



## **Fairie-ality: The Fashion Collection from the House of Ellwand**

*Eugenie Bird, David Downton (Illustrator), David Ellwand (Photographer)*

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**Do you believe in fairies? How about high fashion? Enter the exquisite world of fairie fashion - where feathered hats are designed for maximum lift, oak leaf jackets boast ample wing vents, and flower-petal flats are easily removable for flight.**

In the fairie world, there is only one top designer of couture and accessories . . .

Prepare to be enchanted! While humans go about their workaday lives, there is a secret world of well-dressed fairies flitting about in fragile fashions that would take your breath away - if only you could see them. Well, now you can. For the first time ever, elusive fairie couturier Ellwand allows mortals a peek at his ethereal designs in FAIRIE-ALITY, a catalogue so spectacularly crafted it befits a fairie queen herself. Showcased are nearly 150 creations - including dresses, jackets, trousers, shoes, hats, and delicate unmentionables - fashioned wholly from feathers, flower petals, shells, seeds, and other materials from nature. Consider these special features:

Extraordinary production elements, including three specially selected paper stocks; metallic inks; fold-out booklets; vellum envelope with removable fashion card; and numerous half-, third-, and quarter-pages, notably to showcase garments for a playful mix & match, offering dozens of outfits to create.

Drawings by celebrated fashion illustrator David Downton, capturing the graceful, but rarely glimpsed, fairie attired in Ellwand's designs.

Witty and delightfully romantic captions by Eugenie Bird.

A breathless narrative by a young fairie guiding us from The Season's start through May Day revelry and a Fairie Tale Wedding.

Filled with authentic fairie lore that will lure fairie lovers by the legion, this superbly designed volume also offers many clever nods to human fashion history. Its fun, fanciful costume descriptions will amuse the fashion-savvy everywhere, while the stunning array of fashions themselves - a veritable dress-up dream - will leave readers of all ages spellbound.

## **Fairie-ality: The Fashion Collection from the House of Ellwand Details**

Date : Published November 1st 2002 by Candlewick Press (first published January 1st 2002)

ISBN : 9780763614133

Author : Eugenie Bird , David Downton (Illustrator) , David Ellwand (Photographer)

Format : Hardcover 130 pages

Genre : Art, Fantasy, Couture, Fashion, Paranormal, Fairies

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## **From Reader Review Fairie-ality: The Fashion Collection from the House of Ellwand for online ebook**

### **Elizabeth says**

What will the fairies be wearing this season? Calla lilies and rose petal dresses, rhubarb skirts, gerbera daisy bell-bottoms, or snakeskin bikinis? This fashion catalogue for the wee folks will set the trends, in a very beautiful coffee table book that several readers asked for as a Christmas present.

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### **Kathryn says**

A gorgeous and stylish book! What fun to explore and savour. The fairy fashions are exquisite, some seem quite contemporary and others very whimsical. The materials are all natural--feathers, flowers, seeds, pebbles, shells--and styles range from ball gowns to swimsuits to daywear to wedding attire. The spread on hats alone will bring huge smiles! The book is beautifully assembled, lots of gorgeous glossy photographs, pretty sketches, vellum, fold-out spreads, an invitation to a fairy-ball tucked inside a vellum envelope. What imagination--and what eye candy! (You might just wish you were a small, winged thing so that you could wear these fashions, too!)

Note that the book is really all about fashion and that the "fantasy" element is that the fashion is for fairies and the materials are so charming and appropriate for this purpose. The book is NOT really "about" fairies so if you are looking for that sort of thing, you will not find it here.

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### **Ashley Howard says**

Beautiful illustrations and photographs of the tee tiniest fashion line on earth. Garments made from flower petals, moss, acorns, bark and fern- vivid colors and textures, sure to delight all the Thumbalinas and Tinkerbells in the world.

Now, if only these natural items could be made large enough to fit human!

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### **Monet St. Louis says**

this book is SO incredibly breathtaking! There are no words to describe it, iv'e owned it for 3 or 4 years now and i still am awed by the beauty of all the amazing faerie clothes!

If you love faeries, and love art that go buy this book! It will take your breath away. Iv'e been desperately trying to get my hands on the new Faerie-Ality book that came out a year or so ago, but its hard to find in canada.

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## **Beth says**

The fashion-magazine size and layout of this weighty volume is no mistake; Fairie-ality is an imaginative presentation of haute couture for fey folk. Based on the premise that faeries have a season, like the tony upper class, and thus require costumes for spring balls and summer swim parties, Bird and Dowton present a photo essay of tiny designer clothing concocted from natural objects: flowers, leaves, acorn caps, feathers and more.

Gowns take shape with peacock feathers, grass blades and petal skirts, paired with birchbark stilettos. Snakeskin adds pattern and texture to basic-cut undergarments. Seeds and shells add embellishment. Pheasant feathers reveal their glorious tones in a pullout section on cotillion collections. Not just for ladies, there are coordinating outfits for men as well, including a sleek black crow feather jacket adorned with periwinkle shell buttons. There is even a ready to wear section, with pages cut into three horizontal strips for mixing and matching of tops, bottoms, and stylish caps. The pieces de resistance are outfits for a royal family, and the wedding party garments, including a mother of the bride gown augmented with fluffy feathers, a top hat and peacock lined coat for the groom, and a gossamer white lily and feather gown for the bride.

In addition to the crisp, closeup, full-color photography, designer's sketches and watercolors accompanying many of the final products. The font matches each collection, by turns formal, hip or romantic. The textures are so clear the urge to run one's fingers over the pages is irresistible. The accompanying text could be straight out of the pages of Vogue. The captions are lush and descriptive, and narrative accompanies each section, outlining the events appropriate for each collection, or whom each piece might be worn by. Readers will spend hours pouring over the pages and marveling at the tiny details. Although not a must have, the excellence in execution and high re-readability rate a high recommended for most browsing collections.

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## **Sarai says**

This is a marvelous book of finery designed to be worn by faeries. Materials include pressed flowers, feathers, seashells, and other natural objects. Fashions have drawing concepts to go with the finished products. The photography is fabulous. The writing is witty.

To give you an example of the feel of the book, here is a quote from a review on Amazon:

The descriptions for the designs are each more breath-taking than the one before as evidenced by this commentary for the astonishing Maid of Honor dress: "Silky crow feathers and a single green parrot feather gather in layers, creating the touch-me velveteen look of the skirt - spellbinding. The bodice and straps are lily leaves; the overbodice, a whispering tracery of skeleton leaf. Sumptuous."

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## **Nicole says**

Do you build fairy gardens?

Do you have a fairy door in your house?

Do you watch the Tinkerbell movies and admire the artist's attention to detail?

If you said yes to any of the above, you will likely enjoy this beautiful fairy fashion book!

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### **Cindy says**

Oh my goodness! As soon as you open this book you know it's special. There's a few pages in the beginning that are interactive & I found myself catching my breath or whispering, "Oh!" with each page I turned. From the textured cardstock pages, thick vellum paper, the font, the illustrations, the photography, the writing you can't help, but notice every captivating detail. And then we come to the magnificent fairie fashions. Art & imagination know no bounds in this beautifully presented book. Anybody who loves fairies & fashion will be blown away. The artistry is so unique & exquisite. I was completely enchanted. Oh, to be a fairie. I didn't give it 5 stars because I selfishly & simply didn't want the book to end. I wanted more.

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### **Heather says**

A beautiful book of fairy couturier clothing for every occasion. All the outfits are made from items found in nature.

The dresses are so beautiful, I wish I could have one for real.

Which one would you wear if you were a fairy?

\*The Fanciful Pheasant for fall?

The Fanciful Pheasant-Pheasant feather skirt, beaech leaf bodice, and the unexpected Chinese lantern puff sleeves.

@Titania Gown for dancing?

Skin-tingling combination of pigeon (the skirt) and pheasant (the sleeves) with constricted snakeskin bodice.

\*Stargazer Spring Dress for running thru spring roses?

The skirt is a carnival of stargazer lilies; the top, a wrapped lilly, secured by narrow lily straps.

^The Rhubarb Skirt goes with everything for going everywhere.

Wide-wale rhubarb leaves topped with an oak leaf belg, rosebuds, and a red rum seed. Decorous yet earthy. Don't forget the hats, shoes, and swimwear!

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### **Joumana says**

This book is not about art, it is a piece of art! I'm don't usually go for fairies but I could not walk out without this book once it caught my attention. It is a fashion catalogue from the House of Ellwand, top fairie couturier...

Designed like a genuine high-end catalogue with fashion illustration and fancy inserts, Fairie-ality is rich in textures, whether from the different papers used or the beautiful photography, always consistent with what the aesthetics of a tiny nature-dwelling people might be. The star, of course, is the collection itself, a treasury of tiny outfits made of natural materials— feathers, leaves, petals, shed snakeskin, you name it – and photographed for the catalog. The ingenuity of the creations and the dazzling presentations still make me squeak at every page. There are dresses, hats, bathing suits, jackets, shoes, and just when you think you can't

be stunned anymore... the wedding dress. Who'd have thought fairies could be so trendy? The one things I regret, to nitpick a bit, is the somewhat cheap-looking drop shadow used for the pieces – such a beautiful product deserved better! But don't let that deter you if you love fairies, fashion or simply beautiful things, this is a bouquet of inspiration and wildflowers.

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### **Cassie says**

Another one of the books that fell in line with the fairy trend. And I bought into it every second. The outfits are cute, yes, but who honestly has the time to craft and painstakingly arrange and photograph and then assemble them all in to a book? It's a good book to flip through while you're waiting at the library for your mom to pick you up, but I wouldn't buy it to flip through more than once. Good for creativity, yes. Good for longevity, no.

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### **Josiphine/Tessa says**

This is so much fun to look through. The writing occasionally verges on vapid, but luckily the book is mostly photographs--and what photographs! The little fairie clothes are almost impossibly beautiful and detailed.

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### **Karen says**

I was most pleased with the book. This is such a whimsical tribute to Faery art! Ellwand has fashioned the most petite, realistic, gowns spun from delicate flower petals, tender new leaves that appear to have been dried in the summer sun. The diminutive shoes are so imaginative, everything from high-heels to boots fashioned from feathers offered here are for the most discerning faery. Included in the complete bridal collection are not only home-grown gowns for the sprites that serve as bridesmaids, to botanical attire for the parents, and of course for the bride, feather gowns and veils of air. I have worked as a floral designer for over 40 years, and have a deep appreciation for the incredible amount of work that went into these tiny designs. It's truly a wonderfully, delicious and most unique art book! Here's to Ellwand.

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### **Soniaonaa says**

This is probably one of my most favourite books from my childhood. My mother bought it for me when I went through a huge obsessive period of loving anything magical and fantastical (and honestly to this day I still feel the same way). There are some incredible designs in here that are seasonal and different occasions like weddings etc., with the attire ranging from shoes, hats and even complete outfit sets. Whenever flicking through this book my imagination creates little scenarios in my head of little fairies in different social situations wearing these outfits. The designs are beautiful and are made with such a sense of realism as the materials used are parts of nature like leaves, twigs, grass, petals and feathers. I've never seen a book quite like this one and I know it's something I'll hold onto and share with my children and their children to come.

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**Daisy says**

The creations are incredible, but it would be better if there were instructions as to how to make your own 'fairy fashions'. It's also a shame that when you do make them they don't last long, as the petals dry out etc.

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