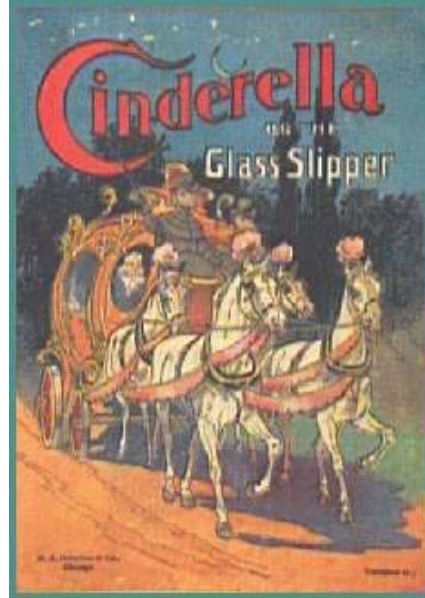


Cinderella Background Information

Cinderella is a popular fairy tale addressing many classic elements of folk myths, including unjust oppression and triumphant reward, female persecutors, magical intervention, the absent or uncaring father, meeting the “prince,” and proof of identity. Thousands of variants are known around the world and each apply a different combination and twist on the tale.

The ancient Greco-Egyptian Cinderella story is considered to be the oldest version of the story. The tale was first recorded by the Greek historian Strabo in the first century BC. Another early Cinderella story appeared in the 9th century in China, called “Ye Xian.” The story was recorded in the book *Miscellaneous Morsels from Youyang* by Tuan Ch'eng-Shih.



However, the most well-known version of the Cinderella story was written by a French author, Charles Perrault in 1697. “Cendrillon,” the French version, has become part of popular culture in its various adaptations and renditions in operas, plays, films, and cartoons. The German Brothers Grimm recorded a German version of the tale in the 19th century, titled “Aschenputtel.”

It is estimated by some that there are over 500 versions of the Cinderella story across the globe. A brief list of just a few of them can be found below.

Select Cinderella Bibliography

- * “Aschenputtel,” Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm (Germany)
- * “The Anklet,” The Book of One Thousand and One Nights (Persian)
- * “The Baba Yaga,” Aleksandr Afanasyev (Russia)
- * “Cendrillon,” Charles Perrault (France)
- * “Cenerentola,” Giambattista Basile (Italy)
- * “The Cinder Maid,” Joseph Jacobs (European)
- * “Conkiajgharuna, the Little Rag Girl” (Georgia)
- * “Fair, Brown, and Trembling” (Ireland)
- * “The Green Knight” (Denmark)
- * “Katie Woodencloak” / “Kari Trestakk,” Peter Christen Asbjørnsen and Jørgen Moe (Norway)
- * “The Little Red Fish and the Clog of Gold” (Iraq)
- * “Pepelyouga” (Serbia)
- * “Rashin-Coatie” (Scotland)
- * “Rhodopis” (Greco-Egyptian)
- * “The Story of Tam and Cam” (Vietnam)
- * “The Wicked Stepmother” (Kashmir)
- * “The Wonderful Birch” (Russia)
- * “Ye Xian,” Tuan Ch’eng-Shih (China)



IT WAS HER FAIRY GODMOTHER!