



Japanese Fairy Tales

Grace James

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Brings together a magnificent selection of stories from all parts of the Land of the Rising Sun. Drawing on a richly imaginative folk tradition, & set against the backdrop of Japans mythic past, the tales are suffused with the essence of this magical land. Combining the exoticism of the Orient with a touch of the macabre, these are tales in which fantasy can unexpectedly shade into supernatural terror. The imaginative art of the Japanese fairy tale is amply celebrated in this beautifully illustrated edition. All readers with a fascination of folklore & of fantastic tales need look no further than this excellent edition.

Japanese Fairy Tales Details

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From Reader Review Japanese Fairy Tales for online ebook

Jay Wright says

I find fairy tales interesting. They reflect the culture of a nation. The tales in this group reveal the militaristic society of feudal Japan. However, Love is a dominant theme in these fairy tales unlike Western fairy tales. I found the reading interesting although I have always been interested in Japan.

Kay says

I was reading one a night while work was busy just to keep myself in the habit of a book at bedtime and its a nice collection of stories that range from the sweet to the macabre. some feel very traditional with good behaviour being rewarded and bad people being punished but many were to do with the gods and spirits of the world. Easy to read and some imagery that lingers nicely, I'm glad I made the effort to finally dip into it.

Carolina says

Mis ganas de leer este libro son inversamente proporcionales al dinero que suelo tener para comprarlo y al tiempo que tendría para leerlo. Por suerte voy a empezar a trabajar dando inglés y las navidades se acercan, por lo que puedo pedírmelo para Reyes ~~aunque seguramente me lo acabe comprando antes porque se trata de literatura japonesa, de historias japonesas.~~

28-12-17: POR FIN ES MÍO :D Como se me crucen los cables mucho me lo empiezo en pocos días.

Roberta says

There were a few good stories but generally the quality of the writing was very poor and the translation of names was inconsistent. An interesting read in terms of myths and tales but hard going due to the general quality.

Shiru says

Muy fácil y rápido de leer. Perfecto para introducirse en el folclore japonés y en su maravillosa cultura a través de los antiguos relatos que han llegado hasta hoy.

Erika says

Usually I have my reservations when writers take on tales from countries they are not native to, but this book's description stated that Grace James was an *expert* on Japanese culture and folklore so I decided to give it a chance; it was inexpensive and short, anyway.

The writing is very simple, which is not surprising when you're reading old tales; however, at some points it seemed a bit too simplified and made to have a sort of fable-like structure, teachings at the end of the tales and all. Were these stories originally meant to have a teaching in such a plain way? I don't know that, but I know it felt odd to me.

While reading I got a nagging feeling that I had already read these tales and by the time I reached one about a Snow Lady I knew I *had* read this one, so I fetched Lafcadio Hearn's *Kwaidan* and surely enough there was the same tale in a larger version, titled Yuki-Onna. Hearn was born fourteen years before James so maybe their books were published at similar dates. I didn't check the other books I have by Hearn but I think I may find other such similar cases of identical stories. One can't say someone plagiarized someone when writing about folk tales so I won't, but I will say that I find Hearn's writing better and of a more authentic feeling nature.

I wish I had better things to say about this book but I don't. It's simple and basic and I would recommend it to young readers, readers taking a break from heavier books, or people interested but yet unacquainted with Japanese literature.

E says

Quaint easy read. The morals are sometimes hard to determine (if there is one), so I suspect it's cultural. But the stories are short so are good to read a few just before bed. I would have liked greater description or expansion of the stories, they seemed rather truncated and some more length may have helped the flow. I'd also like the names to be consistent, some were translated and others weren't. The stories surely could also be read elsewhere, as they're folk tales.

It gets a 3 because I suspect the translation is probably fine and it's more a nature is the story itself affecting how it comes across. It's not a must read or a loved it, but also not an "avoid this book at all costs" book either.

juan carlos says

Un libro que recopila unas bellas historias del folclore asiático.

¿Para qué leer cuentos japoneses de doncellas?

1. Para suspirar con las historias de amor.
2. Para remarcar valores y principios de vida.
3. Para conocer la concepción de muerte que existe en las tradiciones asiáticas
4. El tema de suicidio, voluntad, respeto y compromisos están muy marcados en cada párrafo.
5. HAY CUENTOS DE CORTE PARANORMAL, MUY INTERESANTES, CON MUCHO DRAMATISMO.

Lo malo que le encontré:

Hay un cuento que no me terminé de convencer :)

Magrat Ajostiernos says

Cuentos cortitos y curiosos, todos fábulas de la mitología japonesa.

Victoria says

"A vosotros, que conocéis el verdadero amor, os suplico que recéis a los dioses para que haga buen tiempo la séptima noche de la séptima luna. En nombre del amor verdadero y de la santa paciencia, suplicad que, durante esa noche, ni lluvia, ni granizo, ni nubes, ni truenos, ni niebla acechante cubran el cielo"

Me encanta el folclore japonés, las historias, leyendas y mitos son mi fascinación, por lo tanto, Cuentos japoneses de doncellas tiene todo lo que un buen libro de cuentos japoneses puede tener; amantes trágicos, prometidos separados al nacer, etc etc etc, si quieren lectura liviana e interesante este pequeño libro cumple totalmente el objetivo ~ me encantó de principio a fin.-
