

Synopsis

This enchanting collection of favorite Irish folk tales deserves to be read aloud at every hearth. Described by Malachy Doyle in captivating language, the larger-than-life characters, dramatic landscapes, and magical happenings of all the tales, including the famous legend of the bewitched Children of Lir, are also brought vividly to life by the luminous art of Niamh Sharkey, making this a book that will transport readers to another world for many happy hours.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

The collaborative effort of author Malachy Doyle and artist Niamh Sharkey, *Tales From Old Ireland* is an anthology of seven folktales steeped in Irish history, culture, and tradition. Illustrated with carefree whimsy, they weave myths and legends about ordinary humble folk as surely as remarkable heroes. A pronunciation guide for names and a list of sources for each tale rounds out this excellent and enthusiastically recommended anthology for young readers bridging the transition between picture books and novels.

I really wanted to like this, but the stories are really dark for children. Many stories have unresolved tragedy and very sad, bleak things happen to innocent characters. I suppose the book is being true to the folk tales, but bedtime stories these are not.

Really nicely told stories, with quirky, mesmerizing illustrations. Both author and illustrator are Irish. Definitely worth buying - for reading AND re-reading!

I saw this book in the library at Trinity College in Dublin Ireland when we were vacationing there last week. So I ordered it to read to my grand daughter when I returned. So far we have shared the first three stories and enjoyed them.

This little book is filled with amazing, beautiful illustrations and entertaining stories. Anyone interested in Irish culture and folk-lore will enjoy this book. However, while this book is a fun read for older children and adults, the content of one or two of the stories might be a little bit intense for younger children, so be sure to preview the stories before reading it to the little ones. I especially like the pronunciation guide in the front for Irish names and words, which can be very difficult, and the reference page at the end that explains the origins of each story. Also, my edition came with audio c-d's of the stories.

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