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## Fairy Tales for Grown-Ups

### Instructors:



**NANCY CANEPA:** (*Joining us via livestream*)

Professor Canepa did the translation, wrote the introduction & notes for a new edition of Giambattista Basile's, *The Tale of Tales or Entertainment of Little Ones*. Canepa's teaching and research centers on early modern Italy (1550-1700). Dr. Canepa regularly teaches courses in beginning language, & on early modern Italian literature and culture, fairy tales, and translation.



**JACK ZIPES:** (*Joining us via livestream*)

In the latter part of his career Professor Zipes translated two major editions of the tales of the Brothers Grimm and focused on fairy tales, their evolution, & their social and political role in civilizing processes. Zipes's focus on fairy tales has transformed the ways which fairy tales are analyzed. He is known for his works on , how fairy tales evolved, & their social & political significance.



**BIL LEPP:** Bil's humorous tall-tales and stories have earned the appreciation of listeners of all ages and from all walks of life. Though a five time champion of the WV Liars's Contest, Lepp's stories often contain morsels of truth which present universal themes in clever and witty ways.



**JESSICA R. MCCORT:** McCort's scholarship focuses largely on the appropriation of children's literature, particularly Grimm's and Andersen's fairy tales and Lewis Carroll's Alice books. She is also the editor of a compilation of essays concerning the intersection of the horror genre and children's and young adult literature and culture, titled *Reading in the Dark: Horror in Children's Literature and Culture*.



**ALAN IRVINE:** For years, Alan's ghost stories and humorous tales have kept people huddled close to the campfire. In time, his repertoire of stories grew to include folk tales and legends, Irish and Celtic tales, Pennsylvania history, tales of King Arthur and other heroes, Shakespeare and more.



### WVU SCHOOL OF THEATRE AND DANCE:

WVU's BFA course in Puppetry work includes intensive study in children's theatre; the practice of puppetry as a theatrical art form; and educational and creative dramatic activity as methods of learning and self-development for children. Learn more at <http://tiny.cc/WVUPuppetry>.



Winter 2022

# Fairy Tales for Grown-Ups



## What is the People's University?

In keeping with the mission of public libraries as sanctuaries of free learning for all people, the Ohio County Public Library created The People's University, a **free** program for adults who wish to continue their education in the liberal arts. The People's University features courses—taught by experts in each subject—that enable patrons to pursue their goal of life-long learning in classic subjects such as history, philosophy, & literature.



### Library-Sponsored Programs Policy

The purpose of Ohio County Public Library-sponsored programs is to provide education, information, and entertainment for library patrons. The Library reserves the right to exercise sole discretion in selecting and inviting presenters for its programs. In selecting presenters, the Library does not discriminate on account of race, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, political affiliation, religion, ancestry or national origin, and the views expressed by presenters of Library-sponsored programs, or by any person in attendance at the programs, do not necessarily reflect the views of the Library, its staff, and/or its representatives.



**Ohio County Public Library**  
52 16th Street | Wheeling, WV  
[www.ohiocountylibrary.org](http://www.ohiocountylibrary.org)

# The People's University

## Fairy Tales for Grown-Ups

Most of us consider fairy tales to be stories for children, innocent and without real evil or harm. But what's lesser known is that most fairy tales were originally written for adults — and were much more grim and gruesome than those of our childhood.

Many of the fairy tales that are still retold today date back to the 17th century and earlier. Favorites like *Beauty And The Beast* and *Rumpelstiltskin* are at least 4,000 years old. As these tales were passed down from one century to the next, they were often altered to remove some of the more ghastly and frightening elements, making them more appropriate for a younger audience.

However, when we delve back into the fairy tales of our childhood as adults, we can rediscover our heroes and princesses from a different perspective. These often disturbing yet enchanting tales can still yield useful lessons about life for us grown-ups when we take a deeper look at these stories.

All programs in this series are free and open to the public.

**PLEASE NOTE:** *This series is not for children!*

This series is most definitely *Fairy Tales for Grown-Ups* only.



### Class Schedule:

#### CLASS 1: THURSDAY, FEB. 17 — 7PM

### The Tale of Tales

(Italian Fairy Tales—1500-1700)

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Nancy Canepa, Professor of French and Italian at Dartmouth College

**STORYTELLER:** Cheryl Harshman, tale TBD

**MUSIC:** WLU West African Drums and Dancers

#### CLASS 2: THURSDAY, FEB. 24 — 7PM

### Toward a Theory of the Fairy Tale as a Literary Genre

(Brothers Grimm—1780s-1860s)

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Jack Zipes, Professor Emeritus of German, Comparative Literature, & Cultural Studies, University of Minnesota

**STORYTELLER:** Don Feenerty, *Hansel & Gretel*

#### CLASS 3: THURSDAY, MAR. 3 — 7PM

### Appalachian Fairy Tales

(1700s-present)

**INSTRUCTOR:** Bil Lepp, award-winning storyteller, author, recording artist, host of the History Channel's *Man Vs. History* series, & occasional host of WVPR's *Mountain Stage*  
**STORYTELLER:** Bil Lepp, tale TBD

#### CLASS 4: THURSDAY, MAR. 10 — 7PM

### Bringing the Fairy Tale Back to the Horror Realm

(our darkest fairy tales)

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jessica R. McCort, Associate Professor, Director, Composition, Program, Literary Arts, and Social Justice Studies at Point Park University in Pittsburgh  
**STORYTELLER:** To be determined

#### CLASS 5: THURSDAY, MAR. 17 — 7PM

### Celtic Fairy Tales (1100-1800)

**INSTRUCTOR:** Alan Irvine, Pittsburgh-Based Storyteller and Spoken Word Artist

**STORYTELLER:** Alan Irvine, tale TBD

#### CLASS 6: THURSDAY, MAR. 20 — 7PM

### Finale: Aesop's Fables & the Evolution of Fairy Tales (with puppets)

**INSTRUCTORS:** Irene Alby, Professor of Acting and Directing, and Mary McClung, Professor of Costume Design and Puppetry, both from the School of Theatre and Dance at West Virginia University

**STORYTELLER:** WVU School of Theatre and Dance performing *Three Little Pigs* and *Aesop's Fables*.

Each program in this series will feature a campfire along with other special effects. In addition to our normal beverages, hot chocolate will also be available.



**ALL CLASSES ARE HELD IN THE LIBRARY AUDITORIUM & BROADCAST LIVE ONLINE ON**



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