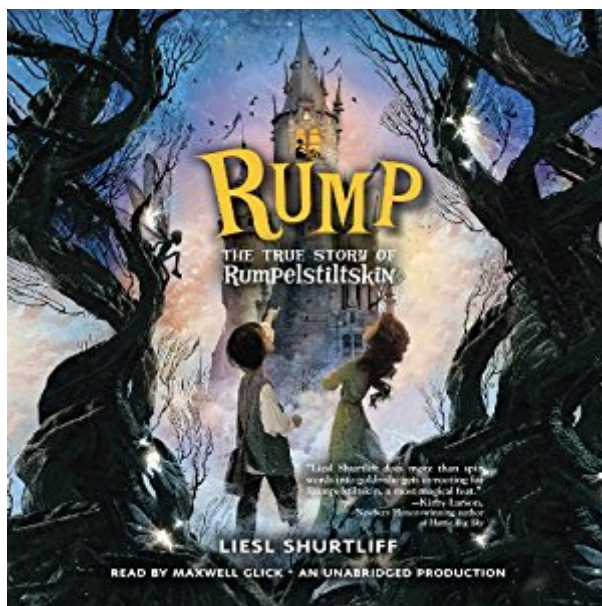


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# Rump: The True Story Of Rumpelstiltskin



## Synopsis

This funny fractured fairytale goes behind the scenes of Rumpelstiltskin. "A most magical feat," writes Newbery Honor-winner Kirby Larson, "Liesl Shurtliff spins words into gold." In a magical kingdom where your name is your destiny, 12-year-old Rump is the butt of everyone's joke. But when he finds an old spinning wheel, his luck seems to change. Rump discovers he has a gift for spinning straw into gold. His best friend, Red Riding Hood, warns him that magic is dangerous, and she's right. With each thread he spins, he weaves himself deeper into a curse. To break the spell, Rump must go on a perilous quest, fighting off pixies, trolls, poison apples, and a wickedly foolish queen. The odds are against him, but with courage and friendship - and a cheeky sense of humor - he just might triumph in the end. "Lighthearted and inventive, Rump amusingly expands a classic tale." (Brandon Mull, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Fablehaven.) Perfect for fans of Ella Enchanted or A Tale Dark and Grimm.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a must read for middle grade fairy tale lovers and has just enough humor to attract those less inclined to read. Rump paints a sympathetic and believable backstory for a character whose motivation has never been clear: Rumpelstiltskin. Shurtliff's unnamed fantasy land (for names carry weight) is whimsical enough that readers will want to stay just to find out what quirky creature might appear next.

When asked to describe "Rump" using one word each, the words: Fun, magical, happy, and adventurous came from my four children who all (amazingly) loved reading this book to its end. We love to read together and discuss the characters and plot; though, I rarely find a book they (and me too!) all like at the same time. Two girls, two boys, ages 8-11. This was one of those rare books for children not pushing a gender related theme. Well written, moves along, a fun fractured fairy tale. Thank You, Liesl Shurtliff!

Two kinds of magic operate here. One is toxic, uncontrolled and at the story's core. The other is the actual magical sparkle spun by a masterful storyteller. The tale is a good one and most have no doubt heard some version of it before. This time, however, it unfolds from inside the mind of Rumpelstiltskin himself, a character traditionally marked as a villain. We see him now as a well-meaning, but inexperienced, bungling and over-matched "tweener" suddenly aware that he's misused magic and made a mess of things. The real strength of this book is the skill of the writer. She has fashioned an uninterrupted hum of action involving a cast of characters finely scaled to precisely the proper degree of "appealing" or "disagreeable" without crossing the line to genuinely "offensive." The story advances with balance, suspense, and well-placed humor. The result invites ongoing reader reaction ranging from dismay to approval to surprise. Even if your memory has muddled somewhat with time, it doesn't matter. The tale in these pages -- while departing from the original Grimm -- draws its audience into a fresh, exciting and, I believe, improved version, aka, a Liesl Shurtliff fairy tale.

My 11 chose this from his school reading list. I read with him to be able to talk about the books with him. I was not sure what I was expecting. But midway through, I could not put it down. I am into my fairy tales and I loved the spin this author came up with and how she wrote it. It tends to be a bit wordy (my son) but I got it and appreciated her attention to details. Looking forward to the sequel (yes I bought it already), even if my son was not as impressed.

The moment my students told me about this book, I knew I had to read it. I am not a reader of fantasy. I am not a fan of magic, either. However, the true story of Rumpelstiltskin, is a great story of struggle, hope, encouragement and the power of love and friendship. It is a story that adults can enjoy, and learn from it. Happy reading!

Ok, so let's talk about Rump. He is a twelve-year old boy with a strange name. His mother died

shortly after giving birth to him. The only part of his name that anyone heard is "Rump". But Rump is sure there was more, he can almost hear it, but not quite. His name has haunted him his whole life - he gets teased a lot to say the least. But Rump has magic that neither he nor anyone else has yet suspected. This is a great story. Any kid (or adult even) who likes fantasy or fairytales should enjoy this one. I enjoyed going along with Rump on his journey to discover not only his name but his destiny. Knowing the original fairy tale, I was on pins and needles waiting for Rump to finally discover the truth behind his name.

I love this book. The author gave Rumpelstiltskin a story letting the readers use their imagination. Leading them down the path on how this character got his name and giving him a marvelous role in the story, unlike the original story written by the Grimm Brothers. I guess if the Grimm Brothers did not write their version, Liesl would not have written her terrific book. Good read for Young Adults and adults alike...

Rump is a charming little character. I loved him. And his adventure was fantastic. I don't know anything about the original fairy tale, so I can't compare the two (and I wouldn't if I did). But this one was great. I really enjoyed the trolls and the witches, and almost everyone in the world was delightfully despicable (except for Martha and Helmut, whom I also enjoyed). It's an excellent read for anyone who enjoys Young Adult fantasy.

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