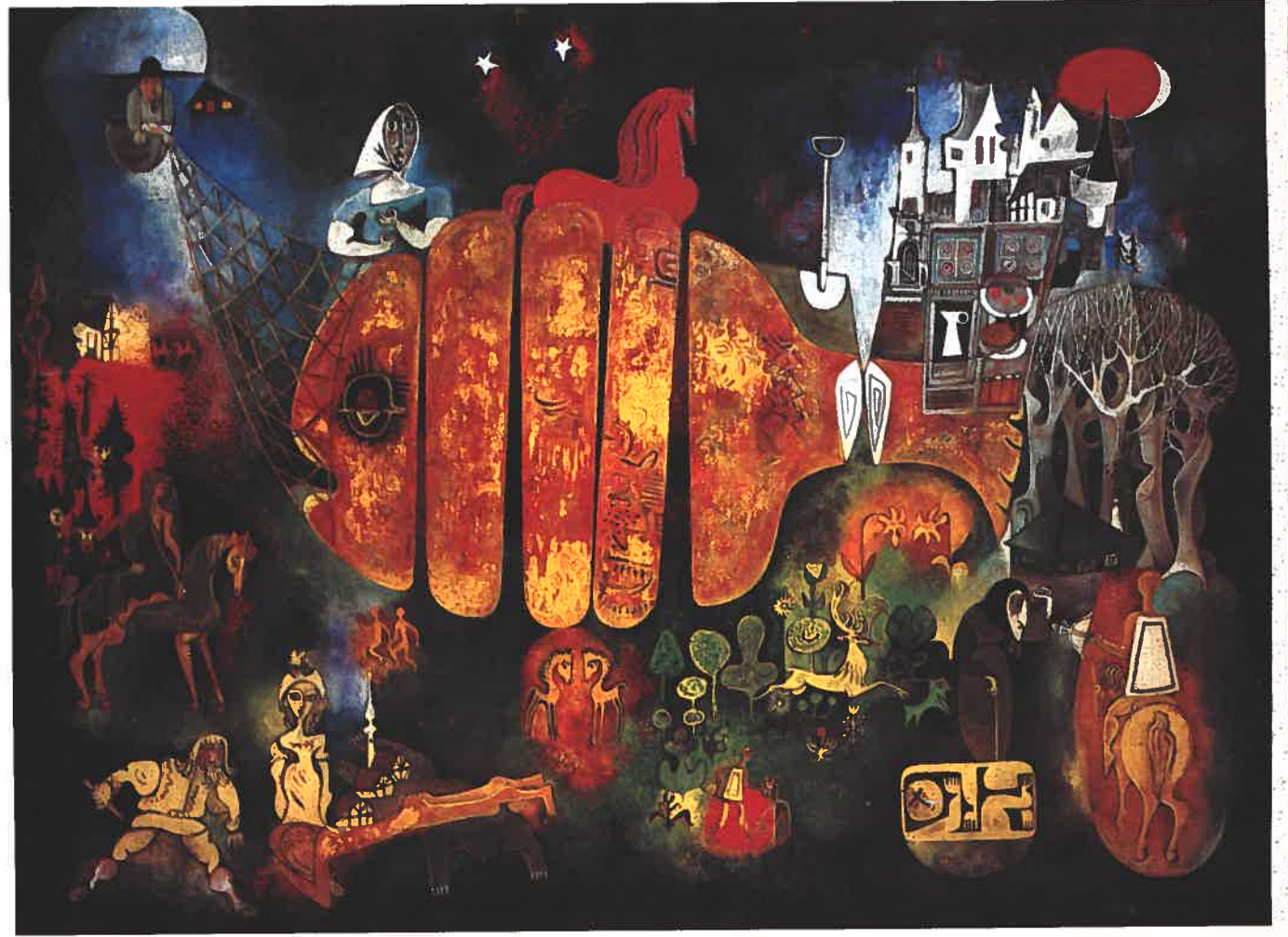


GRIMM'S FAIRY STORIES AT A GLANCE

THE GOLD CHILDREN

Once upon a time a magical fish was caught by a poor fisherman. In return for its release it changed his wretched hovel into a magnificent palace, with a cupboard forever full of delicious foods: but with the proviso that the secret of the donor must be kept. But alas, the fisherman revealed the source of his great good fortune to his wife and all vanished, leaving him as poor as before. When all this had happened twice more, the fish asked to be cut into six pieces; two were given to the wife to eat, two, buried in the ground, turned into golden lilies, and two, fed to the horse, became golden foals. The wife bore two gold children, who set off on the gold steeds, the lilies remaining as emblems of their weal or woe. One soon returned; the other, concealed in a bearskin, after wedding a lovely maiden, was turned to stone by a witch in pursuit of a stag. At once the lily gave news of his fate by drooping, and his brother rode forth to rescue him. Then the gold children returned, one to his bride, the other to his father, and lived happy ever after.



CINDERELLA

After the death of his wife a merchant married a woman with two fair but evil daughters. The child of the first marriage was set to do all the work and to sleep among the ashes: thus she was called Cinderella. Daily she watered her mother's grave with tears, until a hazel twig her father had given her that she had planted there grew into a fine tree. One day the king gave a grand ball. The stepsisters dressed and set off, but Cinderella was told that unless she could sort out a dish of lentils from the ashes she must stay at home. Although the birds of the air helped her accomplish this task, she was left behind weeping. But the white bird from the hazel tree brought her a lovely dress, and Cinderella sped to the ball where she at once won the prince's heart. Fleeing home, she dropped her slipper, and the prince vowed he would wed the maid who owned it. One stepsister cut off her toe, the other her heel to make it fit: but the birds sang out the truth and pointed out the drops of blood to the prince, leading him at last to his true bride, Cinderella.

Each of our pictures illustrates all the salient features of eight of those parables of the inner life of man and his search for truth and virtue which we call fairy stories. Psychologists, anthropologists, and philosophers analyse and dissect them, wrangle over their "inner meaning": children simply enjoy them, and thereby get nearer

the heart of the matter than all the wise men. The artist who painted the originals of our illustrations is RICHARD ENGELS. They are in egg tempera, measure about four feet by three, and are on permanent exhibition at the Community Centre, built by Alvar Aalto, at Wolfsburg in Lower Saxony, West Germany.



RAPUNZEL

A poor man's wife at last found she was to have a child. One day she so craved some wild garlic (*rapunzel*) growing in a garden that her husband climbed the wall and stole some for her. Alas, he was caught by the witch who owned the garden, and she demanded the unborn child as the price of the theft. The child, claimed at birth by the witch, was called Rapunzel. When she was 12 years old she was immured in a tower without stairs or door, her golden hair being so long that the witch could climb up it to pay her visits. One day the king's son heard Rapunzel singing and saw the witch climbing the braids of hair. The next day he himself climbed up to the maiden, they fell in love, and planned to escape together. The plot was discovered by the witch, who, furious, cut off Rapunzel's hair and banished her to a desert. The prince, desperate, leaped from the tower and was blinded by thorns. Many years later the lovers were reunited, two tears from Rapunzel's eyes restored the prince's sight, and they lived together happily.

IRON HANS

At the bottom of a pool in an enchanted forest was a wild, hairy man. The king of the country caught and caged him, but the prince released him in return for a golden ball which had rolled into the cage. The wild man took the child back into the forest and set him to guard a magic well which turned all to gold. The prince thrice failed in this trust, and his own hair was turned to gold by the magic waters. Then the wild man banished him, but promised that the call of "Iron Hans" would summon his aid. The disguised prince took work as a servant in a castle: but war came and the land was in peril. Then he called on Iron Hans for steed, armour, and men, and with them he routed the enemy. After the battle the king and princess of this country sought their saviour who, disguised in armour from Iron Hans, caught an apple thrown by the princess; and his golden hair revealed him as the hero. Iron Hans came to his wedding, a great king at last freed from the enchantment which had kept him for so long a wild man.



BRIAR-ROSE

A king and queen had long desired a child: at last a frog foretold that a daughter would be born. The christening was attended by 12 wise women with magic gifts; but the 13th wise woman, who had not been invited because there were but 12 golden plates, angrily decreed that in her 15th year the princess would prick her finger on a spindle and die. The 12th wise woman, whose gift yet remained, softened the sentence to a sleep of 100 years. All spindles were burned, but one was overlooked in a remote turret in the castle, and on her 15th birthday the princess pricked herself on it. At once she and all the inmates of the castle fell into a deep sleep: and there grew up a hedge of thorns round and all over the castle, so thick that many were caught in it and died. But after 100 years came a prince, and for him the thorns became roses, and the hedge parted to let him pass. He entered the castle and found Briar-Rose in the tower, and with a kiss he awakened her and all the court and castle, and they were married and lived happy ever after.



MOTHER HOLLE

A widow had a idle daughter, whom she loved, and a pretty and industrious step-daughter whom she made do all the work. One day the stepdaughter lost her shuttle down a well, and jumped in after it. She found herself in a wonderful land, where she saw an oven full of bread which asked to be taken out, as it was baked—so she did; and an apple tree which asked to be shaken, as the apples were ripe—so she did. She came to Mother Holle's house, and she entered her service and worked well for her, shaking her bed to make the feathers fly and send snow to the earth. After some time she begged to return home, and Mother Holle sent her a shower of gold for her goodness. When the idle daughter saw this she coveted such wealth, and went down the well herself. But she ignored the appeals of both oven and tree, neglected to shake Mother Holle's bed, and proved but a lazy servant. And when she left, Mother Holle sent her a shower of pitch, not of gold. And the cock which lived on the well saw all these things, and crowed and crowed.

FAIRY STORIES *continued*

THE GOOSE GIRL

Long years ago a young princess was to be wed to a prince in a far country: so she set forth with her dowry and waiting-maid upon a talking horse called Falada. She had a kerchief with three drops of her mother's blood to keep her from harm, but she dropped it while drinking from a stream. Then the evil waiting-maid exchanged horses and apparel with the true princess, swearing her to silence with threats, and presented herself as the bride while the true princess became a goose girl. Falada was killed lest he betray the plot, and his head hung on the town gate, where the goose girl talked to it daily. The goose herd spied these visits, and also the princess's golden hair, and told the king. When questioned, the princess would not break her vow of silence, so the king bade her tell her woes to the iron stove—which she did, while the king listened, concealed. Then she was restored to her rightful place, and the false princess was put in a barrel studded with nails and dragged by horses through the streets of the town until she was dead.

HANSEL AND GRETEL

A woodcutter and his wife were so poor they could scarcely feed their children, so they determined to take them into a wood and lose them. But the boy, Hansel, left a trail of white pebbles to guide them home. A second time the poor parents led the children into the forest, and this time Hansel's trail was of crumbs, which the birds ate. Hansel and Gretel were lost. After two days, hungry and weary, they were led by a white bird to a house made of sugar and cakes. They nibbled away at it until a witch emerged, enticed them within, locked up Hansel and put Gretel to work. Each day the witch felt Hansel's finger to see if he was yet fat enough to eat: but he stretched out a twig instead to deceive her. After a month she decided to eat Hansel, fat or thin, and bade Gretel boil water in a cauldron and heat up the oven. When it was hot, quick, quick, Gretel pushed the witch herself in and freed her brother. And a white duck led the children home again safely through the forest, their pockets filled with jewels from the witch's house.

