

THE FAIRY TALES BY Hans Christian Andersen THE UGLY DUCKLING It was lovely summer weather in the country, the green oats, and the haystacks piled up in the meadows looked like the stork walking about in the country. In a sunny spot stood a pleasant old farmhouse close by a d...
The Egyptian language, which he had learnt from his mother. The corn-fields and meadows were surrounded by forest, in the midst of which were deep pools. The spot was as wild as the centre of a thick wood. In this snug retreat sat a duck on her nest, watching for her young broo...
up river, and from the house down to the water side grew great burdock leaves, so high, that under the tallest of them a little child could stand upright. The other ducks liked much better to swim about in the river than to climb the slippery banks, and sit under a burdock leaf, t...
to hatch; she was beginning to get tired of her task, for the little ones were a long time coming out of their shells, and she seldom had any visitors. The other ducks liked much better to swim about in the river than to climb the slippery banks, and sit under a burdock leaf, t...
to have a gossip with her. At l... side at the large green leaves...
Do you imagine this is the whole wor... still, I wonder how long this is to last, all the others, are they not the prettiest lit...
y's egg. I was persuaded to hatch some on that is a turkey's egg; take my advice, lea...
uck, and she went away. At last the lar... We shall soon find it out, however w...
d down to the water, and jumped in...
gs paddling under them as easil... and he is not so v...
rodden upon; and, said th...
ay of the world," said th...
hest born of them all, and has Sp...ish blood, therefore, she is well off. Don't you see she has a red flag tied to her le...
and beast. Come, now, don't turn your toes, a well-bred duckling spreads his feet wide apart, just like his father and mothe...
comes another brood, as if there were not enough of us already! and what a queer looking object one of them is; we don't wa...
he is so big and ugly," said the spiteful duck "and therefore he must be turned out." "The others are very pretty children," said the...
e," replied the mother; "he is not pretty; but he has a very good disposition, and swims as well or even better than the others. I think...
erly formed;" and then she stroked his neck and smoothed the feathers, saying, "It is a drake, and therefore not of so much conse...
h," said the old duck. "Now make yourself at home, and if you can find an eel's head, you can bring it to me." And so they made the...
as bitten and pushed and made fun of, not only by the ducks, but by all the poultry. "He is too big," they all said, and the turkey co...
ut like a vessel in full sail, and flew at the duckling, and became quite red in the head with passion, so that the poor little thing did...
So it went on from day to day till it got worse and worse. The poor duckling was driven about by every one, even his brother...
shed he had never been born. The ducks pecked him, the chicken... beat him, and the girl who fed the poultry kicked him w...
am ugly," he said. So he closed his eyes, and flew still farther, u... till he came out on a large moor, inhabited by wild...
at their new comrade. "What sort of a duck are you?" they all said, coming round him. He bowed to them, and w...
r if you do not want to marry one of our family." Poor thing! he had no thoughts of marriage; all he wanted was perm...
ion, or, rather gossling, for they had not been out of the egg long, and were very saucy. "Listen, friend," said one of them to the duckling, "you a...
hich here are some pretty wild geese, all unmarried; it is a chance for you to get a wife; you may be lucky, ugly as you are." "Pop, pop," soun...
ood. "Pop, pop," echoed far and wide in the distance, and whole flocks of wild geese rose up from the rushes. "The sound continued from every...
ed on branches of trees, overlooking the rushes. The blue smoke from the guns rose like clouds over the dark trees, and as it floated...
ushes, which bent beneath them wherever they went. How they terrified the poor duckling! He turned away his head to hide it from...
ducks, "how thankful I am for being so ugly; even a dog will not bite me." And so he lay quite still, while the shot rattled through the rushes, and then after gun was fired over him. I...
he poor young thing did not dare to move. He waited quietly for several hours, and then, after looking carefully around him, hastened away from the moor as fast as he could. He ran...
he could hardly struggle against it. Towards evening, he reached a poor little cottage that seemed ready to fall, and only remained standing because it could not decide on which side to...
violent, that the duckling could go no farther; he sat down by the cottage, and then he noticed that the door was not quite closed in conse...
he bottom large enough for him to slip through, which he did v... quietly, and got a shelter for the night. A woman, a tom cat, and a hen...
e; he could raise his back, and purr, and could even throw out sparks from his fur if it were stroked the wrong way. The hen had very short legs, so she was called "Chickie short legs." She laid good eggs, and...
e had been her own child. In the morning, the strange visitor was discovered, and the tom cat began to purr, and the hen to cluck. "What is that noise about?" said the old woman, looking round the room, but her...
efore, when she saw the duckling she thought it must be a fat duck, that had strayed from home. "Oh what a prize!" she...
g was allowed to remain on trial for three weeks, but there were no eggs. Now the tom cat was the master o...
ves to be half the world, and the better half too. The duckling thought that others might hold a differe...
"Then have the goodness to hold your tongue." "Can you raise your back, or purr, or throw out...
people are speaking." So the duckling sat in a corner, feeling very low spirited, till the sunshin...
eel such a great longing for a swim on the water, that he could not help telling the hen. "Wh...
oolish fancies. If you could purr or lay eggs, they would pass away." "But it is so delight...
our head, while you dive down to the bottom." "Delightful, indeed!" said the hen, "why...
ke to swim about on the water, or to dive under it, for I will not speak of my own opini...
you think she would like to swim, or to let the water close over her head?" "You do...
e clever than the cat, or the old woman? I will say nothing of my self. Don't ima...
rom which you may learn something. But you are a chatterer, and you companion...
therefore, to lay eggs, and learn to purr as quickly as possible." "I believe I mus...
dive, but was avoided by all other animals, because of its ugly appearance." "I believe I mus...
r. The clouds, heavy with hail and snow-flakes, hung low in the sky, and the ra...
he sun set amid radiant clouds, there came a large flock of beautiful birds o...
ing whiteness. They uttered a singular cry, as they spread their glorious wing...
sation as he watched them. He whirled himself in the water like a wheel, str...
his sight, he dived under the water, and rose again almost beside himself...
e beautiful creatures, but wished to be as lovely as they. Poor ugly creatur...
om freezing, but every night the space on which he swam became smaller p...
p. He became exhausted at last, and lay still and helpless, frozen fast in th...
warmth revived the poor little creature; but when the children wanted to p...
man clapped her hands, which frightened him still more. He flew first into...
and tumbled over each other, in their efforts to catch him; but luckily he...
were I to relate all the misery and privations which the poor little ducklin...
sing, and saw that all around was beauti... ful spring. Then the appl...
efore he well knew how it had happen... ed. The appl...
freshness of early spring. Fro... y to those r...
ely unhappy than ever. "I will fl...
aten by the hens, pus...
stranger, they...
ream bel...
hat u...
ched fr...
ow? ...
nd t...
is ...
n they...
amed be...
e most...
w th...
clo d...
h ...
im ...
e ...
th ...
m ...
e ...
h ...
a suit...
to ...
d ...
n ...
as ...
hf ...
ble t...
off ...
ir ...
pe ...
r, he ...
to ...
eth ...
ked ...
not be...
do ...
sai ...
not ...
the ...
tors ...
vely to their w...
y to complete...
ce as b...
d ...
the lo...
d th...
aking the sa...
were not there. "I c...
that I am not fi...
about it...
th colors...
No, th...
at ...
g to work...
es. "This patter...
id the imp...
t ...
ent...
cess...
dil...
igen...
d the lo...
d th...
he same ti...
m s which...
must be...
hing...
o ...
th colors...
w h...
o, as s...
tha n...
two offi...
us works!...
of workmen...
e an Emperor?...
e most graciously, a...
nd looke...
The E...
his retinue now s...
ed, "Oh, how bea...
utful...
oaching procession...
mper...
r shared in the ge...
their...
button...
-holes, and the title of...
to t...
a ke pla...
ce, and had sixteen lights burning, so that everyone might see how a...
s; cut the...
air with their s...
cissors; and sewed...
with needles without an...
y threa...
d in them. "See!" cried they...
with all the gr...
andees of his court, came to the we...
avers; and the r...
ogues raised their...
ght as a cobweb; one mi...
ght fancy one has nothi...
hing of this exquis...
ingly unde...
n his ne...
w c...
our Majesty, in the proce...
n the proce...
our Majesty's train felt about on the ground, as if they were lifting up...
eans b...
eray anything like simplicity, or unfitness for th...
eir office. So now the Emperor walked under his high canopy in the m...
e at the w...
indows, cried out, "Oh! How beautiful are our...
Emperor's new clothes! What a magnificent train there is to the ma...
h-admired c...
lothes; because, in doing so, he would hav...
e declared himself either a simpleton or unfit for his office. Cer...
bly ones. "But t...
he Emperor ha...
s nothing at...
all on!" said a little child. "Listen to the voice of innocence...
the people. The Emperor was vexed, for he knew that t...
though, in reality, there was no train to hold. The SW...
rather cool of him to say to the Emperor's daug...
n every five years, and even t...
hen bore...
Prince had a nightingale, and they were accord...
ingly put...
n she saw...
ow prett...
ad she. "s...
so deligh...
ighbor...
!"...
ny is...
ere h...
e, gone!"...
se. Now...
er. "Why...
first. "W...
l!" said m...
e Princess. "Ask him if he will have ten kisses from the ladi...
es of my...
do you all stand before me that no one may see us." And the cour...
t-ladies placed themselves in front of her, and spread out their...
t the same time pointing to the empty fr...
ave never thought so myself; and no one must know it now if I am so...
either. I will never confess that I could not see the stuff." "Well, Sir Ministe...
ay whether the stuff pleases you." "Oh, it is excellent!" replied the old minister...
colors, yes, I will tell the Emperor without delay, how very beautiful I think them." "We...
and then they named the different colors and described the pattern of the pretended stuff...
or...
ds, in order that he might repeat them to the Emperor; and then the knaves asked for more silk...
they had begun. However, they put all that was given them into their knapsacks; and continued t...
under their empty looms. The Emperor now sent another officer of his court to see how the men were...
ertain whether the cloth would soon be ready. It was just the same with this gentleman as with the minis...
s on all sides, but could see nothing at all but the empty frames. "Does not the stuff appear as beautiful to y...
nister?" asked...
the impostors of the Emperor's second ambassa...
as before, and talking of the design and c...
ainly am not stupid!" thought the messen...
ry odd; however, no one shall know an...
d declared that he was delighted with...
sovereign when he returned, "the cl...
e city was talking of the splendi...
he Emperor himself wished to se...
ber of officers of the court, amo...
went to the crafty impostors, ...
nt on working more diligently...
absolutely magnificent?" sa...
splendid design! What glori...
uld see this exquisite piece...
simpleton, or am I unfit to b...
robation." And he smiled...
urt had praised so much...
nevertheless, they all exc...
nd material, for the appr...
one was uncommonly gay...
knighthood, to be worn in...
which the procession was...
to roll the cloth off the loom...
ady!" And now the Emper...
ajesty's trousers! Here is the...
ever, is the great virtue of t...
sty will be graciously pleased to t...
him in his new suit; the Emperor tu...
ed out. "What a design! What colors!...
master of the ceremonies. "I am quite re...
ar to be examining his handsome suit. The...
o be carrying something; for they would by no...
of his capital; and all the people standing by, and th...
short, no one would allow that he could not see these i...
muc...
nvis...
said was whispered from one to another. "But h...
must go on now! And the lords of the bedcha...
gdom. His kingdom was very small, but sti...
his name was renowned far and wide;...
where the Prince's father lay buried...
It smelt so sweet that all cares...
as though all sweet melod...
he Emperor had them...
r hands for joy."...
han pretty...
in th...
e other casket, before we get in...
of her. "Superbe! Charmant!" exclai...
belonged to our blessed Empress," said...
brance. "I will still hope that it is not a real bir...
efused to see the Prince. However, he was not to b...
said he. "Can I have employment at the palace?"...
He had a dirty little room close by the pigsty; and there he sat th...
nkled in the most charming manner, and played the old melody. "A...
ke of the kitchen-pot, immediately smelt all the dishes that were co...
the tu...
ne, she stood quite still, and seemed pleased; for she could...
ly have been well educated! Go in and ask him the price of the ins...
ten kis...
ses from the Princess," said the swineherd. "Yes, indeed!"...
e, the bel...
is tinkled so prettily "Ach! du lieber Augustin, Alles ist w...
e Princes...
s, or I keep the kitchen-pot myself." "That must not be dresses-...
the swine herd got ten kisses, and the Princess-th