



The Happy Prince & other tales Oscar Wilde

Oscar Wilde said of his story *The Happy Prince* that it was "an attempt to treat a tragic modern problem in a form that aims at delicacy and imaginative treatment; it is a reaction against the purely imitative character of modern art." His *Fairy Tales* then were only partly written for children and as he said, "partly for those who have kept the childlike faculties of wonder and joy, and who find in simplicity a subtle strangeness".

In *The Happy Prince* and *The Nightingale and the Rose*, Wilde explores love and self sacrifice. *The Selfish Giant* will not let the children in his garden but repents and is redeemed. *The Miller in the Devoted Friend* is not only selfish but an egotistical hypocrite. *The Remarkable Rocket* is also a tale about egotism and conceit. (Summary by Noel Badrian)

Read by Noel Badrian. Total running time: 1:51:59

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