

The Christmas Fairy of Strasbourg

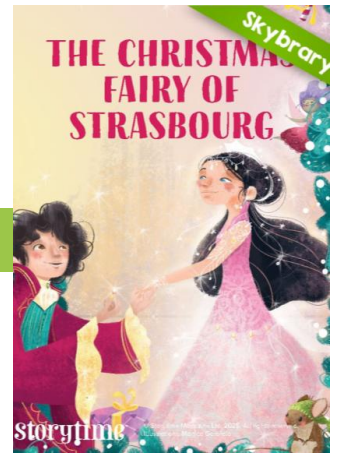
READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Christmas, Celebrate, Magic

Book Brief: A count loses a ring and finds a fairy bride in this magical Christmas tale.

Author:
Storytime

Illustrator:
Monica Garofalo



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice.

The Pictures: Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, "What is Christmas about? How do people celebrate Christmas?"

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, think about the message or lesson of this story. What can we learn from Count Otto and Queen Ernestine?"

DURING READING

Check for understanding and make connections:

- What was Count Otto's nickname? Why did the people call him that?
- What mystery did Count Otto want to get to the bottom of?
- What happens when Count Otto loses his ring?
- Why did Queen Ernestine disappear?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: What is the central message or lesson of this story? What can we learn from what happened to Count Otto?

Extending Our Thinking: Ask students, "How do you think Count Otto could get Queen Ernestine back? What would happen next?" Connect the story's magical elements and problem to how stories can continue beyond the ending, and we can use our imagination to create new adventures. Encourage students to write or draw a continuation of the story showing how Count Otto gets Queen Ernestine back. Students can share their story endings with the class and explain their creative solutions.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content such as [Swan Lake](#) and [The Easter Bunny](#).