

So Many Fairies

All Story Descriptions by Season

There are so many magical beings in the world: stone beings, air fairies, wood elves, fire sprites. Most of us cannot see or hear them, but sometimes — especially when we are very young — we can. Each week in So Many Fairies, children will enter the magic of the natural world, encounter fairy folk, and meet questions of ecology and sustainability with their imaginations.



Autumn Season:

This is a collection of 13 autumn stories, for the 13 weeks of autumn.

The Girl of the Hazel Tree

Rosa could have anything she wanted: nice dresses, precious toys, and well-bred pets. But all she really wants is to spend time with the hazel tree elf named Corrilus — and he with her. When she gets old enough to attend the local dances, her father tells her to turn her back on the fairy world and meet young men and women her age. Reluctantly she goes — but is amazed to find a handsome young stranger there who looks very familiar. Could it be her adored tree elf in a man's form?

Avis the Watchful Yellow Jacket

Yellow jackets love people. They build their houses as close to people as they can. The older yellow jackets have learned from their fairy friends not to get too close to people, but Avis, a young wasp, can't understand why. When a kind air fairy takes him on a journey of discovery, Avis learns how to get close to people without getting too close.

The Tree That Surprised the Wind

A maple tree elf has had enough. He is tired of the wind coming every year and knocking down his beautiful golden leaves. So he devises a plan: this year his tree will surprise the wind and shake of its own accord. He smiles to think of teaching the wind a lesson, but in the end it is he who learns the lesson that one must not meddle with the nature of the wind.

The Fairy Book

A librarian gives a young lover of books an adventure story. She takes it home and hops on her bed to read about a brave knight appointed to find the seven missing jewels of the seven fairy kingdoms. That night she dreams that she alone can find the jewels using the most powerful tool she has — a book. But when she wakes and reads the ending of the story, she wonders if it was a dream at all.

The Hearth Stone House Hob

Haard, the house fairy of a very old cottage, has a problem. For centuries he and the people who lived in the cottage worked together to tend the house and the gardens that surround it. But now a woman is moving into the old cottage who cannot see, hear or even feel his presence. How can he communicate with her? He must figure this out soon, for the woman and her husband have big plans for the cottage — plans that will certainly disrupt the fairy world that lives there.

Quincy and the Golden Gourd

Kalebas, the golden gourd fairy, has been looking for just the right place to plant a magical autumn gourd seed. He waits and waits until he sees a boy named Quincy who appreciates small, unnoticed things. Quincy has learned many skills, as the youngest of seven children. But he is about to learn some deeply important skills from a new friend - Kalebas!

The Fairyman and the Grumpy Granite Gnome

Eibhir is grumpy. She is a granite gnome who has lost her beautiful granite boulder. It was taken away years ago when a new house was being built, and she has been living in the basement of the house, feeling grumpy, every since. Her grumpiness pervades the house and has affected those that have lived there — for generations. That is, until a new family moves in changes everything. They have the ability sense the source of the grumpiness, and so, bring in a sensitive “fairy man,” to help them all learn to live together in peace.

The Lantern Prince

The Prince is not like his parents. In fact, he is not like any royal. In addition to being strong, obedient, and confident — common royal traits — he is also very kind and loving. But what makes the Prince unusual is that he is kind and loving to everyone, royal and servant alike. The King and Queen hope that he will grow out of it, but alas — as he grows he only gets more loving and kind. One day he spies a poor beggar woman in the streets, and his life is never the same again.

The Sword in the Stump

Madeleine loves King Arthur. And she loves to lead her neighborhood friends in a game of Knights of the Round Table, with pretend quests and battles throughout the adjoining back yards. But her favorite part of the game is when she goes to “ask advice of Merlin”, and she stands still and silent next to a tree or behind a garden shed. She enjoys the peaceful feeling that always comes with the moment of silence. One day she is surprised to actually hear an answer! Could it be Merlin?

A New School of Fish

Finnie is a blue striped grunt fish who wants to be noticed. He tries moving against the flow and eating different food — but he doesn't get what he wants: the attention of his school. One day, when he tests the limits and yells “Shark!” for fun, he gets what he wants, but it has very challenging consequences. How can Finnie learn to use his gifts - for good?

The Bodger's Apprentice

A long time ago, when a boy turned 10, it was time to choose an apprenticeship in a specific trade. But when James turns 10, he is at a loss. He does not like his father's trade — smithing — nor does he like most trades. In fact, the boy does not like to work at all. His father eventually suggests he approach the Bodger for work. The Bodger? What is a Bodger? The boy follows a path into the woods to find out that the Bodger has much to teach him about work, about attention and about life.

The Rag Maiden

There is an unusual tradition in a small northern town. The morning after the longest night of the year, one household wakes to find a gift at their front door. It is always the same gift: a beautiful and unique hand-woven carpet. What makes the carpet more magical is this: it is always warm. Even when the rest of the room is cold, the carpet remains warm. Over the years, many families have received one. Some have two and some have three. But Katri's family, for reasons no one can understand, has none. But Katri thinks she might know where the carpets come from and decides to find out.

Light in the Wilderness

Star is a house-cat with a wild side. And one day in the middle of a snowstorm, Star's wildness gets him lost in the forest. Luckily, a dedicated fairy who loves Star engages the natural world to help him find his way back home.

Winter Season:



This is a collection of 13 winter stories, for the 13 weeks of winter.

The Brownie and the Lost Squirrel

In a sudden and dramatic snow storm, an old squirrel loses his way. Luckily a forest fairy, or "brownie," has been watching over the squirrel since he was a kit.

The helpful brownie gains the support of an air fairy, a water nymph, and a fire sprite to help the squirrel back to his cozy nest and family.

The Paper Birch Council

In many forests, there is a "Paper Birch Council" made of very old and very wise paper birch trees and their tree elves. They serve to keep the forest and the fairy world informed. Few people know of this council, but one person who does is Miss Hadley, a school teacher. She understands the powerful abilities of the birch and their devoted elves; and when she has an important message, she takes her three young students on a hike to the Paper Birch Council to deliver it.

Ilsa and the Mountain Gnome

Ilsa, the dreamy girl from a small mountain-valley village, loses her way and ends up on top of a mountain. There she meets Crisp, the mountaintop gnome who is surprised to find that Ilsa can see him. She offers a gift to Crisp and he, in turn, gives her a gift that opens a door to her future.

Benno and the Water Nymph

A poor farm family sails across the sea to seek a new life of possibility. When they finally arrive, they see that the land is parched and there is no water in sight. But Benno, the farm boy, smells something familiar — it is the smell of the hillside spring near their old home. What he doesn't know is that the water nymph from that spring has followed them ... and is ready to help.

Luck and the Blue Jay

Ripley is a bold bluejay with quite a temper. For the past few years he has developed a reputation for his temper, and consequently, other birds have begun to avoid him. A host of fairies teach Ripley about finding inner peace and calm using the help of, well, something very surprising!

The Source of Snow

Snow has a particular and powerful magic in the fairy world. Did you know the unique shapes of snow crystals have a wondrous connection to the wishes and dreams of children? Let this story tell you how.

The Magic Birthday Candles

Sarah Jane's friends love all her fancy toys and her big playroom, but she would rather play "Hide-and-Seek" or "Explorers" or tag — and not cars or dolls. On her sixth birthday, surrounded by her friends, she makes a birthday wish that inspires a certain fire fairy to create some unique birthday magic for the whole party.

The Bakery Crystals

Delia's bakery does a fine business selling beautiful cakes and pastries to the many visitors to her town. Her customers agree, however, that everything sold there has a faint taste of sadness and longing. But one day, the old stone hearth is lit, waking the joyful fire sprite sleeping inside, and Delia's world changes. This is a story of grieving and the magic that comes with letting go.

Luck of the Maple Candy

Leibli, the sugar maple elf, has been delivering sweet maple sap to the Morrison family for generations. Every year Mr. and Mrs. Morrison snowshoe down to the "sugarbush" to tap the trees and boil syrup in their sugar shack. One year, however, only Mr. Morrison comes. Leibli knows that it's a good time to offer him a little extra sweetness.

The Ladybugs in the Window

The little house by the lake has been in the same family for generations. Much has changed inside: indoor plumbing, insulation, a new heating system. The home has been completely modernized with one exception: one of the windows, the south facing bedroom window, has not been changed. The old man

who owns the house has never replaced the window for one reason: the ladybugs — or rather — the ladybug fairies!

Fairy Feathers

Anna loves the garden and the woods because that is where her best friends live — the fairies. But school is a different matter. In school she feels alone and out-of-place. That is, until she has a remarkable dream about fairy feathers and the little itchy bumps can come when the feathers fall out. Anna wakes with a case of the chicken pox, and a new sense of herself at school.

The Gift of the Echo Fairy

Caldor and his son Dag are on a mission. They've gone in search of Echo Canyon and the wise man that lives there. It is said he can answer any question - and the travelers have one that may affect the future of their village. It is a long journey, and eventually they find the canyon and call out their question. But the wise man is not a man at all, and the answer they receive both surprises and delights them.

Malkia and the Fairy Woman

Malkia's father is a famous astronomer. One day, he gathers his daughters and tells them about his discovery. A new star has been found — one that could lead them to the Golden Palace, a magical place where all wishes are granted that is considered by most to be a myth. His two oldest daughters use their study and charts to try and find their way — and both girls end up lost. But Malkia, his youngest daughter, uses her love of the world, the sun, and the stars to reach the Fairy Woman, the only one who can help her find the way.



Spring Season:

This is a collection of 13 spring stories, for the 13 weeks of spring.

The House Hob of Apartment #3C

Bing, the house fairy of apartment #3C, is lonely. He wants more voices, more conversation, more relationship. But the man who lives there is perfectly happy with things as they are. That is, except for the noisy pigeon that has roosted on the air conditioner in his bedroom window. Bing sees an opportunity and begins to encourage a relationship that will change the man and the pigeon's lives forever.

The Purple Crocus Fairy

Spilky, the purple crocus fairy, is in a hurry. He wants his crocus bulb to bloom before all the others. But in his haste, he makes a big mistake — a mistake that teaches him a lesson about patience and the value of slowing down.

Old Man Hickory

Old Man Hickory Elf likes things orderly and efficient. This worked well when his Hickory tree was part of a working farm. But that was long ago, and the farm is now gone and has been replaced by forest. The forest fairies and creatures struggle to follow his rules and demands, as he is quite the task-master. But one day, the playful antics of two young chipmunks turn things quite upside down.

The Spring Brook

Charles has moved, yet again, to a new house. He left a house he loved and friends he adored. Charles is sad. What will he do in this new place in the woods? But as he explores his new yard, he notices a spring brook, and he has an idea. He wishes to build a dam. The spring brook fairy, however, has other plans, and in their struggle, they create an unexpected friendship.

Fire Fairies

Nicholas and Miriam love their grandmother Nani's warm and cozy home. But one spring day, a fire breaks out, and Nani's home is mostly lost to smoke and flame. Their grandmother is okay with the loss, but Miriam is not okay. In fact, she becomes afraid that the fire may happen again. It takes the work of several fairies to help Miriam learn to appreciate fire again.

The Old Lilac Tree

A lilac tree has been the center of a lush garden for a very long time. The lilac tree elf who tends the tree is very proud; she prefers a particular order and form to all things within the garden walls. And she makes sure every other elf and fairy in the garden knows exactly how she likes it. When the garden comes under the care of a dreamy young man, the lilac tree elf must find ways to teach him her garden rules. Will her fairy ways convince him to listen?

The Magic in Ward Four

Little Suzie must spend a few weeks in the hospital. What's worse, because of her illness, she must stay in a room by herself. But she hears from one of the nurses that magical things can happen in this particular children's ward — and, if she pays attention, she might discover them, too. Suzie does pay attention, and, one night, the magic comes to her quiet room.

The Donkey and the Fairy Gift

In a sweet smelling cedar barn, nestled between two rolling green mountains, a donkey is born. This donkey is not like other donkeys — he has something special to give the people in the nearby town — something magical.

Whisp Tells a Story

Paul's father has some difficult news: his mother has to spend a while in the hospital. But as Paul's father tries to tell the children what to expect, Paul keeps looking around the room, smiling. The fact is, Paul is looking at Whisp, the house fairy, who has a little fairy magic and a little important wisdom for Paul, and the whole family.

Moose Makes a Wish

Monty the Moose doesn't want to be big. Being big means he has to be rough and tough with the other young bulls, and Monty doesn't like being rough and tough. So he makes a wish, not knowing that a magical Brownie is listening — and intending to grant his desires

The Riding Cow

Fairies love farms. They love gardens, they love farmhouses, they love farm work, they love farm play and they love farm animals. And they especially love cows. This is a story about a unique fairy who loved a unique cow — and with a little fairy magic brought a little cow fun (and wreaked a little cow havoc) on a dairy farm.

The Peony Pixie

The Iris Nymphs are fed up with the Peony Pixie. It seems like he hardly works, and when it is time for the peony to bloom, he depends on an army of ants to help out. And yet, they see the peonies get so much attention every year. So they plan a trick on the peony pixie — a trick that has larger consequences than they intended.

The Strawberry Farm

Billy Wilkins is bored: bored with his house just outside of the city, bored with his little room and bored with his big sister. His parents think that a summer with his grandparents at the family strawberry farm is just the ticket. But no one prepares Billy for the magic and wonder that he will encounter!

Summer Season:



This is a collection of 13 summer stories, for the 13 weeks of summer.

The Apricot Tree and the Robin

Oobst is a fruit fairy who watches over an orchard. In this orchard, under the care of Oobst, is a very young and nervous apricot tree. The tree is so nervous that Oobst knows she must do something to help. She enlists the help of a young Robin couple, and finds a magical way to offer the apricot tree a source of peace and strength.

The Hummingbird Lady

The Hummingbird Lady lives in a remarkably unusual house on West Broad Street. But she hasn't always been the Hummingbird Lady. Once she was a child named Marion who felt more at home with her nose in a book than outside watching the birds fly and the flowers bloom. But one day, when she was grown up and living in the city, she got a visit from a Hummingbird fairy who opened a door to a whole new world.

The Bookmender's Helper

The bookmender works alone. He has always worked alone. And he has been happy enough over the years. But one day, a bedraggled girl with a very old and valuable book arrives at the door to his workshop, interrupting his solitary work. The whisperings of a paper fairy help the bookmender discover the true treasure that lives in both the book and the girl.

Fairy Fireflies

A boy moves from a city apartment to live with his mother in a small house in the country. He has lived his whole life in the city, and so he misses his friends, his school and his home. He is nervous about the back yard with its overgrown trees, brambly bushes, and a cow pasture beyond. He prefers to stay inside reading comics. Until one night, a host of fireflies — or are they fairies? — takes him on a magical adventure.

The Crystal Gnome

The crystal gnome is happy in his tiny underground workshop. But he is also curious about the soft muffled sounds he hears from above: car motors, dogs barking, and the most interesting sound of all — children singing. When his curiosity is satisfied through a series of accidents, the delicate gnome is unexpectedly overwhelmed by the bright lights and loud sounds of the world aboveground. With the help of his own crystal and some other experienced gnomes, he learns how to make a home among the sights and sounds that intrigue him. This is a story that highly sensitive children will enjoy.

Song of the Orange Day Lily

Esther has a magical gift with flowers. She delights all with her beautiful bouquets. How does this small girl know what flowers want to be mingled with what other flowers? The fairies tell her. Her mother, however, is not so sure, and warns her of the impermanent day lilies. But the day lilies, too, have a secret to share — and Nuntius, the day lily fairy, is the one to share it.

Grandfather and the Green Ash Tree Elf

Reilly loves the green ash tree in his back yard. But the green ash tree is dying. A bug is eating away at its bark and no one knows how to save it. Except perhaps, Reilly's grandfather. He remembers a time when he was a child and another tree was dying, the elm tree, and his deep wish to save it called the help of the fairies.

Black Willow

Mack and his wife are looking for a house outside of the big city. They have a baby on the way, and they need just the right spot. They see many nice possibilities, but Mack refuses to be satisfied; that is until they see a simple house with an impressive tree in the backyard: a Black Willow tree. "We'll take it," says Mack. What is it about this tree? Mack tells his wife that it reminds him of his long lost father; but what he doesn't tell her is that he believes his father was a pirate!

The Dusty Dirty Gnome

Buddy has a dirty room. His room is so dirty and dusty that he has trouble finding his clothes, his toys, and his games. And a dirty, dusty, cluttered room is the perfect spot for a Dusty Dirty Gnome to take up residence! After Buddy loses his favorite stuffed animal, Moosie, he has a dream about the Dusty Dirty Gnome who gives him a hint about where Moosie might be hiding. He wakes with a burning question, “What would things be like if everything in my room had its own place?”

The Magician

There was once a King who, by many accounts, was a successful sovereign. Everyone was well fed and safe, the granaries were full, and all his subjects had useful work. But the general mood of the kingdom was, well, bored. There was no spark, no enthusiasm. The Queen, in her wisdom, knew that a kingdom takes after its king, so she encouraged her husband to seek out some fun and passion. It is not until he hears the magical sound of the Hermit thrush, however, that he is able to remember what he truly loves to do.

Captain Hicks and the Laughing Nixie

Captain J.A. Hicks is a mystery to his fellow fishermen. How is he always able to find the best fish and avoid the worst weather? When he emerges one day from a terrible storm with over 70 rescued fishermen aboard, they believe it is nothing short of a miracle. “What is his secret?” they ask. But Captain Hicks does not tell them. How could he reveal his secret? The truth is, he has been listening to the same little voice his whole life — the voice of the laughing nixie!

Showers of Gold

A Queen wishes for a son and is granted her wish on the condition that he may renounce the throne if he chooses. And indeed, when he comes of age he chooses to leave the palace and work in service of the poor. In time, he too makes a wish: for gold to rain down on the poor, and he too is granted the wish on a condition that gives new perspective on what it means to be a king.

Iron Riders of Courage

In a home for the elderly, two people meet. Amos is confined to a wheelchair and Catherine cannot speak. Though they have never been introduced before, they each recognize something familiar about the other, and Amos is determined to find out what it is. A photograph of his childhood home takes them to a time long ago when a powerful magic rose up and embraced them both, a magic that exists for them still.



Sample Pack:

Candleberry Elf

Every year, during the long nights of December, the Candleberry elf makes candles in his fairy chandlery. Every year he waits for the old man and woman of the farmhouse to light their candles, signaling the beginning of the festival of lights.

One year, however, they do not light their candles – and the Candleberry elf looks to find out why.

Fairy Whispers

Gibb is a sensitive wild turkey. He notices things that other turkeys don't – things that would be helpful to the flock – but Gibb is afraid of the attention it might bring. The whispers of a watchful brownie help him find the courage and confidence to lead the flock to a source of food for the winter.

The Wish Crystal

Brother and sister, Sophia and William, love the brook that winds through their neighborhood. Nearly all year long they play in the brook, building beaver, having leaf boat races and sorting the smooth stones. One day, the children come across an unremarkable stone that houses the magical power of granting wishes. With the help of the crystal gnome that crafted the stone, the whole family discovers the secret to making wishes come true!