illustrator) , João M.P. Lemos (Illustrator) , Nuno Plati (Illustrator) , Takeshi Miyazawa (Illustrator) , Ricardo Tércio Vinagre Guimarães (Illustrator) , Kyle Baker (Illustrator)

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Re-imagining the greatest Marvel stories through folktales, myths, and fables from across the globe.

In *Avengers: Fairy Tales* see Captain America, Iron Man, Thor, and the rest of the Avengers as you've never seen them before as the critically acclaimed line of Marvel Fairy Tales continues with all-new interpretations of Peter Pan, Pinocchio, Alice in Wonderland and the Wizard of Oz!

Plus: from *Spider-Man Fairy Tales*, Mary Jane fills the shoes of another famous redhead in this retelling of Little Red Riding Hood with super hero sensibilities! And from *X-Men Fairy Tales* comes a re-imagining of the tragic origin of Professor Xavier and Magneto based on the ancient African tale "The Friendship of the Tortoise and the Eagle."

Marvel Fairy Tales Details

Date : Published February 3rd 2010 by Marvel (first published 2010)

ISBN : 9780785143161

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Format : Paperback 144 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Comics, Graphic Novels, Fantasy, Fairy Tales, Superheroes, Marvel, Fiction

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From Reader Review Marvel Fairy Tales for online ebook

Rachael says

Originally Posted at <http://rachaelc94.blogspot.com/2013/0...> This one would be more of an experience to read on my blog.

My Thoughts:

This is my very first graphic novel I have ever read. I had to read a graphic novel for a class I'm taking. The reason I chose this one was that my library owned a copy and I wanted to do something with fairy tales. I found this one. I do think I would enjoy this novel more if I was familiar with the Marvel characters, but I will explain more of that below. I kind of see this novel as a collection of short stories since each fairy tale is about 23-25 pages long. Sometimes I think that is too short, but in other stories I was okay with the length. I will put my personal feelings about each fairy tale below.

Peter Pan

Peter Pan is the first short story in this graphic novel and as you all know I have been in a Peter Pan mood lately since reading the classic novel so I was glad to see the story in there. The graphic novel was able to give a good gist of the Peter Pan story in a period of 25 pages, but it didn't really give you a lot of time to follow in love with the characters. On the first page Peter Pan flies in and they fly off to Neverland and before you know it you are at the end of the story. I like that it covered the story, but it didn't really add its own twist that much besides changing a few minor details. I think they needed a bit more time to put a little bit deeper plot development into the story.

Pinocchio

Pinocchio was the second story with this one I liked that they altered the story. They changed the dad's name and Pinocchio was a robot named Vision. That is similar to Peter Pan because they changed the names in that story too, but besides that they didn't change much in Peter Pan. I feel like Pinocchio could stand on its own a little bit better than Peter Pan although not fully. Vision (Pinocchio) talked a lot about being bullied because he was different and that is something I completely identify with. I don't feel like Vision's (Pinocchio) actions were justified just because he was bullied. The old saying goes two wrongs don't make a right. Vision's (Pinocchio) conscience in this book was not a cricket, but a fairy and the fairy turns out to be a very surprising person in Vision's (Pinocchio) life. In the end Vision (Pinocchio) makes a selfless decision and that was the biggest change from the original fairy tale or Disney movie as I know Pinocchio.

Alice in Wonderland

Alice in Wonderland is the third story in this graphic novel and so far it is my favorite of the bunch, but don't take that compliment too highly because this story is full of flaws. Alice like Pinocchio talks about how she is bullied and that is how she falls into wonderland where she meets all the characters we have grown to love. In this retelling Cassie (Alice) is a very angry character and I didn't like her in that light. I loved the Cheshire cat pictures and I loved that character. I laughed that the Caterpillar was blue and red because he was supposed to be spider man. The mad hatter and his gang and the king and queen were all still mad, but I don't believe their characters were well executed. It annoyed me so that the dormouse repeated the same phrases over and over again. In the end Cassie (Alice) made an admirable decision and I respect that. My only complaint about the ending is that it was almost too perfect. Most original fairy tale endings don't end in

happily ever after. Although I really enjoyed the Alice in Wonderland story like Peter Pan I believe it needed more pages to be better developed because at the end of the day most of the characters fell flat because we didn't have the time to know them.

Wizard of Oz

Wizard of Oz was the fourth story in this graphic novel and my least favorite of the novel. I have to admit Wizard of Oz is not a story that I know well and I have never seen the movie so I don't believe I was the right person to judge this story. I'm not a fan of the Wizard of Oz story to begin with. The girl's name was Jennifer (Dorothy) and she set off to see Oz so she could go home. In this retelling Jennifer's (Dorothy) shoes were green instead of red although I have seen the actual shoes and they are actually a dark red, but they changed the color on the screen. Besides that the Witch was weird in this story and did not die in the same way as the movie. The lion, scarecrow, and tin man I don't think were done justice. Again I have a hard time giving an accurate account of this story because I have never seen the movie. I just know little bits and pieces. The ending as far as to my knowledge was kept the same.

Note on the picture: The shoes in the right corner are the actual shoes from the movie. I took that picture at the Smithsonian museum in Washington D.C.

Little Red Riding Hood

Little Red Riding Hood probably had the most of the Marvel characters and I also think the Little Red Riding

Hood had one of the better stories developments of the book. At first I wondered how they were going to incorporate Little Red Riding Hood in then she goes off to see Peter's aunt May and I understood. My only complaint about this story was how fast it was over. Once she set off on the path it seemed like the story was over in no time and I just wished it lasted longer and had a bit more story development.

The Friendship of the Tortoise and the Eagle

This was my least favorite story of this graphic novel. I really hated how the tortoise and the eagle were just instantly friends. I wish there was a bit more leading up than that. Everything seemed to happen so fast and the story was over. There was really no sanctification after reading this story because it didn't feel like there was a story.

Final Thoughts

Overall I have to admit I enjoyed my first graphic novel. Do I believe there are better graphic novels out there? Yes I do believe I did not find the best Graphic Novel. If you have any recommendations I would be willing to read them.

Marie says

Marvel Fairy Tales by C.B. Cebulski (illustrator Ricardo Tercio) was disappointing and confusing to say the least. This book contains numerous fairy tales rewritten in graphic novel format with Marvel cartoon characters taking the roles of the protagonists. For example, Jennifer Walters plays the part of "She Hulk" (Dorothy from the Wizard Of Oz). For the sake of this review I will concentrate on Mary Jane and the Little Red Riding Hood chapter. The story begins with Mary Jane (Little Red Riding Hood) making candy

deliveries in the forest when she is attacked (we as readers never find out who they are). A Spiderman type character then comes to save her. The next scene depicts a court scene with her being cross examined by a law official (confusing to say the least). The story continues with Mary Jane conflicted about her role in life and whether the wife of Peter Parker is enough for her. With the entrance of the wolf Mary Jane realizes she wants to get off the “path” she was told to stay on and attempts to stand up to the “demonstrative” sinister wolf.

I need to point out that I am not a lover of graphic novels and have minimal background knowledge of Marvel comic book heroes. That being said, I found many issues with this text. First, the idea of Marvel comic book heroes as fairy tale protagonists was far reaching but could have been carried off if not for the use of other fantasy plots such as the Spiderman element in this story. Second, the text was weak and the illustrations dark (in a color sense) and confusing. Third, the use of gender biases like women being taken care of by the men they marry was used by the author to support the lesson to be learned (follow your own path) but in doing so I feel it watered down the plot. Lastly, I take issue with the format of the book. There was no table of contents in the beginning and the title and creators of the story were at the end of each story not the beginning. To many young adult readers this would also be confusing since it doesn't follow the usual text features they might be used to. I would not use this book in a classroom. It is not an example of quality literature.

D says

Bought this for my girlfriend and thought I might read it before sending it out (I usually do this whenever I give books away as presents anyway).

The stories are cute, although since I don't really follow a whole lot of Marvel superheroes, I don't think I understood all the references. Let's just be glad I actually knew who the Young Avengers were and leave it at that.

Some of the stories were pretty hurried, like, sudden reunions with estranged family etc. And then there are some really good ones that I loved: The Pinocchio one with Vision is a favourite, and the last story with Charles and Erik is very good too.

Lizzy says

These were really good and cute stories! And the last one about the tortoise and the hawk (aka Professor X and Magneto) was actually pretty heartbreaking! Overall it's a super clever book, and it's fun to see these characters in a totally different light.

Joe says

Just that, okay.
Lovely artwork

Laura Bang says

I'm not really up on the comic book characters aside from any movies (which I know disqualifies me from making any comparisons with these comic book verse characters!), so I don't really have a sense of how well integrated the comic book characters are with the fairy tales they've been planted in. As fairy tales, however, these stories were fairly enjoyable, if a tad on the preachy side. The retellings were interesting and I liked most of the artwork, but I think some of them were a bit too condensed, so it was hard to get a real feel for the characters' situations.

(FYI, Thor, Black Panther, Iron Man, and Hawkeye as the Lost Boys in the Peter Pan story is adorable and probably my favorite thing. ♥)

Ms. Kelly says

A number of folk and fairy tales are so ubiquitous that they are seemingly learned by cultural osmosis rather than through any conscious instruction. With largely recognizable characters like Batman and Wonder Woman, comic books have added to this pantheon of cultural knowledge. Writer C.B. Cebulski and a talented team of artists, including Kyle Baker and João Lemos, have reimagined the storylines of six literary and fairy tales with a cast of actors from Marvel Comics.

In *Once Upon A Time...* Captain America becomes Peter Pan and the Scarlet Witch is Wendy. Cebulski combines the characters by giving "Cap" flight and giving the normally passive Wendy the power to mentally cause explosions. She saves the day in the midst of a dramatically drawn panel of violent lines and shapes. Bright colors and a feeling of openness fly the reader smoothly from scene to scene. With only a rudimentary knowledge of the comic characters involved, it is possible to follow the story and gain enjoyment from the twists in the Peter Pan tale.

But, not all stories fare as well. In *Created Equal*, the superheroes used to reinterpret the tale of Pinnochio may be less familiar to the general population. Dr. Hank Pym, scientific genius, becomes Gippetto and Vision, an alien android, plays the part of Pinnochio.

Much darker in art and tone, this story is filled with subtext that is completely lost without prior knowledge of how these characters are connected in the Marvel Universe. Without that knowledge, the storyline seems needlessly convoluted. The introduction of a teacher intent on isolating and abusing Pinnochio, instead of the traditional fox and cat or the Disney donkey-boys antagonist, seems exceptionally odd - unless you know that the teacher is played by Ultron, Dr. Pym's enemy, who created Vision to destroy Dr. Pym.

This collection, using stories previously published in other volumes, fulfills the promise of the cover and introduces a nicely drawn series of stories using tales of fandom to infuse tales of fairies with a fun twist. If the reader can bring the backstory of the Marvel Universe, Cebulski and his team will do the rest.

(Can you tell this was for class?!) hahahaha!

Mary Jo says

This is a very cute graphic novel! It takes some classic stories, like Peter Pan, Little Red Riding Hood and Alice in Wonderland, and casts Marvel characters in the roles. She-hulk finds herself as Dorothy facing the Scarlet Witch as the Wicked Witch of the West in Oz, while Mary Jane has help from Peter Parker to save Aunt May from the big bad wolf.

This is definitely a great read if you're a fan of the Avengers. I think it probably might be even more enjoyable if I were more familiar with the Avengers team (I spent much of the Pinocchio story trying to remember what Hank Pym's super powers were), but it's still a great read.

Anne says

Good idea, poor execution. A few of the stories were cute, but the rest were a mess. I was really hoping for something better.

Kari says

Not as good as I had hoped. I enjoyed *Peter Pan* and *Pinocchio*, but I didn't really like the remix for *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Wizard of Oz*, or *Little Red Riding Hood*. I didn't even read the X-Men one. Good concept, but I think new fairy tales would have worked better than reimagining old ones.

Jen says

Very interesting take on the original fairy tales of Pinocchio, Little Red Riding Hood, Wizard of Oz, Peter Pan, and Alice in Wonderland. Marvel characters are placed in the situations of their fairy tale counterparts with some variance in each story. She-Hulk plays the role of Dorothy in Oz, while Iron Man, Thor, and Captain America play the roles of the tinman, the scarecrow, and the cowardly lion respectively. Mary Jane and Spider-man are transposed into the world of Little Red Riding Hood. The other stories are more loosely based on both Marvel and the traditional fairy tales themselves but are very entertaining quick reads.

Sesana says

I can't even begin to say how disappointed I am. The idea sounded like fun to me. I love superheroes, I love fairy tale retellings. It should be like a chocolate covered pretzel: two great tastes that taste great together. But the execution was so lacking. The writing was more often than not stilted, and the retellings weren't very well thought out. Most of the stories do little more than recast characters in the original stories (like Peter Pan) with familiar Marvel characters (Captain America, believe it or not). The end result was less a retelling and more like the characters we know being awkwardly cast in a play. Perhaps the best example of this is the Young Avengers/Alice in Wonderland mashup. I wouldn't be surprised to learn that this story had been written by somebody who'd never read Young Avengers, because the characters aren't recognizable as

themselves. I also feel like the title was a little misleading. The Avengers stories retell Peter Pan, Pinocchio, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, and Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. I wouldn't call any of them fairy tales. They're fantasy novels so familiar that they've become part of the popular consciousness, but that doesn't make them fairy tales any more than Star Wars is. And because they're novels, trying to adapt them into relatively short, single issue comics is impossible. The stories end up squashed and vague.

There are two real bright spots here. The art in the Avengers/Peter Pan mashup is lovely, and perfectly suited to a story adapted from Victorian children's fantasy. And the last story in the collection, which uses an African folktale to describe the friendship between Xavier and Magneto, is completely accurate (on the Marvel side, at least) and oddly touching. I can't speak for how the original folktale was treated, as I'm not familiar with it. But from a purely Marvel perspective, it is by far the best thing in this book.

Kieran McGhee says

All three stars are for the Charles/Erik "The Friendship of the Tortoise and the Eagle."

(But, also Cap as Peter and the Lion was pretty dope.)

Jenn says

Just ok. The Spiderman/Red Riding Hood Story was the best.

Kest Schwartzman says

That was truly and spectacularly awful. Like, the kind of bad that if I had a twitter, I woulda life tweeted reading it. It's... just amazingly awful. it kept shocking me with how very bad it was, and then, from there, would shock me by getting worse.
