CHECKLIST FOR COMMON ELEMENTS OF FAIRY TALES

Here are many of the common elements found in fairy tales. If you are writing your own fairy tale, make sure you have included all of these elements - the beginnings, endings, character types, settings, and plot structures typically found in fairy tales.

- "Once upon a time" beginnings, mostly in a faraway past time
- Princesses, princes, kings, queens, and royalty
- Animals are often animated and can have special abilities
- Humans can take on unusual forms, such as giants, dwarfs
- Setting is often enchanted, including kingdoms, castles, and forests
- Magic is used - wave that magic wand to help your protagonist out!
- Innocent, good characters, subjected to misfortune or evil misdoings
- Evil and often powerful antagonists
- Problems, heightened action, climax, and solutions, all leading to...
- "They lived happily ever after" endings
- Fairy tales can often teach a lesson