The Water Of Life: A Tale From The Brothers Grimm
Synopsis
An illustrated edition of the Grimm brothers’ fairy tale, retold by Barbara Rogasky, about how three princes set out to find “the water of life”, the only thing that can save the dying King, their father.
--This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Book Information
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Customer Reviews
Without hesitation I can assure you that "The Water of Life" is one of the most beautiful and intricate fairytales and picture books I have ever come across in my life. If you are a folk-lore scholar, a lover of beautiful illustrations, or a parent who believes that children are capable of absorbing the deeper side of fairytales rather than brainlessly watching the sugary-sweet rubbish that the T.V. spoonfeeds them today, then here is the picture book for you. Retold by Barbara Rogasky and illustrated by the fantastic Trina Schart Hyman, this story is a perfect blending of art and literature, and will stay with you for a very long time.

Don’t believe me? Well, when I was no more than five years old my father got this book out of the library, but nine years later, all I could remember was a certain illustration that depicted the prince escaping from the enchanted courtyard. It was such a narrow escape as the gates closed on him, that his heel was torn off. This picture and the narrative stayed with me all those years, till I picked up another Trina Schart Hyman book, whose style of illustrations seemed vaguely familiar... After some typing on the public library’s search engine "The Water of Life" was refound, and I stood in the library parking lot staring in amazement at the illustration that had stayed in my head for over nine years.

Well enough reminising, I’ll get to the plot of the story. It is based on the Brother Grimm story, but unlike other retellings of their tales which "shear" certain components
of their narratives, Barbara Rogasky keeps in all the details and subquests that make the story so intricate. If you’ve ever read Brothers Grimm you’ll know that the pretty little stories you usually see nowadays are very unlike their original counterparts.

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