Too Many Fairies: A Celtic Tale
There was once an old woman who hated chores. "Work! Work! Work! How I hate it! Hate it! Hate it!" One day some fairies show up. They . . . clankety-clankety-clankety-Clankety æ " clean all the dishes. Swishety-swishety-swishety æ "sweep the house. Flumpety-flumpety-flumpety æ " shake out the bedclothes. Clickety-clickety-clickety æ " work on all the knitting. But then there is nothing left to do. So, they tear everything apart and start again! Clankety-clankety-clankety, swishety-swishety-swishety . . . . The fairies are driving the old woman crazy! How will she get them to leave? Lively watercolor illustrations add to this Celtic retelling by master storyteller Margaret Read MacDonald. An author’s note is also included.

Margaret Read MacDonald is fabulous at taking classic stories from around the world and turning them into fantastic books to read aloud. She has an uncanny knack for nailing the perfect storyteller’s rhythm, and this book is no exception. A great story about an old woman who is constantly complaining about too much work, until some fairies arrive to help her out. She soon learns that there can be "Too Many Fairies" and has to control her own complaints in order to sort
out the fairies’ mess. As with all of MacDonald’s work, there are plenty of opportunities here to engage the audience, to really “ham it up” and of course some great sound effects to play with. The illustrations are bold and vibrant and perfectly complement all the action. This story is as much fun to read as it is to listen to and I would recommend it for older preschoolers all the way through second grade. Don’t miss this one!

A delightful telling of an Irish legend. The moral of the story being be careful what you wish for. My daughter is 5 and can’t get enough of this book. She loves to knock on the wall and announce the arrival of each fairy. She enjoys following along with the old woman ( what is her name? my child asks ) who grumbles her way through household chores. I like the story. I like the simple way famed literacy/story-telling expert McDonald, retells the tale so its fun and easy for kids. This could be a song or poem it has such a nice cadence. I can easily see this getting on my list of books I give many times to many children

She thinks of herself as a fairy queen. She is thrilled each time I give her one of these books. She can name all of the fairies. Especially love the fact that some of the books progress from her reading level and beyond, so she can pick one up and read it to her little brother. Interest is there as she plays teacher, reading, and actually learning all about sentences and bigger words as she enjoys herself. The true testament to “Reading and Learning can be FUN!”

Once an old woman was cleaning her house when she began to grumble about all of the work. A fairy knocked on her door and took over her chore. Every time the old woman started a new chore and then grumbled a new fairy knocked and took over. Soon there were too many fairies in the house and they were driving the old lady nuts, because they refused to leave. How will she ever get rid of all of these fairies? I received a copy to facilitate my review. The opinions expressed here are my own.

On first read, you think “wow, that’s repetitive” but once it sinks in and the moral of the story sinks in, then you realize it can’t really be done any other way. A cute way to teach that complaining (and also having people do everything for you) is not such a good thing. This is not an app where it will read to you but just an e-book that you can read (or read out loud to a little one as I did) -- just so you’re aware. The pictures are very pretty and my daughter and I have enjoyed reading through it a number of times already, especially at bedtime. Recommended!
I read this to my 5 year old last night for bed time. She loved how the fairies kept showing up, insisting on cleaning, and then messing it all up again! The tale ends with the old lady NOT complaining about WORK anymore (because she doesn't want the crazy fairies showing up again)!

I was doing dishes today (complaining about it) and my 5 year old reminded me that I may want to STOP complaining because the fairies are going to pay us a visit!!! We loved this story, and I recommend it to all parents!

Loved this fun story that reminded my kids that sometimes its good to have work to do and it was extra fun for my girls because of the fairies. Not only was the lesson in the story a good one, but the illustrations were beautiful. A delightful little read.

This is a colorful and delightful picture book. The text is fun to read and keeps my daughter interested and engaged for the full duration of the story. She often asks to re-read the story once we’ve finished. It’s also fun to try to read it with an Irish accent. My little one loves to say the onomatopoeia words along with me. I think we’ll be getting a lot of use out of this e-book.

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