

Happy Ever After

A Long Long Time Ago, even before Once Upon a Time, Headmistress Grimm was completing reports on the students who would be graduating at the end of the year. Running the Finishing School for Fairytale Princesses was her life's work.

Business was booming. After all, the parents could afford the exorbitant fees, but their expectations were unrealistically high given the intellectual calibre of their overprivileged daughters. The girls were mostly pretty and often sweet natured (there were some notable exceptions!) but not always academically gifted. Not that brains were a prerequisite for bagging a prince (quite the contrary it seemed).

She tapped her teeth with her pen before starting to write.

“Cinderella has done well in most subjects but has underperformed in Deportment. She is easily bullied and needs to develop a backbone.”

“Sleeping Beauty would concentrate better if she got a full night's sleep. She is constantly nodding off in class.”

“Snow White needs to develop her palate. She has no discernment when it comes to making the right food choices and might eat something that could harm her (or worse, make her fat!)”

She worked through the reports summarising each girl's achievements in all subjects:

- Aesthetics (keeping young and beautiful)
- Self Defence (avoiding wicked people, potions and spells)
- Management Skills (recruiting and retaining a fairy Godmother)
- Observational Studies (spotting your Prince even if he looks like a frog)

Not all the girls would graduate, but for those who lacked beauty, charm and empathy, the school offered another year of Further Studies (at a price!) including courses on:

- How to Marry a Rich Widower
- Getting Rid of the Opposition

What did the future hold for all her girls? Her crystal ball would not reveal.

‘Happy ever after’ she hoped.

Inspired by a number of fairy tales where the princess finds her prince (eventually)

Referenced here is Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty and Snow White.