Fractured Fairy Tale Assignment

"Fee fi fo fum,

Twist the tale to start the fun.

Be it fractured as a spoof,

Readers' laughs will be the proof"



"Fractured fairy tales are traditional fairy tales, rearranged to create new plots with fundamentally different meanings or messages. Fractured fairy tales are closely related to fairy-tale parodies, but the two serve different purposes: parodies mock individual tales and the genre as a whole; fractured fairy tales, with a reforming intent, seek to impart updated social and moral messages."

Your task: take a fairy tale or fable and tell the story from a different perspective. With this assignment, you will have writing liberties, meaning you may change some of the details of the original tale to suit your story — you are the writer, so you are in charge! Have fun with this assignment. Be original and creative.

Choose one or more of the following situations to create your fractured fairy tale:

- 1. Change the setting (time, place, culture)
- 2. Change the point of view ie: rewrite a fairy tale from the antagonist's (villain's) point of view.
- 3. Change the characters
- 4. Write a sequel to an existing fairy tale. What happens after "And they lived happily ever after"?
- 5. Change the theme.
- 6. Rewrite a fairy tale so that the traditional "victim" rescues the traditional "rescuer."
- 7. Write a "hybrid" fairy tale. Combine a couple of characters from differing fairy tales. What would happen if the three little pigs—not the prince—had rescued Snow White or Sleeping Beauty?

Requirements:

- All rewrites must be original works, not copies of other twisted tales
- Your story must contain elements of the original, enough so a reader can make the connection between your story and the one being mimicked.
- Include "common fairy tale elements" in your fractured tale. See handout.
- Only rewrite tales with which you are familiar. If using an obscure tale, please attach a copy of the original.
- Story should include the basic elements of fiction: detailed setting, well developed characters, dialogue, action, and all of the elements of plot.
- Stories should be between 3-4 pages, typed, and double spaced

Bonus Points: Illustrations your story! (+10)

List of possible fairy tales:

Little Red Ridding Hood
Rapunzel
Rumplestilskin
The Three Little Pigs
Gingerbread Man
The Frog Prince
Goldilocks
Beauty and the Beast
The Emperor's New Clothes
Cinderella
Rumplestilskin
Snow White
Hansel and Gretel
Boy Who Cried Wolf
Beauty and the Beast

Jack and the Beanstalk
Chicken Little
Sleeping Beauty
Princess and the Pea
The Tortoise and the Hare
The Golden Goose
Peter Pan

(See links on my webpage for more)

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Original Story

Setting: Where does the story take place? Name & describe the place where your story happens.

Plot/Conflict: What is the good vs. evil struggle in your story?

Characters: Who are your characters? Give them names & write brief descriptions of each one.

Conclusion: How will the story end? Will it be funny, sad, or something else?

Moral or Theme: What is the moral or theme that readers should be able to understand from your story?

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Characteristics of Grimm's Fairy Tales

Fairy tales are stories either created or strongly influenced by oral traditions. Their plots feature stark conflicts between good and evil, with magic and luck determining the usually happy endings. While each culture and geographic region of the world has its own body of folk tales and fairy tales that it considers "its own," certain themes and motifs tend to be repeated across many cultures and time periods. Universal human emotions such as love, hate, courage, kindness, and cruelty appear in bold, broad strokes on the canvas of fairy tales.

Some of the common characteristics of fairy tales are as follows:

Setting:

- · unspecified place
- unspecified time—often set in the past—usually significantly long ago. May be presented as historical fact from the past.

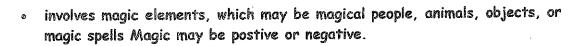
Characters:

- archetypal characters (no specific names)
- often a girl as protagonist
- does NOT need to include fairies
- "flat" characters that never develop, more often
 types than anything else (even when given names e.g., "Cinderella" means
 nothing more than "girl of the cinders")
- typically incorporate clearly defined good characters and evil characters

Plot:

 simple plot—the plot focuses on a problem or conflict that needs to be solved.

- · protagonist leaves home
- extreme conditions (beauty, riches, poverty etc.)

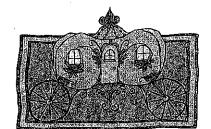


- o may include objects, people, or events in threes (three battles, three tasks)
- hero (or heroine) heroine has bad luck
- hero (or heroine) must perform impossible tasks
- · hero (or heroine) must fight a villain
- hero (or heroine) meets magical helpers
- hero (or heroine) is treated badly
- · hero (or heroine) is in danger
- villain is punished
- hero (or heroine) is rewarded with wealth
- hero (or heroine) is rewarded with a happy marriage
- social mobility (poor characters can marry royalty)
- a transformation, either a physical transformation (e.g., the beast turns into a handsome prince) or a character transformation (e.g., the ugly duckling turns out to have been a swan all along)
- happy ending (order is restored in the end based on the resolution of the conflict or problem)

Theme:

- morality (good vs. bad, good is rewarded and evil is punished)
- encouragement of middle-class social values
- usually teach a lesson or demonstrate values important to the culture





Once upon a time ... Fractured Fairy Tale Assignment

Fractured Fairy Tales Rubric

	Beginning	Developing	Accomplished	Exemplary
	0-1	2	4	5
Originality & Creativity of Fractured Fairy Tale	Student's story is bland, lacks creative thought/ Appears more like a copy of original piece of literature/ Strays from fairy tale genre	Some apparent creative thought/ Still lacks surprise & humor/ Not much different from original piece of literary work.	Very creative rendition, but could still be improved upon/ Development from original work to student's work more apparent	Student's story is very creative/ fits very well with the genre/ strays much from original story making it a novelty.
Understanding of Original Story	Student shows no apparent knowledge/ understanding of original story and did not include many fairy tale elements such as: extremes, magic, setting (cottage, forest, kingdom), good or evil, and moral.	Only vague references to original story/ Still mostly unclear in how the two relate and included only some of the fairy tale elements such as: extremes, magic, setting (cottage, forest, kingdom), good or evil, and moral.	Student shows a clear knowledge/understanding of original story, but could be clearer and included many of the fairy tale elements such as: extremes, magic, setting (cottage, forest, kingdom), good or evil, and moral.	Student shows excellent knowledge/ understanding of original story. Relation between 2 stories is very clear and included all of the fairy tale elements such as: extremes, magic, setting (cottage, forest, kingdom), good or evil, and moral.
Fluidity of the Story	Student's story does not flow well/ jagged transitions of thought/ difficult to read/ appears sloppy. There is no clear beginning, middle, and end.	Student's story still does not flow well/ better transitions/ slightly easier to read/ much improvement needed. The beginning, middle, and end are only somewhat clear.	Students story flows fairly well/ some improvement needed with transitions/ much easier to read/ still slightly sloppy, but much improved. There is a clear beginning, middle, and end.	Student's story flows very well/ excellent transition sentences/ easy to read/ shows diligence in writing process. There is a very clear beginning, middle, and end
Spelling & Grammar	Many grammatical/ spelling errors.		Minimal grammatical/ spelling errors.	There are no grammatical/ spelling errors.