

**STORIES OF LONG
AGO: IN A
NEW DRESS**

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Stories of long ago: in a new dress by Grace H. Kupfer

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GRACE H. KUPFER

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AGO: IN A
NEW DRESS**



“Cupid once upon a bed
Of roses laid his weary head.”

STORIES OF LONG AGO

IN A NEW DRESS

BY

GRACE H. KUPFER, A.M.

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PREFACE

ALMOST all boys and girls like fairy tales ; they appeal to the imaginative side of the child's nature. We cannot make school reading effective as a means of education unless we make it a pleasure as well : we must recognize the activity of the imagination in childhood.

Myths are closely akin to fairy tales, and nothing in the whole field of literature can so well serve our purpose. The myths of the Greeks and Romans are especially valuable because they have become an inseparable part of art and literature. They have a historical value, too, in conveying to the reader some idea of the thoughts and habits of the beauty-loving people with whom they originated.

In this little book I have gathered together some of the most pleasing of these myths, and have told them in simple, fairy-tale style, without any attempt to explain their origin, or to point a moral. If they please and interest the child, they will fulfill their purpose.

I have avoided the use of an undue number of proper names, — those stumbling-blocks in the pathway of a young reader. Just enough have been given to hold the reader's interest and to make him familiar with the chief characters in the mythical play, — characters that he will meet again and again in literature and art. The pronoun-

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cing list on page 8 includes all these names, and with a little help here and there from the teacher they need cause the pupil no difficulty.

Following many of the stories there are poems bearing directly on the subjects. These have been selected with the utmost care. They are designed not merely to introduce the children to some of our greatest authors, but also to cultivate a taste for what is purest and best in literature.

The illustrations are intended to serve an educative purpose similar to that of the poems. They are reproductions of famous paintings and sculptures by the foremost artists of all ages, and it is hoped that they may awaken the true artistic sense.

The poems by Longfellow, Lowell, Phœbe Cary, and Edith M. Thomas are printed by permission of, and arrangement with, their publishers, Houghton, Mifflin, and Co.; and the poems by William Cullen Bryant and Fitz-Greene Halleck by permission of D. Appleton and Co. Thanks are due also to the Century Co., in whose publication, *St. Nicholas*, the poem "Invitation to Echo," first appeared.

G. H. K.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
THE KINGDOM ABOVE THE CLOUDS	9
The Wonderful World . . . <i>Lilliput Lectures</i> . . .	15
THE GREAT BEAR AND THE LITTLE BEAR	16
The Gladness of Nature . . . <i>William C. Bryant</i> . . .	21
A STORY OF THE SPRINGTIME, PART I	22
The Voice of Spring . . . <i>Felicia Hemans</i> . . .	24
A STORY OF THE SPRINGTIME, PART II	25
The Fountain <i>James R. Lowell</i> . . .	29
THE CHILDHOOD OF APOLLO AND DIANA	30
The Brook <i>Alfred Tennyson</i> . . .	37
ECHO AND NARCISSUS	38
Invitation to Echo <i>Edith M. Thomas</i> . . .	43
HOW NARCISSUS LOVED HIS OWN IMAGE	44
A WEB AND A SPIDER	46
"Twist ye, Twine ye" . . . <i>Walter Scott</i> . . .	51
THE STORY OF THE LAUREL	52
Cupid <i>Thomas Moore</i> . . .	57
THE STORY OF A SWEET SINGER	58
Orpheus with His Lute . . . <i>William Shakspeare</i> . . .	61
Eurydice <i>Francis W. Bourdillon</i> . . .	62
THE QUEEN HUNTRESS AND A BOLD HUNTER	63
The Hunter's Song <i>Barry Cornwall</i> . . .	67
THE STORY OF PERSEUS	68 ~
Lullaby <i>Alfred Tennyson</i> . . .	71 ~
HOW PERSEUS WENT IN QUEST OF MEDUSA'S HEAD	72 ~
HOW PERSEUS WON A WIFE	78 ~
THE STORY OF IO	82
Song to Pan <i>Beaumont and Fletcher</i> . . .	89

	PAGE
HOW A MOTHER'S PRIDE WAS HUMBLED	90
Children <i>Henry W. Longfellow</i>	95
A MIGHTY HERO OF OLDEN TIMES	97
THE STORY OF A POISONED SHIRT	102
THE ARTISAN'S WONDERFUL WINGS	105
Birds in Summer <i>Mary Howitt</i>	111
A CRUEL KING	113
Rise! For the Day is Passing <i>Adelaide Procter</i>	115
A LOCK OF PURPLE HAIR, AND WHAT CAME OF IT	116
THE CRUEL KING'S PUNISHMENT	119
A THREAD THAT SAVED MANY LIVES	121
HOW A WICKED CITY WAS DESTROYED	124
A DREAM THAT CAME TRUE	130
In Absence <i>Phæbe Cary</i>	135
THE STORY OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE, PART I	136
The Cloud <i>Percy B. Shelley</i>	138
THE STORY OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE, PART II	139
The Arrow and the Song . <i>Henry W. Longfellow</i>	142
THE STORY OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE, PART III	143
HOW A BOY LOVED A STAG	149
Earth to Earth <i>Phæbe Cary</i>	152
A SEA GOD AND A WICKED ENCHANTRESS	152
The Sea Hath Its Pearls . <i>Henry W. Longfellow</i>	156
A YOUTH WHO WAS CHANGED INTO A FLOWER	156
To a Friend <i>Fitz-Greene Halleck</i>	161
A WONDERFUL SCULPTOR	162
A MUSICAL CONTEST OF LONG AGO	166
The Sweet Singer <i>Henry W. Longfellow</i>	169
A GIANT WHO LOVED A SEA NYMPH	170
The Shepherd's Song to His Love <i>Christopher Marlowe</i>	176