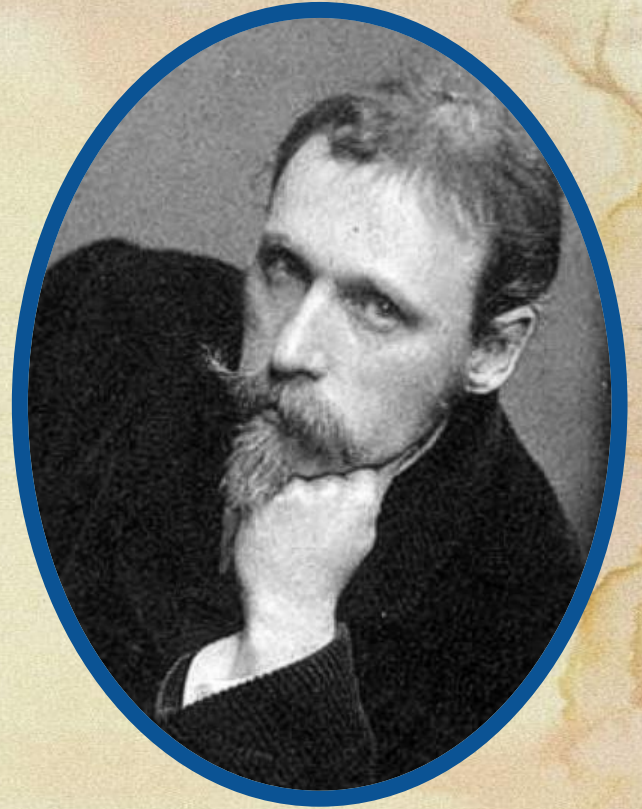


# Illustrator: Walter Crane

By Brooke & Julia





# The Past of Walter Crane

- ❖ Born on August 15, 1845 in Liverpool, England
- ❖ His father, **Thomas Crane**, was a portrait painter that encouraged Walter to pursue art
- ❖ Walter used to experiment with watercolors, decorating his books
- ❖ introduced him to **William James Linton**, the head of one of the best printing and engraving companies in England. Linton's style and political views heavily influenced Walter Crane's life and work.
  - Linton focused on political reform, which helped shape Crane's view of the world which can be seen in his art as a socialist
- ❖ In 1862, Crane's apprenticeship came to an end, but his refined drawing skill and his connection to Linton, earned him an invitation to work as an illustrator for **Edmund Evans**, the leading woodblock color printer of the time.





# Little Red Riding Hood, published in 1875

## Characteristics:

- ❖ Colorful background with lots of detail
- ❖ Major focus on decorative elements
- ❖ Blonde hair on Little Red
- ❖ Bright vivid colors with black outlines
- ❖ Center figure with bright colors
- ❖ Japanese art influence





## Cinderella Departing the Ball, published in 1873.

### Characteristics:

- ❖ Complimentary colors; yellow and red tones
- ❖ Bright vibrant colors
- ❖ Main character with reddish blonde hair
- ❖ Inspired from Japanese art
- ❖ Contains many decorative features
- ❖ Big bold black outlines (Similar to Japan)
- ❖ Whimsical style
- ❖ Cinderella standing out in a light white color while the footmen are in reddish orange.





# The Beast dying from Heartbreak after Beauty broke her Promise published in 1874

## Characteristics:

- ❖ The characters are wearing bright, warm colors
- ❖ Warthog is their interpretation of the Beast
- ❖ Floral theming in the background and Beauty's dress
  - Flowers/Plants=Life
- ❖ Red is complemented by a teal-ish blue
- ❖ Big bold black outlines
- ❖ Princely attire on the Beast
- ❖ A look of concern on Beauty's face and the "servants"

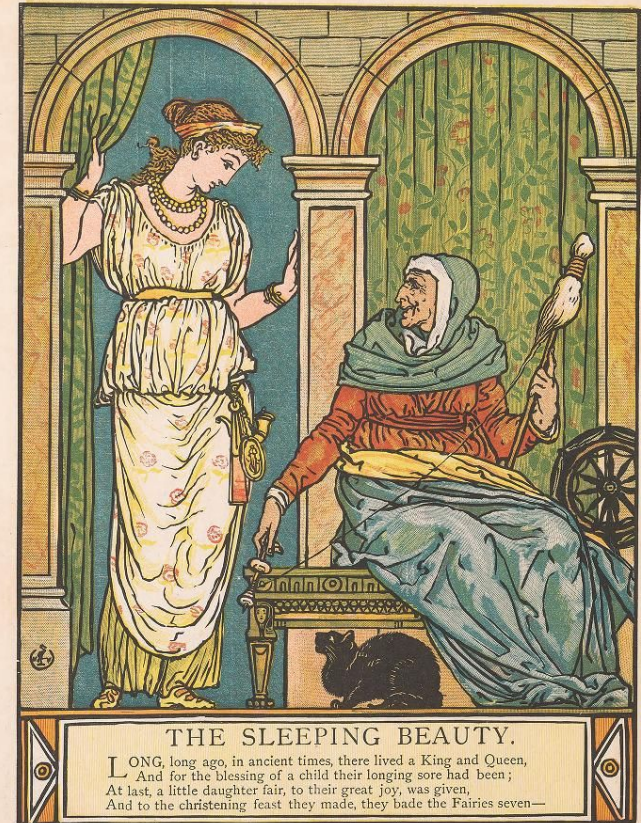




# Briar inquiring the only spinner left in the Kingdom, published in 1876

## Characteristics:

- ❖ Complimenting colors are used
- ❖ A black cat was never mentioned in the tale before
  - Black Cat= Bad Luck/Taboo
- ❖ Red is once again complimented by the teal-ish blue
- ❖ Distinct noses
- ❖ Big bold black outlines
- ❖ Gold and Yellow dress represents wealth





Crane's most famous work is often considered to be the illustrations he created for Edmund Spenser's 16th century epic poem, *The Faerie Queene* (originally published 1590).

- ❖ Strikingly different style without color usage
- ❖ It took him 3 years to complete 88 large illustrations and 135 illustrative head and tailpieces
- ❖ Crane preferred engraving thick black lines and working in wood block prints as Medieval craftsman





# Similarities Between Pieces

- ❖ The use of similar color schemes, bold and bright
- ❖ Most of the hair for the characters are all light colored
  - Blondes, reds, etc
- ❖ Warmer tones
- ❖ Distinctly different faces (no same face syndrome)
- ❖ Clear black outlines
  - Most prominent in the Faerie Piece
- ❖ All are influenced by Japanese art





# Reference Page

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