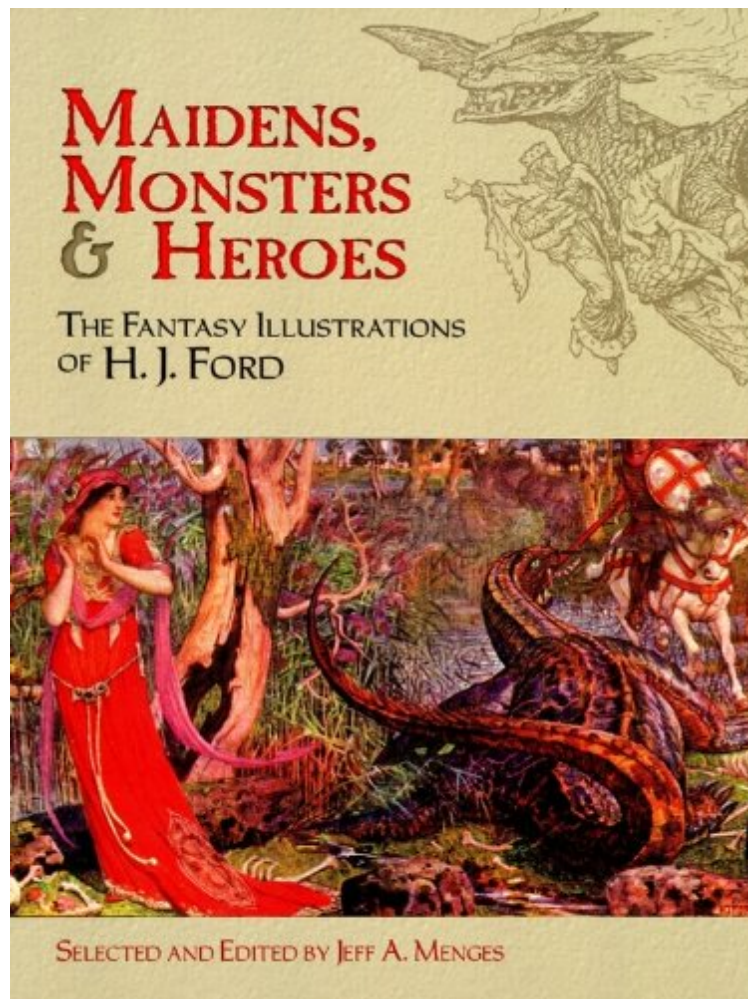


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Maidens, Monsters and Heroes: The Fantasy Illustrations of H. J. Ford (Dover Fine Art, History of Art)

H. J. Ford

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H. J. Ford : Maidens, Monsters and Heroes: The Fantasy Illustrations of H. J. Ford (Dover Fine Art, History of Art) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Maidens, Monsters and Heroes: The Fantasy Illustrations of H. J. Ford (Dover Fine Art, History of Art):

18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Some of H. J. Ford's Best Work By Heidi Anne Heiner Over the last few years, Jeff A. Menges and Dover Publications have been providing wonderful collections of illustrations by Golden Age illustrators at economical prices. If you've ever priced an art book--or better yet a first edition of one of the original books--you know what I mean. The most recent release is Maidens, Monsters and Heroes: The Fantasy Illustrations of H. J. Ford. Henry Justice Ford is best known as the primary illustrator of the Colored Fairy Books

edited by Andrew Lang. Most of the illustrations in this series were black and white, but later entries included color illustrations by H. J. Ford as well. Dover also reprints the Andrew Lang series, but the reprints only include the black and white illustrations. Finding copies of the color illustrations is becoming easier on the internet, but still rare in the real world where illustrations are all too often cut out or even fall out of early editions. While this new collection by Menges is not comprehensive, it includes many of the best of the color illustrations from the fairy books as well as other works by Ford. I didn't find an image count, but many of the pages include more than one illustration, so there are roughly 150 illustrations in this slim volume, sized like a sturdy, thick magazine. Overall, it's a beautiful overview of Ford's work and a happy addition to my personal library. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful fantasy art By Chrijeff Many of the artists covered by Dover reprints--Doreacute;, Howard Pyle, Arthur Rackham, Edmund Dulac, and Rockwell Kent, among others--remain well-known to this day, but H. J. Ford's name may not be so familiar, despite his lengthy association with Andrew Lang, whose full series of Color Fairy Books, including his complete illustrations, is also available from the publisher. A full quarter-century's work is sampled here, covering Ford's best and most prolific period, beginning with *The Blue Fairy Book* and ending with *Harry Plunkett Green's Pilot, and Other Stories*, including the transition in 1901 from all-BW line work to a mixture of line and gorgeous color. Fantastic beasts and creatures, fair ladies and brave knights, mostly in Medieval guise, appear in excellent reproductions from stories familiar and obscure. No collection of art from the Golden Age of Illustration should be without it. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. More specific info By Dachsielover I relish the work of H. J. Ford, like the other 2 reviewers. However, I thought it might be helpful to note that a full 62 of the illustrations are in brilliant color (in a book of 115 pages). As always, trust Dover to get the black and white pictures right, but the colors here may be a bit greenish, brownish or bluish. Still, it's a great collection of pre-Raphaelite pix. Please be sure to buy the colored fairy books, each one, from Dover (the covers are colored but the internal illustrations are all black and one. Don't let your child miss the stories of Andrew Lang and the pix of H.J. Ford!

Henry Justice Ford is best known for his collaboration with Andrew Lang on a popular series of twelve "Color" fairy tale books published at the turn of the twentieth century. The artist and the folklorist also worked together on books with settings ranging from the Middle Ages through the eighteenth century, including *The Red Book of Animal Stories* and *The Book of Saints and Heroes*. Ford's other works include *The Book of Princes and Princesses*, *Old Testament Legends*, *The Book of the Happy Warrior*, *The Arabian Nights Entertainments*, and *Pilgrims*; Progress. Editor and graphic artist Jeff A. Menges, who provides an informative commentary, assembled this dazzling gallery of Ford's heroes, supernatural creatures, saints, and historic figures. Half of the compilation's images appear here in the rare full-color formats of their original publication. Art lovers and book collectors alike will rejoice in this treasury of imaginative illustrations.

About the Author In addition to his collaborations with Andrew Lang, Henry Justice Ford (1860–1941) illustrated such classics as *The Arabian Nights*, *Tales of King Arthur*, and *Aesop's Fables*. Dover's cover design artist Jeff A. Menges created illustrated books highlighting the works of Edgar Allan Poe, Arthur Rackham, Howard Pyle, and others.