

Film guide

Lotte Reiniger: The Fairy Tale Films

Germany, UK | 1922 - 1954 | Cert. PG | 197 mins
Director: Lotte Reiniger

Working in the early 20th century, German animator Lotte Reiniger is celebrated for her pioneering paper cut-out silhouette animation technique. In the 1930s she made a series of fairy tale films in this unique style bringing to life favourites like Cinderella, Snow White and Sleeping Beauty. This is a collection of these short tales complete with wonderful soundtracks and charming narration.



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You will like this film if you liked

Frozen (2013, PG)



Disney © (2013) All rights reserved.

Watch next

The Adventures of Prince Achmed (1926, PG)



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Talk about it (before the film)

What is a silhouette? Can you make one with your hands?

List the types of characters you expect to find in a fairytale.

Talk about it (after the film)

- List the fairy tale characters that appear in these films.
- Can you describe how the films look? Are they different to other animated films you've seen?
- What do you notice about how the characters move across the screen? Does this remind you of anything?
- How does the voice you hear in the films (called narration) help you understand the story? What does this remind you of?
- What type of ending do all the stories have? Is this surprising? Why?
- Choose your favourite film. In groups tell each other what message you think your favourite film is giving us.

Write about it

Bring your ideas together in a review and share it on our Into Film clubs' website. You could include a summary of the story, mention other films that it's similar to, describe what you particularly liked or disliked and give it your star rating.

Extension Activities

Write a modern version of one of the fairy tales you have watched. Turn your story into a shadow puppet show and write a narration.