

Helping you choose books for children



opening extract from

Arthur Spiderwick's Field Guide

written by

**Tony DiTerlizzi
and Holly Black**

published by

Simon and Schuster

All text is copyright of the author and illustrator

please print off and read at your leisure.

"I believe when I am in the mood that all nature is full of people whom we cannot see, and that some of these are ugly or grotesque, and some wicked or foolish, but very many beautiful beyond any one we have ever seen, and that these are not far away. . . . the simple of all times and the wise men of ancient times have seen them and even spoken to them."

— W. B. Yeats, *The Celtic Twilight*

ARTHUR
SPIDERWICK'S
FIELD
GUIDE
to the
FANTASTICAL
WORLD AROUND YOU

ACCURATELY RESTORED and DESCRIBED BY
TONY DITERLIZZI
and **HOLLY BLACK**

SMITH & SCHUSTER BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS
NEW YORK LONDON TORONTO SYDNEY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from Arthur Spiderwick	viii
Foreword by Tony DiTerlizzi	ix
The Invisible World	x
The Sight	xi
Equipment and Protection	xii
List of Plates	xiv

AROUND THE HOUSE AND YARD

Brownies (<i>Homunculidae</i>)	3
Boggarts (<i>Homunculidae</i>)	6
Changelings (<i>Circulifestidae</i>)	10
Pixies (<i>Pusillipraedonidae</i>)	14
Salamanders (<i>Flammicuntidae</i>)	19
Stray Sod (<i>Herbiformidae</i>)	21

IN FIELDS AND FORESTS

Cockatrices (<i>Serpentigentidae</i>)	26
Elves (<i>Circulifestidae</i>)	31
Leprechauns (<i>Ingeniosidae</i>)	35
Manticores (<i>Bestiadae</i>)	39
Sprites (<i>Cordimundidae</i>)	40
Treefolk (<i>Hamadryadidae</i>)	44
Unicorns (<i>Monoceratidae</i>)	48

IN LAKES, STREAMS, AND THE SEA

Kelpies (<i>Equidae</i>)	52
Merfolk (<i>Sirenidae</i>)	57
Nixies (<i>Naiadidae</i>)	63
Sea Serpents (<i>Serpentimaridae</i>)	64
Trolls (<i>Nocturnidae</i>)	70

IN THE HILLS AND MOUNTAINS

Dwarves (<i>Brevihominidae</i>)	77
Giants (<i>Gigantidae</i>)	78
Goblins (<i>Adentidae</i>)	81
Hobgoblins (<i>Amicidiabolidae</i>)	85
Knockers (<i>Cavernahabentidae</i>)	86
Ogres (<i>Stultibrutidae</i>)	88

IN THE SKY

Dragons (<i>Draconidae</i>)	92
Griffins (<i>Mixtidae</i>)	98
Phoenixes (<i>Vetustidae</i>)	103

OUTSIDE AT NIGHT

Banshees (<i>Circulifestidae</i>)	106
Gargoyles (<i>Bestialapidae</i>)	109
Phookas (<i>Praestigiatoridae</i>)	113
Will-o'-the-Wisps (<i>Falsilucidae</i>)	115

Addendum by Jared Grace	119
For Further Reading	120

Equipment and Protection

Before one begins an expedition to observe the habits and habitats of fantastical creatures, there are several useful items one should collect.

A thermos with milk for appeasing and luring faeries. They like milk best lukewarm.

One twig each from an oak, an ash, and a thorn tree. Bind these together with red thread, and this will offer protection against faerie folk.



Shown here are:

AMERICAN MOUNTAIN ASH (*Sorbus americana*)
HONEY LOCUST (*Gleditsia triacanthos*)
SCARLET OAK (*Quercus coccinea*)



A magnifying glass comes in handy, especially when studying smaller creatures like sprites and salamanders.



A bag of salt can dispell some magical illusions, and many faeries cannot abide it.



Bring a journal (and pencils) to record all of your findings. You never know what you may come across.

It should be noted that the color red is protective, but faeries do not like the color and will shy away from it in the same manner that bees fly from smoke, making the faeries more difficult to find. The color green will, by contrast, draw faeries, but they may not be pleased to find a human wearing their color.

When hunting for nocturnal creatures such as banshees and will-o'-the-wisps, a flashlight is quite helpful.



A backpack or satchel is useful for carrying everything. Make sure it has a room or steel clasp to keep pixies from stealing your inventory!

