

# GLADSTONE

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*The Story*

March 18 – May 6, 2023

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Once upon a time in the middle of winter, when snow  
feathers from the clouds, a Queen  
ebony black frame, stitching . While she was thus  
the snow she pricked her finger, and three drops of blood  
fell upon the snow. red upon the white  
,"Oh, that I had a child as white as this snow, as red as this blood, and  
as !" Soon afterwards a little daughter came to  
her, who was as white as snow, and with cheeks as red with hair  
as black as ebony, named "Snow-White." And at the same time her mother  
died.

About King married another wife, who was very beautiful,  
but so proud and haughty that she could not bear  
herself. She owned a wonderful mirror, and when she stepped before it and said:

"Mirror, mirror on the wall,  
Who is the fairest of us all?"

it replied:

"The Queen is the fairest of the day."

for she knew that the mirror spoke truly.

Snow-White, however, grew up, and prettier, and  
when she was seven years old she was , and more  
beautiful than the Queen herself. When the Queen now asked her mirror:

"Mirror, mirror on the wall,  
Who is of us all?"

it replied: "The Queen was fairest yesterday;  
Snow-White is the fairest, now, they say."

This answer so angered the Queen that she became yellow with envy.  
From that hour, Snow-White, her heart was hardened  
against her, little girl. Her envy and jealousy  
had no rest day or night, and she said to a Huntsman, "Take the child  
away into the forest. I will never look upon her again. You must kill her, and  
bring me her for a token."

The Huntsman listened and took the maiden away, but when he drew out his  
, she began to cry, saying, "Ah, dear Huntsman, give me my life! I will run into the wild  
forest, and never come home again."

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