

Based on the classic tale by the Brothers Grimm

Sleeping Beauty

1

Once upon a time a king and a queen had a child, who was very beautiful.

“We will bring everyone together to bless her,” said the king.

And he called for a wonderful party.

Everyone came.

But alas, they left one person off the list. There were twelve fairies in the kingdom. All were invited. But alas, they forgot to invite the thirteenth fairy.

2

All were drinking and laughing, when the evil fairy came in.

“How dare you forget me!” she screamed. “I curse the child. She will grow up, but then she will prick her finger and die.”

So saying, she left the room.

“Oh no she will not,” said the youngest fairy, who had not yet given her blessing. “I cannot undo what she has done. But I can change it. The princess will prick her finger – but not die. She and everyone will fall into a deep sleep, which will last 100 years. And only a kiss will waken her.”

3

The king was angry at what had happened.

“I say to you that from now, no one will ever use a spinning wheel in this castle.”

Years passed. The princess grew up. She was lovely and good. In time everyone forgot the curse.

Sixteen years went by.

One day, however, she was exploring the castle. She found a set of steps up to a tower. She had never been there. She climbed up and knocked on the door.

4

“Come in!”

Inside was an old woman.

“What are you doing?” asked the princess.

“I am spinning. Try for yourself.”

No sooner had the princess come near, but she pricked her finger.

She fell down in a faint. And the old woman flew out, cackling, “At last!”

5

At the very same moment, everyone in the castle fell asleep too. The king, the queen, all the servants - everyone fell into a deep sleep.

A thick forest of thorns grew up all around the castle.

Time went by. The king and his family were forgotten. The castle was forgotten. It was as if they had never existed.

Years went by - one year, two years, ten years - one hundred years.

One day a prince was riding by. He saw the strange forest of thorns.

6

“What is there?” he asked.

“A hidden castle,” said his servant.

“And who is inside?”

“Master, 50 years ago I heard my father say that in this castle lies a princess. She is the most beautiful who ever lived. But she is under a curse. Only a kiss can waken her.”

“Then I must see her,” said the prince.

7

He took his sword, and entered the forest. The thorns parted. He made

his way in.

Inside, he saw people. They looked dead. But no, they were asleep.

He went everywhere. Nowhere could he see the sleeping beauty.

He was just about to give up when he saw steps up to a high tower. He climbed up.

8

Inside was the most beautiful girl he had ever seen. He came near. He knelt down. And he kissed the princess.

Instantly she woke up. There in front of her was a handsome prince.

She fell in love with him on the spot.

9

They came out of the tower and went down in the castle. At that moment all the people woke up too. They rubbed their eyes. They looked around. It had all been a dream. Around the castle, the forest of thorns vanished.

The king and queen were delighted. There was their daughter. And holding her hand was a handsome prince.

10

“My Lord,” he said, kneeling down. “May I marry your daughter?”

“Why of course.”

And so the prince and Sleeping Beauty were married, and lived happily ever after.