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Where Fairies Dance

Sandra L. Tidwell

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Hague, Michael. *Where Fairies Dance*. Illustrated by Michael Hague. Harper Collins, 2004. ISBN 9780061468681. \$16.99. 37 p.

Reviewer: Sandra L. Tidwell

Reading Level: Primary

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Fantasy poetry; Poetry; Fairy poetry;

Subject: Fairies--Juvenile poetry; Books--Reviews;

Where Fairies Dance is a collection of thirteen fairy poems by various authors selected and illustrated by Michael Hague. In the author's note Hague explains that on a camping trip with his parents when he was young, he saw a little man with a red mushroom hat run through the forest. In contrast to his father's disbelief, his mother responded, "Lucky you!" It is with this belief in the reality of life in other time and space dimensions, that Hague brings to life these poems by Allingham, Shakespeare, Fyleman, DeLaMare, Worth, Milton, Seton, O'Neill, and Wynne. Known for his pen and ink, watercolor and colored pencil illustrations, Hague's fairy drawings include vibrantly colored and carefully detailed flower buds, blossoms, seeds, vines, butterfly and dragonfly wings, animals, and (of course) fairies and elves.

This selection would be a nice addition for read-aloud poetry-time at home and at school. The story-teller could also turn the readers' attention to details by asking: "Find the fairy Cinderella.", "What is the fairy on the front cover standing on?", "Where is the sleeping fairy mer-baby?" Individual readers will enjoy reading the poems and looking at each page spread's illustration.

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