

# once upon a picture

**Once upon a picture:** Exploring the Magic and Meaning Behind Visual Stories

In a world saturated with images, the phrase *once upon a picture* evokes the timeless allure of storytelling through visual art. Whether capturing a fleeting moment or a carefully composed scene, photographs and illustrations have the power to narrate stories that transcend language barriers and cultural differences. This article delves into the captivating realm of *once upon a picture*, examining its significance, history, techniques, and how it continues to shape our understanding of storytelling in the digital age.

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## Understanding the Concept of "Once Upon a Picture"

### What Does the Phrase Mean?

The phrase *once upon a picture* draws inspiration from the classic storytelling trope "once upon a time," emphasizing the narrative potential of images. It suggests that each picture holds a story — a moment frozen in time that invites viewers to imagine, interpret, and connect.

### The Power of Visual Storytelling

Visual storytelling is a compelling communication form that uses images to:

- Convey emotions and moods
- Document historical events
- Portray cultural narratives
- Inspire imagination and creativity

Pictures can evoke empathy, challenge perceptions, and preserve memories, making *once upon a picture* a fitting metaphor for stories told without words.

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## The History of Visual Narratives

### Ancient Art and Cave Paintings

Humans have used images to tell stories since prehistoric times. Examples include:

1. Stone Age cave paintings depicting hunting scenes
2. Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs illustrating religious stories
3. Greek and Roman mosaics narrating mythological tales

## Print and Photography Revolution

The invention of the printing press and photography transformed storytelling:

- **Illustrated books** brought stories to life visually for the masses.
- **Photography** captured real-life moments, documenting history and daily life.

## Digital Era and Social Media

Today, platforms like Instagram, Pinterest, and TikTok have democratized visual storytelling, allowing anyone to share *once upon a picture* with a global audience.

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## Techniques for Creating Impactful "Once Upon a Picture" Stories

### Composition and Framing

Good composition directs the viewer's eye and emphasizes the story:

- **Rule of thirds:** Placing key elements off-center for balance
- **Leading lines:** Guiding viewers through the image
- **Framing:** Using natural or architectural elements to focus attention

### Lighting and Color

Lighting sets the mood:

- **Soft light** for gentle, romantic stories
- **Harsh shadows** for drama or tension
- **Vibrant colors** to evoke energy and excitement
- **Muted tones** for somber or nostalgic narratives

## Subject and Moment

Choosing the right subject and capturing the decisive moment can make a story resonate:

1. Expressive facial expressions
2. Dynamic movement
3. Unusual or candid shots

## Post-Processing and Presentation

Editing can enhance storytelling:

- Adjusting contrast and saturation
- Applying filters for mood
- Cropping to improve focus

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## The Role of "Once Upon a Picture" in Different Contexts

### In Personal Life and Memories

Photos serve as visual diaries, capturing milestones, family moments, and personal growth. They:

1. Preserve memories for future generations
2. Help tell personal stories in albums and social media
3. Facilitate reflection and nostalgia

## **In Art and Creativity**

Artists use images to tell complex stories or evoke abstract concepts:

- Photographers creating documentary series
- Illustrators narrating fairy tales or social issues
- Mixed media art combining images and text

## **In Journalism and Media**

Photojournalism relies on *once upon a picture* to inform and influence:

1. Documenting conflicts and humanitarian crises
2. Highlighting social injustices
3. Complementing written reports to deepen understanding

## **In Marketing and Branding**

Brands leverage visual stories to connect emotionally with audiences:

- Storytelling through product images
- Brand narratives conveyed via visual campaigns
- Creating memorable impressions that foster loyalty

# How to Craft Your Own "Once Upon a Picture" Story

## Step 1: Define Your Narrative

Identify the story you want to tell. Consider:

- The message or emotion you want to convey
- The audience you're targeting
- The core theme or idea

## Step 2: Choose the Right Visuals

Select images that align with your story:

- Use authentic and meaningful subjects
- Capture candid or staged moments as appropriate
- Experiment with perspectives and angles

## Step 3: Focus on Composition and Mood

Apply techniques for impact:

- Use lighting creatively to set tone
- Frame subjects to emphasize relationships
- Incorporate color schemes that support your theme

## Step 4: Tell a Complete Story

Combine images with captions, sequences, or context:

1. Create photo series or albums

2. Add descriptive or poetic captions
3. Use sequencing to build narrative flow

## Step 5: Share and Engage

Distribute your story through appropriate channels:

- Social media platforms
- Personal blogs or websites
- Exhibitions or publications

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## SEO Tips for "Once Upon a Picture" Content

To maximize visibility for content centered around *once upon a picture*, consider the following SEO strategies:

1. **Use targeted keywords:** Incorporate phrases like "visual storytelling," "photography tips," "storytelling with images," and "photo narratives."
2. **Optimize images:** Use descriptive alt text and file names that reflect the content.
3. **Create quality backlinks:** Share your stories on relevant platforms and collaborate with other creators.
4. **Engage with your audience:** Encourage comments and sharing to increase reach.
5. **Update regularly:** Keep content fresh with new stories, techniques, and examples.

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## The Future of "Once Upon a Picture"

As technology advances, the ways we tell stories through images continue to evolve:

- **Artificial Intelligence:** AI-generated images and augmented reality open new storytelling avenues.
- **Interactive media:** Combining images with sound, video, and interactivity for immersive experiences.
- **Global connectivity:** Sharing stories instantly across borders, fostering cross-cultural understanding.

Despite these innovations, the fundamental power of a well-told *once upon a picture* remains rooted in its ability to evoke emotion, spark imagination, and connect us through shared stories.

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## Conclusion

The phrase *once upon a picture* encapsulates the timeless art of storytelling through images. From ancient cave paintings to modern digital platforms, visual narratives continue to shape our perceptions, preserve our memories, and inspire creativity. Whether you're a professional photographer, an artist, or simply someone eager to share your story, understanding the techniques and significance of visual storytelling can elevate your work. Remember, every picture has a story — all it takes is a keen eye and a creative spirit to bring it to life.

Embrace the magic of *once upon a picture* and let your images tell stories that resonate for generations to come.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is 'Once Upon a Picture' and how does it work?

'Once Upon a Picture' is a creative activity or game where participants craft stories based on random images or pictures. It encourages storytelling, imagination, and collaborative thinking by prompting users to develop narratives inspired by visual prompts.

### How can I participate in 'Once Upon a Picture' online?

You can participate by joining online platforms or social media groups dedicated to 'Once Upon a Picture.' These often provide daily or weekly image prompts and encourage users to share their stories, fostering a community of storytellers and artists.

### What are the benefits of engaging with 'Once Upon a Picture'?

## **for children?**

Engaging with 'Once Upon a Picture' helps children develop their creativity, storytelling skills, vocabulary, and visual literacy. It also encourages imagination, critical thinking, and can enhance their confidence in sharing ideas and narratives.

## **Can 'Once Upon a Picture' be used as an educational tool in classrooms?**

Yes, educators often use 'Once Upon a Picture' as a classroom activity to promote literacy, creative writing, and art skills. It can be integrated into lessons to foster engagement, storytelling abilities, and collaborative learning among students.

## **Are there any popular apps or websites dedicated to 'Once Upon a Picture'?**

Several apps and websites facilitate 'Once Upon a Picture' activities, such as storytelling apps, digital art platforms, and social media pages that regularly post images for storytelling prompts. Some popular platforms include Storybird, Pinterest, and dedicated Facebook groups.

## **What are some creative ways to expand the 'Once Upon a Picture' activity?**

You can expand the activity by adding themes or genres, creating collaborative stories with multiple participants, incorporating art or music elements, or turning stories into short videos or comics. Hosting contests or themed challenges can also increase engagement and creativity.

## **Additional Resources**

Once Upon a Picture: A Deep Dive into Storytelling Through Visuals

In the realm of visual storytelling, once upon a picture has become more than just a phrase—it's a powerful concept that encapsulates the art of capturing stories, emotions, and narratives within a single frame. Whether in photography, illustration, or digital art, the phrase evokes the timeless tradition of storytelling that begins with a simple image, inviting viewers to imagine, interpret, and connect on a profound level. In this article, we will explore what makes once upon a picture a compelling approach to visual storytelling, how artists and creators harness this concept, and practical tips to craft images that tell stories as captivating as words.

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Understanding the Essence of "Once Upon a Picture"

The Origins and Significance

The phrase once upon a picture draws inspiration from the classic storytelling phrase "once upon a time," which signals the beginning of a narrative. When adapted to visual art, it emphasizes the idea

that each image can serve as the starting point of a story—an invitation for viewers to imagine the narrative behind the picture. This approach transforms a static image into a dynamic storytelling device, bridging the gap between viewer and creator.

## Why Visual Stories Matter

Visual stories have a unique power—they transcend language barriers, evoke emotions instantly, and stimulate imagination. An image can communicate complex ideas, cultural values, or emotional states more efficiently than words alone. The phrase once upon a picture encapsulates this power, urging artists to craft images that are not just aesthetically pleasing but also narratively rich.

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## The Components of a "Once Upon a Picture" Story

Creating a compelling once upon a picture involves multiple elements working harmoniously:

### 1. Subject and Composition

- Focus: The main subject should evoke curiosity or emotion.
- Placement: Use compositional techniques like the rule of thirds to guide viewer attention.
- Background and Foreground: These elements provide context and depth, hinting at the story.

### 2. Emotion and Mood

- Use lighting, color palette, and expressions to evoke specific emotions.
- Mood sets the tone, whether it's whimsical, somber, mysterious, or joyful.

### 3. Contextual Clues

- Small details or symbols within the image can hint at a backstory.
- Environment, objects, attire, and posture all contribute to narrative clues.

### 4. Ambiguity and Open-Endedness

- Leaving some elements ambiguous invites viewers to invent their own stories.
- Balance between clarity and mystery makes the image engaging.

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## Techniques for Crafting a "Once Upon a Picture" Narrative

### Visual Composition Strategies

- Leading Lines: Direct the viewer's eye towards the focal point, guiding their imagination.
- Framing: Use natural or architectural elements to frame the subject, adding context.
- Contrast and Color: Employ contrasting colors or tones to highlight emotional aspects or important details.

### Lighting and Color

- Lighting: Soft, harsh, backlighting—each creates different atmospheres.
- Color Palette: Warm tones evoke comfort or nostalgia; cool tones suggest calmness or melancholy.

## Symbolism and Metaphors

- Incorporate symbolic objects or settings that carry layered meanings.
- Use metaphors to suggest themes like hope, loss, adventure, or transformation.

## Narrative Devices

- Juxtaposition: Place contrasting elements to create tension or highlight differences.
- Sequence: Series of images that tell a broader story over multiple frames.

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## Examples of "Once Upon a Picture" in Practice

### Photography

Photographers often use once upon a picture to tell stories about daily life, cultural traditions, or personal journeys. For example, a candid shot of children playing in a rainstorm can evoke nostalgia and innocence, prompting viewers to imagine their own childhood adventures.

### Illustration and Comics

Artists can craft entire stories in a single illustration by embedding visual cues—like a character's expression, background details, or symbolic items—that hint at a past or future event, inspiring viewers to fill in the gaps.

### Digital Art and Concept Art

Concept artists working on film or video games often use once upon a picture to set the scene or mood, providing a snapshot that sparks imagination and further storytelling.

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## Practical Tips for Creating Your Own "Once Upon a Picture"

If you're inspired to craft images that tell stories, here are some actionable tips:

### 1. Start with a Narrative Idea

- Think about the story or emotion you want to convey before capturing or creating the image.
- It could be a personal memory, a fictional scene, or an abstract concept.

### 2. Use Visual Elements Intentionally

- Select subjects, backgrounds, and props that support your narrative.
- Pay attention to details that can serve as storytelling clues.

### 3. Focus on Emotion and Atmosphere

- Use lighting and color to evoke the desired mood.
- Capture genuine expressions or gestures that convey feeling.

#### 4. Leave Room for Interpretation

- Incorporate elements that are open to multiple interpretations.
- Avoid over-explaining; trust viewers to engage their imagination.

#### 5. Experiment with Composition

- Play with framing, perspective, and depth to guide storytelling.
- Use unconventional angles or focal points to add intrigue.

#### 6. Incorporate Symbols and Metaphors

- Embed meaningful objects or settings that add layers to the story.
- Think about cultural or personal symbolism.

#### 7. Review and Reflect

- Step back and ask yourself: Does this image invite a story?
- Share with others to see what narratives they imagine.

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### The Power of "Once Upon a Picture" in Modern Media

In today's digital age, once upon a picture has found new life through social media, digital galleries, and multimedia storytelling. Platforms like Instagram, Pinterest, and art-sharing sites allow creators to share images that immediately spark viewer engagement and narrative creation.

#### Impact on Marketing and Branding

Brands harness this concept by creating visual campaigns that tell stories—an ad image that evokes aspiration, nostalgia, or community. The goal is to make viewers imagine themselves within the narrative the brand constructs.

#### Educational and Cultural Significance

Educators and cultural institutions use powerful images to tell stories about history, identity, or social issues, encouraging viewers to reflect and imagine solutions or futures.

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### Conclusion: Embracing the Narrative Power of a Single Image

Once upon a picture is more than a catchy phrase; it's a philosophy that champions the storytelling potential inherent in every visual. Whether you're a photographer, illustrator, designer, or simply an avid visual storyteller, embracing this concept can elevate your work from mere aesthetics to meaningful narratives. By carefully composing your images, embedding symbolism, and inviting interpretation, you create not just a picture but a doorway into stories waiting to be told. Remember,

every image has the power to start a story—what will yours say?

## Once Upon A Picture

**once upon a picture:** *Once upon a time, a picture-book of nursery tales* Once, 1902

**once upon a picture: Once Upon A Time** Terrence L. Gargiulo, 2007-06-30 Terence Gargiulo's 'breakthrough' communications and storytelling are amply demonstrated with dozens of corporate examples. And the best part? Gargiulo shows us, step by step, how to create this storytelling communication magic in our own organizations. The competencies assessed by the instrument represent the nine essential communication behaviors that need to be developed and cultivated in all of today's leaders and managers: Modeling, Telling, Selecting, Indexing, Synthesizing, Reflecting, Eliciting, Listening and Observing. Once Upon a Time will show you how to develop exceptional communication skills, and it will serve as an invaluable resource for helping others do the same. Stories are a natural part of how we communicate. Yet many of us are unaware of the different ways we use stories. This book will take the intuitive aspects of communicating through stories and break it down into repeatable practices and essential competencies. The story-based activities in the second half of the book will give you powerful, easy to lead, structured, experiential exercises that can be used in a variety of settings and for lots of different purposes that go beyond training.

**once upon a picture: Once Upon a Time** John Morgan, Mario Rinvoluti, 1983-11-24 A wide range of motivating and engaging stories from many cultures and sources.

**once upon a picture: Once Upon a Cruise: A Wish Novel** Anna Staniszewski, 2016-09-27 A funny, fractured fairy tale (sort of) from the author of the beloved Dirt Diaries series! Ainsley never wanted to spend her summer on a fairy tale cruise--especially since, instead of lounging by the pool, she's running around the ship doing favor after favor for her cruise director mom. Things aren't all bad--it's good to see her mom acting confident again after the divorce, and she's learning a lot about obscure German fairy tales and how to fold towels into entertaining shapes for little kids (um, yay?). There's also a guy who's super cute, even in a dorky dwarf costume--if only Ainsley could get Prince Handsome to stop babbling about himself long enough for her to say more than 'hi' to the cute dwarf! But once the cruise starts, things start to go wrong: the laundry turns pink, the kitchen runs out of food, the guy playing the Pig King is always in Ainsley's hair, and her mom expects her to be in a hundred places all at once. Is this fairy tale cruise under a wicked curse? Or can Ainsley stand up for herself and make the cruise end happily ever after?

**once upon a picture: Once Upon a Time, There Was a Thomas Named Thomas...** Karen Fyke Kirchel (and Thomas Kirchel), 2013-12-18

**once upon a picture: Once Upon a Time in a Dark and Scary Book** K. Shryock Hood, 2018-06-07 Contemporary American horror literature for children and young adults has two bold messages for readers: adults are untrustworthy, unreliable and often dangerous; and the monster always wins (as it must if there is to be a sequel). Examining the young adult horror series and the religious horror series for children (Left Behind: The Kids) for the first time, and tracing the unstoppable monster to Seuss's Cat in the Hat, this book sheds new light on the problematic message produced by the combination of marketing and books for contemporary American young readers.

**once upon a picture: Once Upon a Green Meadow** Ernestine McMillan Hilton, 2007-08-22 This poignant memoir shares one woman's memories growing up between the two world wars as a member of the McMillan family, a hardworking bunch who made their living on an eastern Washington farm. In a series of vignettes, Ernestine McMillan Hilton recalls the joys of small-town holiday celebrations, close-knit neighbors, and the events that shape the lives of the McMillans as

they scratch a living from a scabland farm. With vivid detail, Hilton remembers how the sweet taste of strawberry Jell-O mingled with the wonders of Election Day in 1924 when her mother had the opportunity to vote for the first time, and she revisits how the end of the horse-and-buggy era gave rise to the Model T. She also relates the arrival of her baby brothers, the joys of going to school, and the hardships of the Great Depression. *Once Upon a Green Meadow* re-creates the charm and hardship of a rural American life that has vanished forever. But more importantly, Hilton's memoir reveals how one family's love sustained them throughout the hard times.

**once upon a picture:** *Once Upon a Wedding* Nancy Millar, 2000 Find out about the west's first society weddings, mail order brides, honeymoon trips from hell, no honeymoons at all, wedding dresses from the catalogue, double weddings, wartime weddings, picture brides and grooms, happy-ever-after endings and perfectly horrible endings. It's a history book that doesn't sound like a history book. A pleasurable way of learning more about Canada between 1860 and 1945.--

**once upon a picture:** *Once Upon a Time and Stories from Around the World* Rosaria M. Wills, 2011-09-19 This book is a recollection of the author life during World War II, her life with her husband. Poems written by her husband and short stories with moral meaning.

**once upon a picture:** *Once Upon A Time in the Italian West* Howard Hughes, 2004-09-24 The ideal popular guide to, and story of, the implausible international fusion of directors, actors and personnel who created the mythical Spaghetti West in the most improbable of circumstances. Authoritative and entertaining, the book focuses on Sergio Leone's 'Dollars trilogy' and other major works of the genre. This popular guide explores the films through the biographies and filmographies of key personnel, stories of the films' making, their locations and sets, sources, musical scores, detailed cast information, box office fortunes internationally, illustrated throughout with posters and stills, many of which are published here for the first time.

**once upon a picture:** *Once Upon a Nervous Breakdown* Patrick Sanchez, 2007 Between dealing with her mother's failing health, her five-year-old son, her new housemate, her ex-husband who is now out of the closet, and her re-entry into the dating scene, Jennifer Costas fears for her own mental stability. Original.

**once upon a picture:** *Once Upon a Sign* Kim Taylor-DiLeva, 2010-11-11 This book shows how integrating American Sign Language (ASL) into story time and other educational programs can benefit and entertain ALL children, whether or not they are hearing impaired, from infancy onward. There are a multitude of reasons to introduce hearing children to American Sign Language, currently the third most-used language in the United States. Babies and young children who are taught basic signing typically have a stronger bond with their parents; young children who sign show increased self confidence and enthusiasm for learning, and studies have even shown significantly higher IQs as a result of using sign language. *Once Upon a Sign: Using American Sign Language to Engage, Entertain, and Teach All Children* contains an introduction to using American Sign Language in the library, suggested program ideas for infants and toddlers (and their parents), as well as suggestions for school-age children, 'tweens, and even teens. By showing librarians and other educators how to integrate American Sign Language into their lapsit, preschool storytime, and 'tween/teen programs, this text will benefit not only the hearing children that constitute the majority of patrons, but also help hearing impaired and deaf children feel welcome and appreciated in the library.

**once upon a picture:** *Once Upon a Spring Break* Jillian Snyder, 2012-02-15 A bar hookup and a spring-break fling—it's not supposed to last, right? But when party boy Justin Covelli meets Greg Waterman on his spring trip to Hawaii, hooking up is only the beginning. Greg's a grad student, serious to the bone, who has put his partying days behind him. Justin's just looking to blow off steam and get away from an oppressive family while checking out the graduate program at Hawaii Pacific University. But when these two young men start spending time together, they discover that what was supposed to be a random meeting of bodies may truly have the seeds of happily ever after.

**once upon a picture:** *Once Upon a Challenge* Nancy L. Burns, 2009-07 It was the late 1940s

when a tall, skinny sixth-grader picked up a shiny object off the ground in her small Missouri town and became the victim of a tragic circumstance an explosive left carelessly behind took away her vision and changed her forever. With a quietly inspirational style, Nancy Burns shares her poignant life experiences as a blind woman with the hope of educating and enlightening others about certain societal misconceptions and attitudes regarding those who are disabled. Beginning with the moment when she woke up in the hospital both eyes bandaged and realized she would not receive the emotional comfort and guidance she so desperately needed, Burns offers a compelling glimpse into the fulfilling world she created for herself, despite her disability. Her personal story chronicles her struggles as a young girl learning to live with her vision loss, her family's inability to acknowledge her disability, and her determined journey to acquire the skills that led her to eventually become a vocational counselor who worked with disabled clients. In *Once Upon a Challenge: Hearing is Believing* Burns offers an important message the way one chooses to live with challenges becomes the key to success in life.

**once upon a picture: Once Upon a Time Collection - Volume 2** Kathryn Kaleigh, 2020-04-25 Two riveting time travel standalone stories in best-selling author Kathryn Kaleigh's *Once Upon a Time* series. Fall in love with the Becquerel family and travel with them through time. *ONCE IN A BLUE MOON* Arabella Becquerel inherits an antebellum plantation house from her great-grandmother. A house overrun with Civil War re-enactors adamant about staying in character and insisting that the year is 1863. Arabella discovers secrets in the past that could change her life forever. A standalone story that introduces new characters into best-selling author Kathryn Kaleigh's *Once Upon a Time* world of time travel romance. *ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS* Vaughn Dupre woke disoriented. Nothing unusual. She woke disoriented every day. In 1714 Indians attacked her traveling party. Only she survived. She found something completely unexpected in 1820. Something life changing. But today Vaughn wakes in 1969. A time travel story.

**once upon a picture: Once Upon a Time** Sheila Egoff, 2005-09-01 In *Once Upon a Time: My Life with Children's Books* Sheila Egoff tells the story of her working life, from her early voracious reading, through all her significant contributions to libraries in Canada and to our national understanding of our own literature for children. She brings both a critical eye and a personal touch to this book, which reads as a memoir and as an account of important developments in Canadian writing and librarianship. In this time of cuts to budgets for books and for librarians, there is much here to reflect upon.

**once upon a picture: Once Upon a Time** Barbara Fradkin, 2002-09-01 In this second tightly paced police procedural in the award-winning series, Inspector Green is drawn into a case with a suspicious link to the past. When an old man dies a seemingly natural death in a parking lot, only Inspector Michael Green finds it suspicious. A search of the deceased's isolated house turns up an old tool box with a hidden compartment containing a German ID card from World War II. As well, his family seems to be harbouring secrets and withholding valuable information from the police. Was the victim a Jewish camp survivor or a Nazi soldier trying to escape imprisonment? Could someone have tracked him down for revenge? Even Green, with all his experience, could never have imagined that the truth would come so close to his own life.

**once upon a picture: *Once Upon A Cliche, A Peaceful Pilgrim Novel*** Karen Wiesner, 2019-04-04 Detached and ignored for most of her life, Brayla Sullivan is the awkward, ugly duckling destined for spinsterhood who's never been kissed, never gone anywhere beyond the small town she was born and raised in. When she starts corresponding with a man from a Meet Exotic Singles website and he suggests they meet, she drops everything to fly to him in a last-ditch effort to find her happily-ever-after. The only son in a family of daughters, Shaun Levi, Peaceful's Chief of Police, has never looked the part of a dashing hero. Brayla has been nothing more than a buddy he's known all his life. But, when a kiss between them on New Year's takes a turn for the what-have-we-done?, he sees a side to his old friend he never anticipated?and the consequences may just leave him without a friend or a prayer of convincing her they could share so much more. What follows is a series of unfortunate events in which everything goes wrong?

**once upon a picture:** *Once Upon a Universe* Robert Gilmore, 2013-06-29 Once upon a time there was no Universe, began the Storyteller. . . . First Snow White encounters one of the Little People, then one of the Even Smaller People, and finally one of the Truly Infinitesimal People. And no matter how diligently she searches, the only dwarves she can find are collapsed stars! Clearly, she's not at home in her well-known Brothers Grimm fairy tale, but instead in a strange new landscape that features quantum behavior, the wavelike properties of particles, and the Uncertainty Principle. She (and we) must have entered, in short, one of the worlds created by Robert Gilmore, the physicist and fabulist who brought us the classic *Alice in Quantumland*. Whether he's recasting such classic tales as Jack and the Quarkstalk, Waking Beauty, or Cinderella and the Death of Stars, Gilmore shows us that there's more than one way to shed light on the strange profundities of modern physics and cosmology, and what they have to tell us about the nature of time and space and motion. Black holes, dying stars, traveling backward through time to the Big Bang - they're all here in accessible, instructive, and charmingly illustrated retellings. Robert Gilmore has published three previous books with Copernicus, *Alice in Quantumland*, *Scrooge's Cryptic Carol*, and *The Wizard of Quarks*. He is a Visiting Research Fellow, with a special focus on the public understanding of science, at Bristol University in England. He has also worked in particle physics at Brookhaven, Stanford, and CERN in Geneva.

**once upon a picture:** *Once Upon a Time in the Contemporary World* Elena Polyudova, 2016-04-26 This volume brings together a selection of streams present in modern mass-media culture, from classic cartoons to TV series. The chapters form a rich mosaic of interconnecting themes, and highlight the current process of transforming well-known fairy-tale plots. The book considers recent media productions, such as "Once Upon a Time" and "Beauty and the Beast" as modern fairy-tales for children and adults, showing these new versions of familiar characters to reflect the psychological demands of the contemporary audience in the post-modernist cultural environment. In addition, the book explores new Internet fiction genres, including fan-fiction, interactive fairy-tales, and fairy-tale blogs. As a part of cultural studies, the book considers classic cartoons based on books, such as "Mowgli" and "The Little Prince", from philosophical and cross-cultural points of view.

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