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## ARTICLES

### 195 **Gingerbread Wishes and Candy(land) Dreams: The Lure of Food in Cautionary Tales of Consumption**

*Susan Honeyman*

Gingerbread represents just one of many food lures that are symbolically pervasive in folktales, fairy tales, and cautionary tales—one that can serve as analogous to all symbols of temptation in industrializing and consumerist cultures, representing the move in such cultural climates toward pacifying (or, better, “passifying”) children by projecting agency onto the lures rather than onto the children themselves.

### 216 **A Wave of the Magic Wand: Fairy Godmothers in Contemporary American Media**

*Jeana Jorgensen*

The increased personification of fairy godmothers in contemporary American media corresponds to an aspect of the American worldview that emphasizes “magical” quick fixes and solutions. The two fairy-tale pastiche works informing this study are a novel, *The Fairy Godmother*, by fantasy author Mercedes Lackey, and a movie, *Shrek 2*. Both of these works feature fairy godmother characters that depart from canonical folktale and fairy-tale depictions. Associated with fate and wisdom, fairy godmothers act much as folklorists do by rewarding traditional behavior with gifts. Recent fairy godmother roles are hybrid and multivocal, illuminating ideologies and power structures in both society and story.

### 228 **Disenchanted the Fairy Tale: Retellings of “Snow White” between Magic and Realism**

*Vanessa Joosen*

As the fairy tale is recycled in contemporary retellings, the influence of realistic literature is perceptible. This article explores how authors and illustrators have

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turned magical fairy-tale elements into more realistic or at least more ambiguous events. The retellings exploit the coincidence as an ambiguous space between magic and realism or make clever use of stylistic and narrative devices such as metaphors and unreliable narrators to give a new dimension to supernatural elements. The focus is on illustrated versions and retellings of the Grimms' "Snow White," as well as on criticism of that tale, which has also tended to rationalize magic.

**240 Red as Blood, White as Snow, Black as Crow:  
Chromatic Symbolism of Womanhood in Fairy Tales**

*Francisco Vaz da Silva*

Since Brent Berlin and Paul Kay's classic study on *Basic Color Terms*, the universal chromatic trio of white, red, and black became a matter of scholarly interest. This article examines uses of this chromatic trio to depict ideal womanhood in European fairy tales. Chrétien de Troyes wrote that the sight of three drops of blood on snow reminds Perceval of his sweetheart; seven centuries later, the Grimms presented a queen wishing for a tricolor daughter after looking at three drops of blood on the snow. This image is tenacious in the fairy-tale realm, and the time seems ripe for addressing it.

**253 Ancient and Indigenous Stories: Their Ethics and Power  
Reflected in Latin American Storytelling Movements**

*Jaime Riascos*

Never before has the storytelling panorama in Spanish-speaking countries been so active and connected to their particular audiences. Since the 1980s, national and international storytelling movements in Latin America and Spain have been growing and gaining in cultural and artistic importance. Indigenous tales are now present in big cities, and the ethics and new context of these tales are evaluated. This article explores some aspects about the live performance, persuasive power, beauty of metaphors, and ethics in the Latin American storytelling movement. This article was the keynote address at the Modern Language Graduate Forum at Wayne State University in spring 2006 on the topic "Cross-Disciplinary Approaches to the Power of Language and Literature: Values and Ethics for a New Age." The article concludes with a transcript of the discussion that took place after the address.

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