**Stokes Valley Book Club**

**Once Upon a Time**

**November 2015**

**Mirror mirror : a novel / Gregory Maguire**

It is the year 1502, and seven year old Bianca de Navada lives high above the rolling hills of Tuscany and Umbria at Montefiore, the farm of her beloved father Don Vicente. Until one day a noble entourage makes it way up the winding slopes to the farm – and the world comes to Montefiore.

A lyrical work of stunning creative vision, *Mirror Mirror* gives fresh life to the classic story of Snow White – with a truth and beauty all its own.

**Bitter greens / Kate Forsyth**

Charlotte-Rose de la Force has been banished from court by the Sun King, Louis XIV, after a series of scandalous love affairs. She is comforted by an old nun, who tells her the tale of a young girl who is sold by her parents for a handful of bitter greens. Locked away in a tower, growing to womanhood, Margherita sings in the hope someone will hear her.

Three women, three lives, three stories, braided together to create a compelling story of desire, obsession, black magic, and the redemptive power of love.

**Briar Rose / Jane Yolen**

Ever since she was a child, Rebecca has been enchanted by her grandmother Gemma's stories about Briar Rose. But a promise Rebecca makes to her dying grandmother leads her on a remarkable journey to uncover her grandmother's astonishing claim: I am Briar Rose.

Her journey leads her to the brutality and horror of the Nazi holocaust in war time Poland, where the wall of thorns becomes a barbed-wire prison and the sleeping princess is both victim and heroine.

**East / Edith Pattou**

Rose has always been different. Her superstitious mother keeps the unusual circumstances of Rose's birth a secret … but she can’t suppress her adventurous daughter's true nature forever. So when an enormous white bear shows up one cold autumn evening and asks teenage Rose to come away with it – in exchange for health and prosperity for her ailing family – she readily agrees.

“A worthy retelling of ‘East of the Sun, West of the Moon’ that lives up to its promise and then some… This one really stands out.” CHRONICLE

**A curse dark as gold / Elizabeth C. Bunce**

Upon the death of her father, seventeen-year-old Charlotte struggles to keep the family's woolen mill running in the face of an overwhelming mortgage and what the local villagers believe is a curse, but when a man capable of spinning straw into gold appears on the scene she must decide if his help is worth the price.

“I thoroughly enjoyed it. A good, strong heroine fighting to save her livelihood and everyone dear to her, nicely creepy doings, and a satisfying end.” Patrice Kindl
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**Beauty / Sheri S. Tepper**
On her 16th birthday, the princess Beauty sidesteps the sleeping curse placed upon her by her wicked aunt, the fairy Carabosse, - only to be kidnapped by visitors from another time and place, far from the picturesque castle in 14th-century England. She is taken to the world of the future, a savage society where, even amongst the teeming billions, she is utterly alone. But as she travels magically to places both imaginary and real, Beauty comes to understand her special place in humanity's destiny.

“A story of mankind and magic, fairies and fairytales, future and fantasy, all intertwined into a complex collage” – TIME OUT

**Confessions of an ugly stepsister / by Gregory Maguire**
We have all heard the story of Cinderella, the beautiful child cast out to slave among the ashes. But what of her stepsisters, the homely pair exiled into ignominy by the fame of their lovely sibling? What fate befell those untouched by beauty .. and what curses accompanied Cinderella’s looks?

Far more than a mere fairy tale, *Confessions of an ugly stepsister* is a novel of beauty and betrayal, illusion and understanding, reminding us that deception can be unearthed – and love unveiled – in the most unexpected of places.

**Enchanted / Alethea Kontis**
It isn't easy being the rather overlooked and unhappy youngest sibling. Sunday's only comfort is writing stories, although what she writes has a terrible tendency to come true. When Sunday meets an enchanted frog who asks about her stories, the two become friends. One night Sunday kisses her frog goodbye and leaves, not realizing that her love has transformed him back into Rumbold, the crown prince of Arilland and a man Sunday's family despises. The prince is intent on making Sunday fall in love with him as the man he is, not the frog he was. But Sunday is not so easy to woo. How can she feel such a strange, strong attraction for this prince she barely knows? And what twisted secrets lie hidden in his past and hers?

**Sweetly / Jackson Pearce**
As a child, Gretchen's twin sister was taken by a witch-like monster in the woods. When their stepmother casts Gretchen and Ansel out as teens, they stumble upon a sleepy town and are invited to stay with Sophia Kelly at her sweet shop. Sophia moulds candied magic: coveted treats that inspire confidence, bravery, and passion. Life seems idyllic - until Gretchen meets handsome outcast Samuel, who gives Gretchen a reason to fear Sophia: girls have been vanishing at Sophia's annual chocolate festival, taken by the insatiable 'witch' of Gretchen's nightmares. Can Gretchen save herself, the girls of Live Oak, and Sophia?

**More**
- *Cloaked in red / Vivian Vande Velde* - presents eight short story twists on Little Red Riding Hood
- *Far far away / Tom McNeal* - retelling of Hansel & Gretel
- *The looking glass wars / by Frank Beddor* - Wonderland is real...
- *The child thief / Brom* - life of Peter Pan through the eyes of Nick, a lost teenager
- *The great night / Chris Adrian* - masterful re-imagining of Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night's Dream.
- *The book of lost things / John Connolly*
Enjoy the Once Upon a Time Wiki in an all new way by downloading this App from either Google Play or Itune's App Store, and find in-depth articles about every character, item, location and more! "Mirror, Mirror in the Wall. Show me one character of them all!" Refresh for another view!

Once Upon a Time. Â { DISCLAIMER. } The Once Upon a Time wiki and its sister sites are not affiliated with ABC, Disney, or ABC Studios. All trademarks, copyrights and/or legal ownership of items are property of their respective owners. This wiki is a fun, informative guide for all Once Upon a Time fans to use as they see fit. Retrieved from https://onceuponatime.fandom.com/wiki/Once_Upon_a_Time_Wiki?oldid=859868. Categories: Pages with broken file links. Browse. Once Upon a Time Wiki. Ichabod Crane is resurrected and pulled two and a half centuries through time to unravel a mystery that dates all the way back to the founding fathers. Stars: Tom Mison, Lyndie Greenwood, Nicole Beharie. Edit. Â Sad way to end a series that started well. Not worth wasting time watching this mediocrity. Goodbye Unce upon a time. 15 of 18 people found this review helpful. Was this review helpful to you? The residents of Storybrooke are overjoyed upon the return of Henry and our heroes from Neverland. But unbeknownst to them, a plan is secretly being put into place by a well-hidden Pan that will shake up the very lives of the townspeople. Meanwhile, in the Fairy Tale Land that was, Snow White and Prince Charming's honeymoon turns out to be anything but romantic when they go in search of a mythical being that could stop Regina cold in her tracks. Â Lily, Emma's old friend is back. Only this time she's looking for revenge. Will they become friends again or will they still have a strained friendship? 21. Mother.