

LEVEL B1

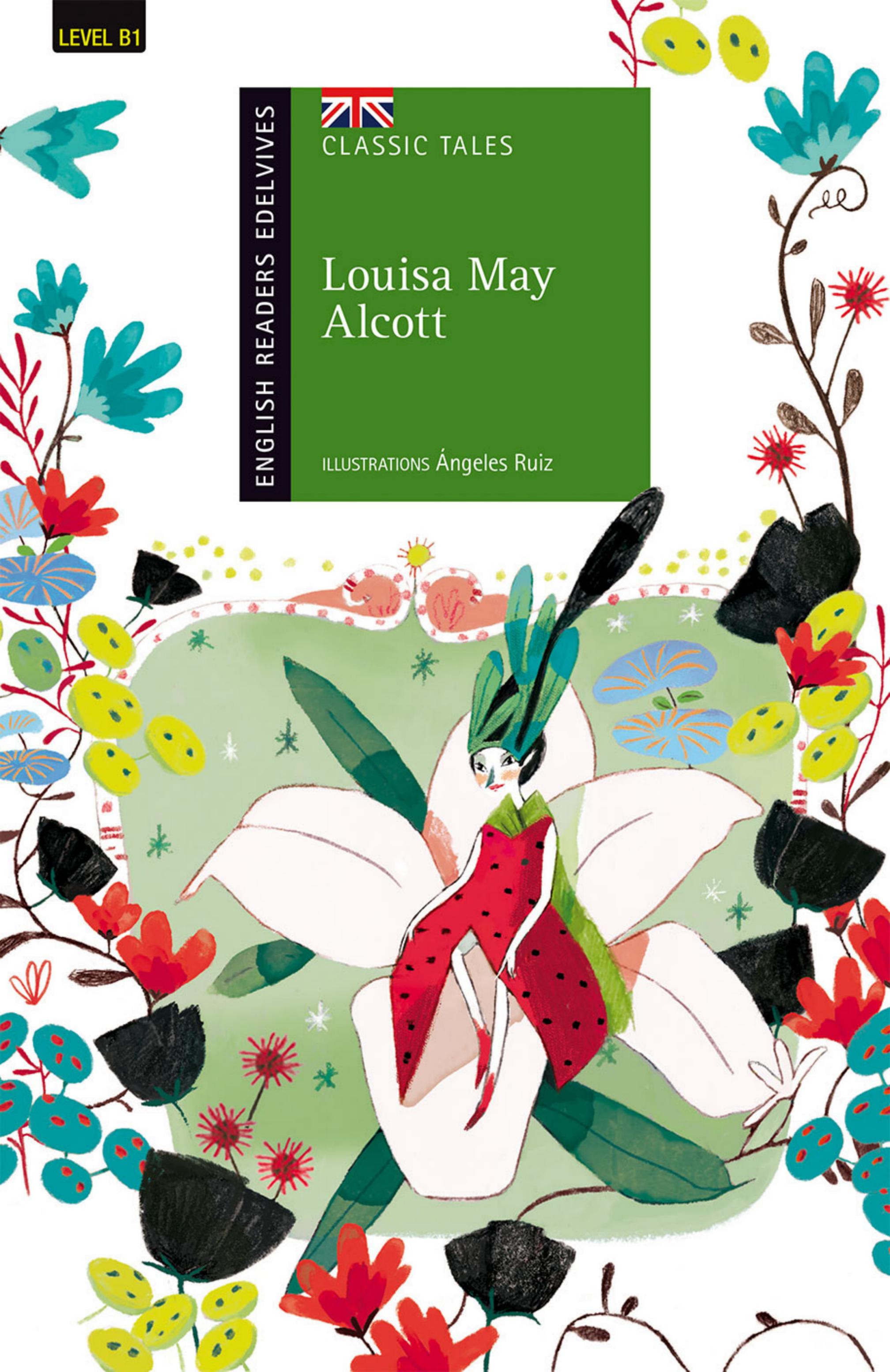
ENGLISH READERS EDELVIVES



CLASSIC TALES

Louisa May  
Alcott

ILLUSTRATIONS Ángeles Ruiz



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CLASSIC TALES

# Louisa May Alcott

Illustrations  
Ángeles Ruiz

# before reading

- 1 The author, Louisa May Alcott, was born in the United States. **Decide** if these facts about her country are True (T) or false (F).

The capital city is New York.

The official language is English.

The country is about the same size as Europe.

There are 2 colors in the flag.

Alcott was born in the state of Pennsylvania, which is on the East coast.

- 2 **Categorise** these words from the story. Look up the words you don't know in a dictionary.

**lily**

**firefly**

**mole**

**root**

**bloom**

**bud**

**worm**

**petal**

**nest**



Words about plants and flowers	Words about animals	Words I don't know

3 The stories in this book are fables. Do you know what a “fable” is? **Match** the beginnings and endings of these sentences to make a definition.

A fable is	can speak.
The animals or inanimate objects in a fable	a moral message.
A fable has a	a short story.

4 Louisa May Alcott was American. **Circle** the words which are typically used in American English, e.g. You turn a **faucet** / **tap** to get water.

From 5 to 11 years old, American children receive **elementary education / primary education**.

In America, you go to the **movie theatre / cinema** to see a film.

A bus or a train in America is called **public transport / public transportation**.

If you eat a hamburger in the USA, you might eat **French fries / chips** with it.

The entrance to a building is usually on the **ground floor / first floor**.

5 “Flower Fables” is a book of fairy stories. **Write** a list of what you know about fairies.

Fairies are magical...

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- 6 Most of the fairies in “Flower Fables” are very good magical beings. **Unscramble** these letters to make words that mean “very good”. (You have the first letter to help you!)

clleenext e \_\_\_\_\_

slabfuou f \_\_\_\_\_

volemarsu m \_\_\_\_\_

frounlewd w \_\_\_\_\_

driblecine i \_\_\_\_\_

prubes s \_\_\_\_\_

- 7 What do you know about flowers? **Underline** the correct color.

Daisies are red / white / blue.

Roses are red / green / grey.

Tulips are red / blue / brown.

Lilies are red / white / blue.

Sunflowers are blue / purple / yellow.



## The Frost-King or The Power of Love

1 **Choose** the right answer.

Daisy, Primrose and Violet...

- all want to help the Fairy Queen.
- all give food to animals.
- all eat strawberry and cake for breakfast.

The Frost-King is cruel because...

- he makes flowers die.
- he hates the Fairy Queen.
- he wants more presents.

Violet...

- invited all the animals to breakfast.
- forgot to invite the worm.
- taught the animals to read.

The Fairy Queen wanted...

- to start a war with the Frost-King.
- to leave the Frost-King alone
- to try one last time to be friends with the Frost-King.

2 **Add** the missing verbs to the description of what the Fairies did.

The Fairies l\_\_\_\_\_ their wands in the air.

They w\_\_\_\_\_ all night to make a wreath of flowers.

They c\_\_\_\_\_ the flowers that were covered in dew.

They c\_\_\_\_\_ spells to protect the flowers.

They s\_\_\_\_\_ to the music of the wind-harps.

# during reading

3 **Decide** if these sentences are True (T) or False (F).

The Frost-King's palace gardens were beautiful.

The Frost-King was happy to see Violet.

The flowers in the wreath were dead.

The golden lights made the Frost-Spirits happy.

The golden lights made Violet's prison cell a happy place.

4 **Tick** who did what.

Violet	The spiders	The moles	The Frost-Spirits	
				talked about life in Fairy-Land.
				made webs.
				sang songs.
				covered the flowers with snow.
				told the King that Violet was happy.
				did something in return for food.
				made a cape.
				took Violet to a colder cell.
				made tunnels

**5** **Answer** the questions about how the Frost-King and Violet felt.

**Happy / Warm    Sad    Worried    Very happy**

How did the Frost-King feel when he put on Violet's cape?  
\_\_\_\_\_

How did the Frost-King feel when he saw how sad Violet was?  
\_\_\_\_\_

How did Violet feel when the King asked her to go home and forget the flowers in his kingdom? \_\_\_\_\_

How did the Frost-King feel when Violet was working behind the wall of clouds? \_\_\_\_\_

How did the elves in Fairy-Land feel when the messenger from the Frost-King arrived? \_\_\_\_\_

How did the Frost-Spirits feel when the Frost-King put the Flower crown on his head? \_\_\_\_\_

**6** **Draw** a picture of the Frost-King's new palace.



# during reading

## Little Bud

1 **Find** the 20 elements in this fable with the following colors:

Blue \_\_\_\_\_

Brown \_\_\_\_\_

Golden \_\_\_\_\_

Green \_\_\_\_\_

Purple \_\_\_\_\_

Red \_\_\_\_\_

Silver \_\_\_\_\_

Violet \_\_\_\_\_

White \_\_\_\_\_

Yellow \_\_\_\_\_

2 **Match** who or what made these sounds in the story.

Father Brown Bird...                      whispered kind words.

The four baby birds...                      sang sweet songs.

Little Bud...                                      tweeted.

The young birds...                              talked and sang prettily.

Little Bud...                                      cried.

The unhappy Elves...                              sang and told tales.

The Elves...                                      made happy music that sounded like Fairy songs.

- 3 **Choose** the correct words to explain what the Queen told the Elves to do.

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\_\_\_\_\_ Little Bud begged Queen Dew-Drop \_\_\_\_\_ pardon the exiled Fairies, the queen promised that \_\_\_\_\_ they could bring her a perfect Fairy crown, Fairy dress and Fairy wand, she would pardon them. \_\_\_\_\_ pure fairies can sew a perfect Fairy dress, and to win \_\_\_\_\_ innocence they had to plant a white lily \_\_\_\_\_ water it with their repentant tears. When their hearts shone \_\_\_\_\_ love, their crowns would shine \_\_\_\_\_ and when they had been kind to others, their wands would be powerful \_\_\_\_\_.

- 4 **Write** in the correct part of the circles who did what.

Plant the lilies

Give food to hungry children

Give up and cry

Work underground

Go to Fairy-Land

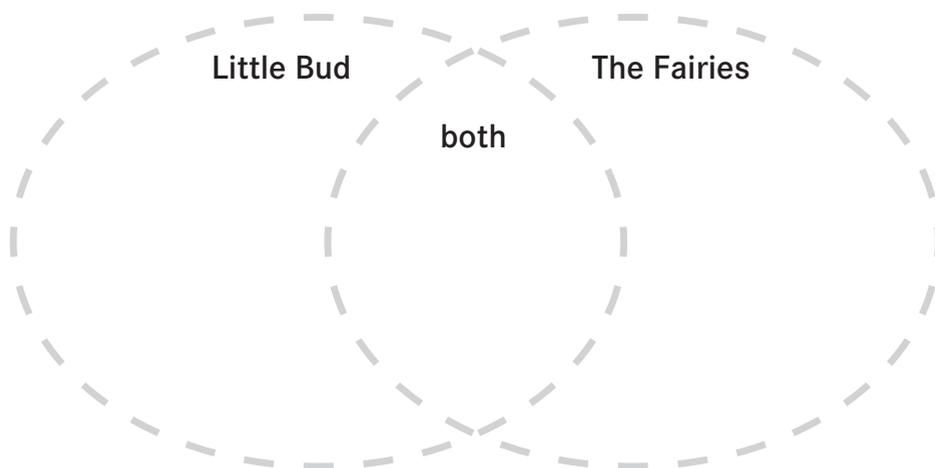
Water the sleeping seeds

Look after flowers

Fly on a butterfly

Teach the little birds

Win the Queen's pardon



# during reading

- 5 **Make a list** of all the positive words and all the negative words in this fable.

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- 6 **Answer** these questions with your own ideas.

Who was Little Bud? Where did she come from?

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Why were the fairies angry?

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Why did Little Bud leave Fairy-Land before the band of Fairies could thank her?

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## Ripple, the Water-Spirit

1 **Choose** the right words.

Ripple loved **collecting** / **listening to** shells on the beach.

Ripple and her sister Spirits lived **under the sea** / **on the beach**.

The Water-Spirits **could** / **couldn't** help the people who died at sea.

The little child had been **swimming near** / **collecting shells on** the beach.

The Spirits made a bed of flowers for the **sleeping** / **dead** child.

The voice Ripple heard **was** / **wasn't** her sister Spirits singing.

The crying mother **wanted** / **didn't want** Ripple to use her magic.

2 **Write** your ideas.

What did Ripple promise the crying mother?

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Why did she promise that?

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Why did the Queen of the Water-Spirits say the promise was impossible?

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Why did the Queen say that Ripple couldn't go to ask the Fire-Spirits for help?

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Why was the Queen sad when she agreed that Ripple could go?

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# during reading

**3** **Decide** which season these things refer to.

	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
Birds learning to sing				
Yellow harvests waving				
Land covered in snow				
A breeze				
A sunbeam				
A yellow leaf				
A snowflake				
A white dress				
A purple cape				

**4** **Identify** which character said these things.

“Why is everything so bright and beautiful?” \_\_\_\_\_ asked the birds.

“The Fire-Spirits’ home is far, far away,” \_\_\_\_\_ said to Ripple.

“I do not know where you can find the Spirits you are looking for,” \_\_\_\_\_ told Ripple.

“I will carry your news to the patient woman,” \_\_\_\_\_ promised Ripple.

“Do not be afraid of me,” \_\_\_\_\_ said to Ripple.

“Do not continue this dangerous journey to the sky,” \_\_\_\_\_ warned Ripple.

“Fly straight upward through the air,” \_\_\_\_\_ ordered Breeze.

**5** **Correct** the 7 mistakes.

Ripple couldn't swim so Breeze carried her through the sea and up into the sky. Sunbeam lighted Ripple's journey through the dark clouds and rain, and Yellow-Leaf kept her cool as they floated higher and higher. When she got nearer the stars, Yellow-Leaf could not protect her but Ripple washed herself with Snowflake and the Fire-Spirits hot food did not burn her.

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**6** **Put** the events at the end of the story into the right order.

- Ripple took the child to his mother on the beach.
- The Queen said they needed the flames and could not help.
- Ripple promised to bring jewels from under the sea.
- The magic fire woke the dead child.
- The Fire-Spirits each gave Ripple a little of their flame.
- The Fire-Spirits made a rainbow to show their thanks.
- The mother gave Ripple her chain of pearls to show her thanks.
- Ripple gave the Fire-Spirits her chain of pearls.
- The Queen wanted Ripple's jewels in exchange for a little of her flame.
- Ripple took the Fire-Spirits' bags of jewels from under the sea.
- Ripple's jewels melted when the Fire-Spirits touched them.
- Ripple's jewels melted when the Queen touched them.

# after reading

1 **Match** these words from the story with their definitions.

Blossom	a small part of a fruit or plant which can grow into another plant
Breeze	water which appears on grass overnight
Bud	flowers on trees and plants, often followed by fruit
Dew	a long cold piece of ice which hangs from caves, roofs, etc.
Frost	a gentle wind that is often warm
Icicle	a cold, icy powder
Seed	the tightly folded leaves or petals before a flower opens

2 The three stories are told by different fairies. **Write** the names of the correct fairy next to their story.

\_\_\_\_\_ told a story about a creature who tried to help bad fairies to be good.

\_\_\_\_\_ told a story about a spirit who tried to help a human.

\_\_\_\_\_ told a story about a fairy who tried to make a bad creature good.

3 **Put** these words into the right place - Air, Land or Sea.

coral rainbow dew seaweed shell breeze  
strawberry lily algae vine cloud pearl sunbeam  
moss moonlight

Air	Land	Sea

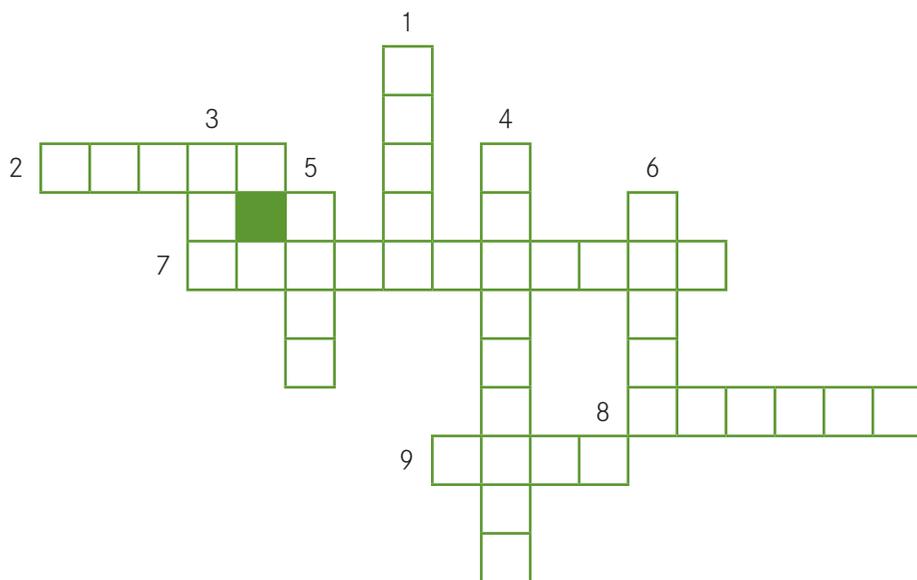
4 **Complete** this crossword with words about the magical creatures in the fables.

**Across**

- 2. The chief of the fairies
- 7. A special place where magic things happen
- 8. An imaginary being with magic powers
- 9. A special magic stick

**Down**

- 1. A tiny magical creature with wings
- 3. Another word for 1 Down
- 4. The country where magical people live
- 5. The chief of the Frost-Spirits
- 6. The plural of 3 Down



5 Which is your favourite character from the three stories? **Describe** him or her. Why do you like them the best?

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# after reading

**6** Choose the odd one out and **explain** your reasons.

Violet Little Bud Ripple

\_\_\_\_\_ is the odd one out, because \_\_\_\_\_.

The wreath of flowers The pearl necklace  
The Fairy crown, Fairy dress and Fairy Wand

\_\_\_\_\_ is the odd one out, because  
\_\_\_\_\_.

The Frost King's palace Queen Dew-Drop's Flower Palace  
The palace of the Queen of the Water-Spirits

\_\_\_\_\_ is the odd one out, because  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Silver Wings Golden-Wing Moonlight

\_\_\_\_\_ is the odd one out, because \_\_\_\_\_.

Spring Summer Autumn Winter

\_\_\_\_\_ is the odd one out, because \_\_\_\_\_.

**7** Order these summaries of the three stories.

of Love. the Frost-King the power Violet showed

showed how Little Bud happiness. can bring  
hard work

Ripple a child a way to find to bring  
the world back to life. travelled