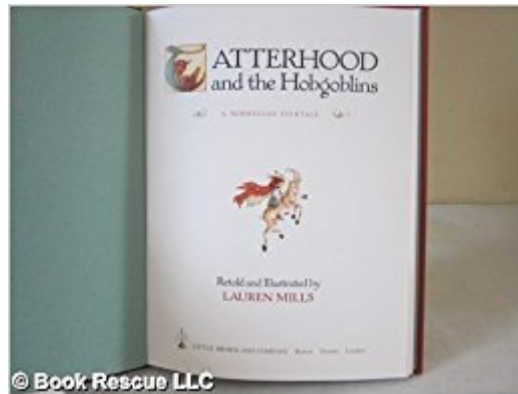




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Tatterhood And The Hobgoblins: A Norwegian Folktale



Synopsis

A retelling of a Norwegian folktale follows Tatterhood, the wild and strange twin sister of sweet and perfect princess Isabella, as she attempts to break a spell placed on her sibling.

Book Information

Age Range: 6 and up

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Little Brown & Co; 1st ed edition (April 1993)

Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Grade 1-3-- Attractive, softly colored illustrations decorate and enhance this competent retelling. Common folkloric elements, such as an unhappy childless queen, unheeded advice, and magical transformations, are eventually capped by the expected happily-ever-after ending. The unexpected aspect here is the active role taken by its hoydenish heroine. The elder of twins magically born to the previously barren queen, Tatterhood, dresses in rags and rides upon a goat. Yet it is she who sets out to restore her sister, Isabella, to health when vengeful hobgoblins steal her head and replace it with the head of a calf. Tatterhood successfully vanquishes the hobgoblins and the two sisters then enjoy three more years of unspecified adventures, finally meeting a handsome king and his brother. This precipitates the happy ending of a double wedding and a triumphant journey home. The text flows smoothly, retaining enough of the original language to convey the flavor of the tale, but Mills changes some details to make the story more accessible to modern readers. The appealing illustrations are slightly reminiscent of Michael Hague's work and suit the exotic charm of the unusual story well. The cover illustration is particularly attractive and, along with the feisty heroine, should ensure that the book finds an enthusiastic audience. --Lisa Dennis, The Carnegie Library of PittsburghCopyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Not the English ``Tattercoats'' (a Cinderella variant) but a long tale, from Asbjornsen and Moe, about twin sisters--pretty Isabella and feisty, independent Tatterhood--born after the queen eats not only the flower she's told will bring her a baby, but also the weed growing beside it. Hobgoblins catch the queen eating the weed and demand Tatterhood on her 12th birthday as recompense; but when the time comes, the lass mounts a goat and chases the hobgoblins away with a wooden spoon. Still, they manage to enchant Isabella, so the sisters set out on a long voyage/adventure during which the hobgoblins are defeated, Isabella marries a king, and Tatterhood finds a prince who values her assertiveness and wild ways. Mills's retelling is lively with incident; her paintings, formally framed in white margins, owe a great deal to Rackham--subdued amber-drenched palette, appealingly fey characters (especially the goblins), etc.--but without Rackham's powerful drafting and design; still, they incorporate many amusing details. An attractive presentation of an entertaining, little-known tale that could be a folkloric precursor of Pippi Longstocking. (Folklore/Picture book. 5-10) -- Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

A wonderful telling of the fairy tale with some unique touches. The artwork is exceptional. Perfect for anyone looking for a story with a strong heroine.

Beautiful book. Illustrations are beautiful and plentiful. Paper is glossy and sturdy. Can be read in one sitting. Lovely story. Retold well.

It started out promising, but it still ended in a marriage. Why must it be about getting married?!

Nice story. I love all my books by Lauren Mills. They take you to a magical fairy land . My daughter loves them too.

A beautiful little book for girls who know that being pretty and quiet doesn't always mean you're the hero. The illustrations are not overly colourful, but very detailed and lovely. The story is heartening and sweet, a lovely tale of the girl who chooses not to fit the mold but still comes out on top. I loved it when I was 5, I love it still as an adult.

The seller was clear about the state of the book. It arrived in good time. I am satisfied! And it is a beautiful fairy tale, for children and adults.

another great story by Mills!

I grew up reading this book, and it is one of my all time favorite books. I have always loved to read, and this was really one of the first things I could get my hands on. The pictures are so amazing and the story isn't one of those watered down Disney retelling, it's the real deal. Tatterhood is independent and crazy and shows that that is a good thing, and she's also brave and clever. The illustrations in Tatterhood are one of the best things about it. My copy was ruined in a flood, but I found a copy in the used book store and promptly bought it, I'm way too old to be reading children's stories without a kid to read them to, but Tatterhood is my weakness. Fairy Wings is another amazing book by these authors; and it has the same beautiful pictures that initially drew me in when I was little.

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