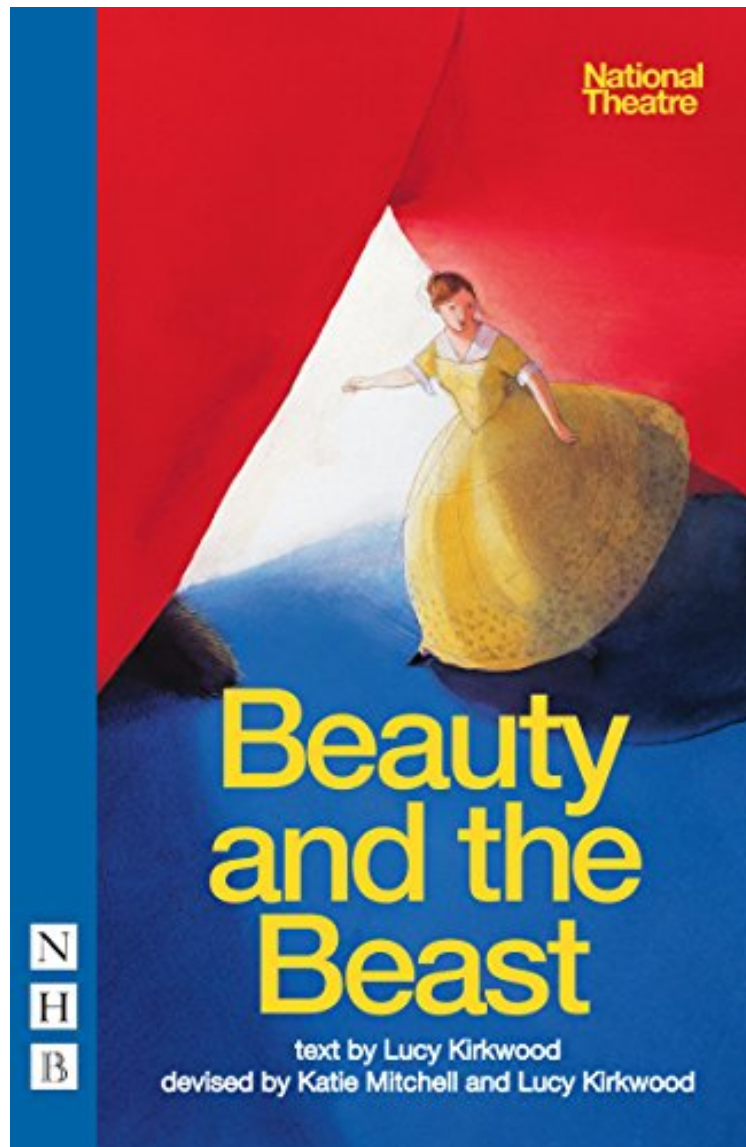


Beauty and the Beast (NHB Modern Plays)

Lucy Kirkwood

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Lucy Kirkwood : Beauty and the Beast (NHB Modern Plays) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beauty and the Beast (NHB Modern Plays):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice alternative to Disney versionBy jtenminusoneBeauty and the Beast is one of my favorite fairy tales and this particular book is a nice alternative to the Disney version. I also appreciate that the beast isn't especially "scary" and looks more like an animal rather than a mutant. It's a children book that I actually enjoy reading with my girls. And although there is a lot of text on each page, both my 2 YO and my 4 YO are able to maintain interest--mainly because of the beautiful illustrations.0 of 0 people found the following

review helpful. Beautifully illustratedBy NeemThe illustrations in this book are just beautiful and there is one on every page. Costuming is historically correct and they are beautifully rendered. The text is quite simplistic though and definitely for the younger child 5 to 8. Read it in 15 minutes or less.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful ReadBy PaperedDollThis is a beautiful book. My grandma used to read it to me when I was little. I've been searching for it for a while and was able to find it on . Thanks for helping me relive my childhood.

Lucy Kirkwood's delightful version of the classic fairytale, first seen in a production devised and directed by Katie Mitchell at the National Theatre for Christmas 2010. #145;I expect you have been told fairytales before. But you have never really heard a fairytale until you have heard it told by a real fairy.#8217; The theft of a single rose has monstrous consequences for Beauty and her father. Because this is no ordinary rose...and this is no ordinary fairytale. Narrated by a pair of mischievous fairies, a very helpful Rabbit, and a Thoughtsnatcher machine, this timeless story is sure to surprise, delight and enchant. A wild and twisted tale, full of exciting and intriguing challenges for drama groups wishing to stage their own production. 'Chock-full of clever ideas' - Whatsonstage.com 'Clever, fast and endearing, with grand insults and proper jeopardy.' - The Times 'the story is beautifully and touchingly told... a continuously inventive delight' - Telegraph 'This new devised version is blessed with a sassy script by Lucy Kirkwood... Beauty-fully done' - Evening Standard

.com This beloved old French fairy tale has enjoyed renewed popularity in recent years. Beauty, as you may recall, is the youngest daughter of a devoted father who has fallen on hard times. Returning from a journey, he picks a rose for his daughter, enraging the owner of the rosebush, the fearsome boarlike Beast who inhabits a nearby castle. As payment for the rose, Beauty must leave her family and reside in the Beast's castle as his companion. She gradually comes to appreciate the Beast's kind nature, and, after leaving him to visit her family, realizes that she has fallen in love! Beauty willingly returns to her Beast, in time to break the spell that has caused his current, beastly countenance and restore him (and the servants in the castle) to their human forms. Jan Brett--well-known for her artistry in Goldilocks and the Three Bears and The Mitten--has worked her usual magic on this beautiful edition of Beauty and the Beast. In a unique visual spin on the story, the tapestries hung on the walls of the Beast's castle reveal the true identities of the animal servants who are under the same spell as the Beast--a subtle, fascinating feature that may not be noticed until the second or third reading. The story's old-fashioned and graceful language perfectly accompanies the French court setting. One of the finest takes on this classic tale, Brett's Beauty and the Beast is described by Kirkus as "a lovely, carefully made edition of an old favorite." (Ages 5 to 8)From Publishers WeeklyA single peacock feather, its delicate beauty rendered in meticulous detail, sets the tone for this sumptuous retelling of a classic fairy tale. The story is a familiar one, with true love triumphing over a wicked enchantment in the end (the moral, of course, is "never judge a book by its cover"). But the central attraction is the illustrations. Brett's images glide by in a kaleidoscope of luminous color: iridescent blues and greens flow from page to page, entwined with the radiant shades of Beauty's own symbol, the rose. Brett, whose trademark is her careful detail, leaves hidden clues for sharp-eyed readers that hint at the Beast's secret--such as mottoed tapestries and glimpses of the meddlesome fairy herself, decked out naturally enough as a peacock butterfly. But it's the recurring motif of the peacock, itself a symbol of vanity and surface appearances, that ties the threads of the story together. It's a brilliant marriage of artwork and text; once again Brett proves herself a contemporary illustrator of consummate skill. Ages 6-12. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.From BooklistGr. 2^-3. Hautzig has done a competent job of making a familiar tale accessible to beginning readers without losing the story's punch. Mitchell's illustrations are pleasant, if rather prosaic: the beast is depicted as a lion with sharp teeth, horns, and flowing robes; the backdrops are rendered with traditional fairy-tale opulence. The text and illustrations are out of sync at one point (the beast turns into the prince in the pictures before the transformation is described verbally), but children eager to try reading the famous tale on their own might do well to start with this approachable Step into Reading version. Stephanie Zvirin