

## ***Badjelly The Witch A Fairy Story***

### **A014.01 First edition, 1973**

**Author:** Spike Milligan

**Dedication:** *To my daughter Jane and to Badjelly the Witch who comes out of this worst and to Dulboot who is a loser.*

**Publication Details:** M. & J. Hobbs in association with Michael Joseph, (4 Jun 1973)

**Format:** Hardcover with dust jacket

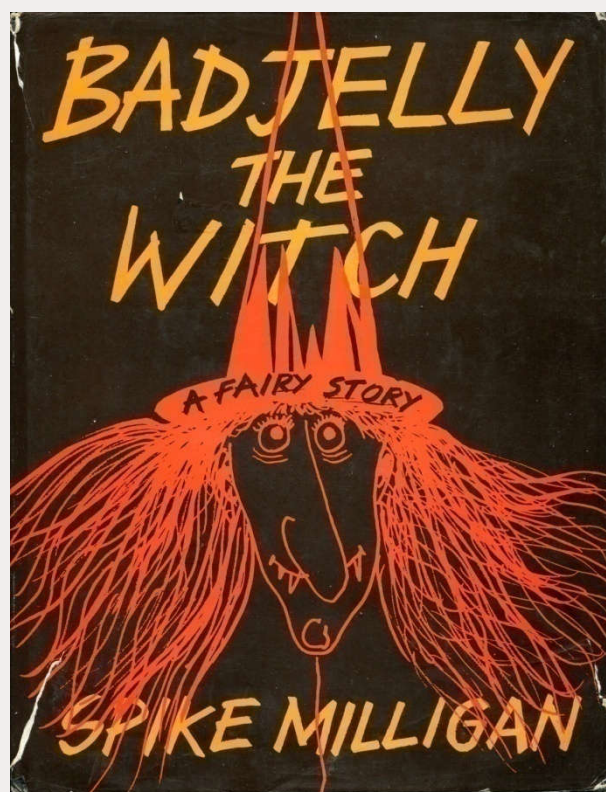
**Illustrations:** Spike Milligan and Jane Milligan, aged 6

**Identifier:** ISBN-10: 0718111125 ISBN-13: 978-0718111120 BNB: GB7314927.

**Physical Description:** 48 pages, ill. (some col.), 270 x 210 x 14 mm 415g.

**Publication price:** £1.20

**Notes:** From the copyright page, *This book is written in his own handwriting by Spike Milligan.*



The most successful of Spike's four children's story books, it has more editions than any of the others, the latest in 2015. The hardback edition went into its third reprint in 1979.

The changes over time reflect what happened to the publishing companies. Michael Joseph became part of the Virgin Publishing Company. Target Books became a W.H. Allen imprint which also became part of the Virgin Publishing Company.

Virgin have coloured the illustrations and changed the page design although the writing is still in Spike's hand written script. Virgin is now part of the Penguin Random house empire and there is a 2015 edition now available.

### **A014.02 Target paperback edition, 1974**

**Publication Details:** A Target Book, Universal-Tandem Publishing Co. (1 Nov 1974)

**Format:** Paperback

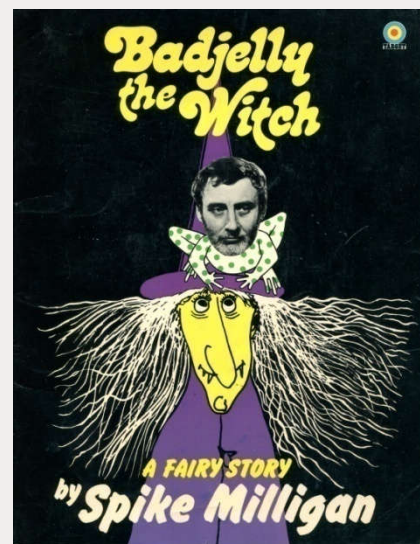
**Illustrations:** Spike and Jane Milligan

**Cover Design:** not credited

**Identifier:** ISBN-10: 0426105672 ISBN-13: 978-0426105671 BNB: GB7501283.

**Physical Description:** 55 pages, 247 x 189 x 6 mm, 192 g.

**Publication price:** £0.60



### A014.03 Target paperback edition, c 1977

**Publication Details:** A Target Book by Wyndham. C 1977

**Format:** Paperback

**Illustrations:** Spike and Jane Milligan

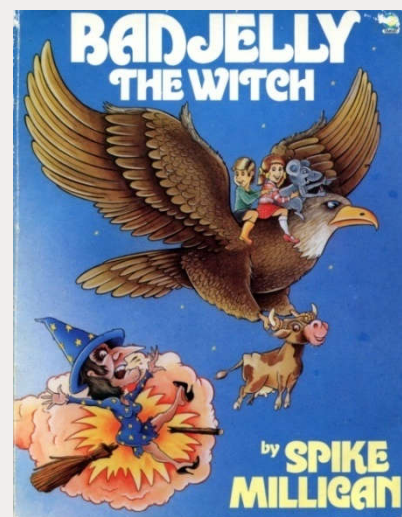
**Cover Design:**

**Identifier:** ISBN-10: 0426105672 ISBN-13: 978-0426105671

**Physical Description:** 242 x 185 x 7 mm, 196g.

**Publication price:** £1.25

The date of publication is inferred. Reading the copyright page you would think it was a 1974 publication but the back covers shows a Wyndham symbol and a U.K. price of £1.75. Wyndham Publications began in 1976 and was phased out by 1978. The cover price suggests this edition was sometime after 1974 when the cover price was 60p.



### A014.04 Penguin paperback edition, 1995

**Publication Details:** Penguin Books (NZ) a Puffin book (7 Jun 1995)  
(National Library of New Zealand Catalogue)

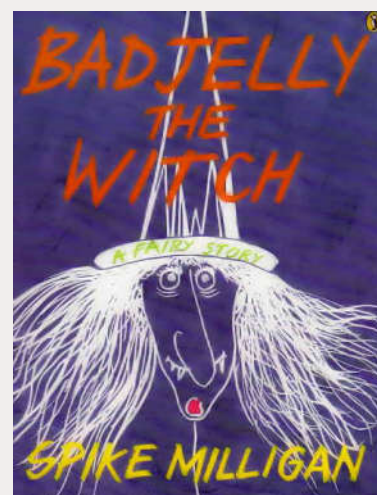
**Format:** Paperback

**Illustrations:** Spike and Jane Milligan

**Identifier:** ISBN-10: 0140378464 ISBN-13: 978-0140378467

**Physical Description:** 238 x 184 x 5 mm, 146 g

There are two New Zealand editions which is curious. In 1995 a Penguin edition was published there and in 2001 an edition came out under the Viking imprint part of Penguin. On the back cover of the Penguin paperback edition this explanation. *"Reprinted especially for New Zealand following public demand"*



### A014.05 Virgin Books edition, 2000

**Publication Details:** Virgin Publishing Ltd, London, First Thus Edition  
19 October 2000

**Format:** Hardback, laminated boards

**Illustrations:** Spike and Jane Milligan

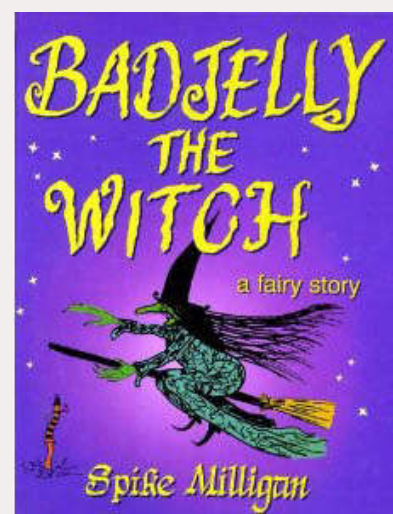
**Cover Design:** Design 23, hand coloured by Hugh Callow

**Identifier:** ISBN 10: 1852279656 ISBN-13:978-1852279653 BNB:  
GBA0X1511.

**Physical Description:** 64 pages, colour illustration 24.7 x 19.7 x 1.3,  
436 gm

**Publication price:** £9.99

**Notes:** this special edition is fully illustrated with Milligan's own drawings which have been specially adapted and coloured for use in the animated TV special and video.



### A014.06 Ted Smart edition, 2000

**Publication Details:** Ted Smart; Reprint edition, 19 October 2000

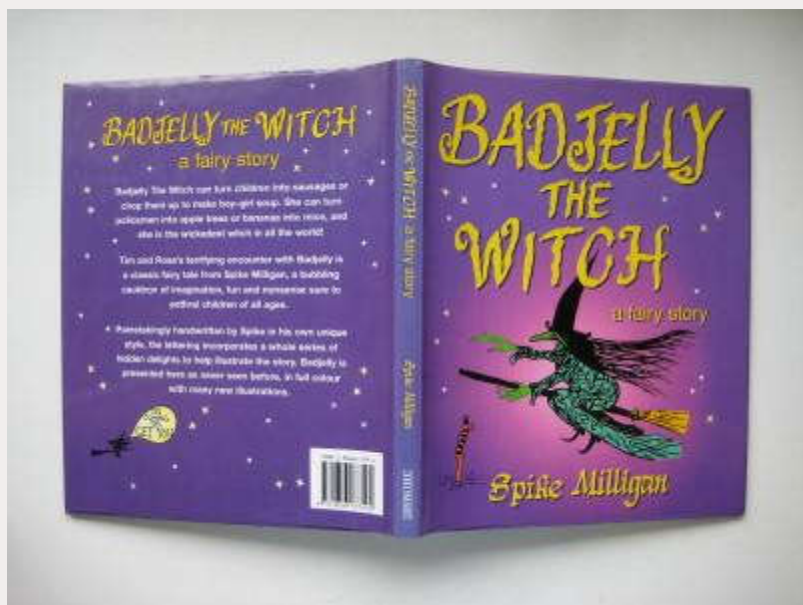
**Format:** Hardback

**Illustrations:** Spike and Jane Milligan

**Cover Design:** Design 23, hand coloured by Hugh Callow

**Identifier:** ISBN-10: 185613749X ISBN-13: 978-1856137492

**Physical Description:** 64 pages, 247 x 202 x 12 mm, 496 gm



### A014.07 Viking edition, 2001

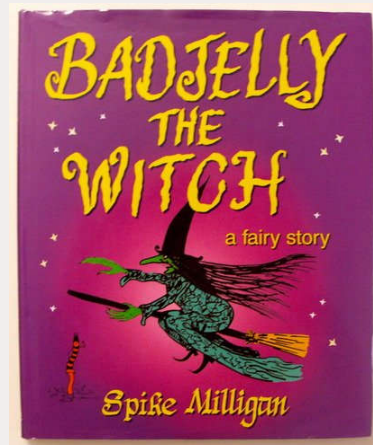
**Publication Details:** Viking, 2001 Auckland, N.Z. (2001) (WorldCat, 2012)

**Format:** Hardback

**Illustrations:** Spike and Jane Milligan

**Cover Design:** Design 23, hand coloured by Hugh Callow

**Identifier:** ISBN-10: 0670911232 ISBN-13: 978-0670911233 **Physical Description:** 59 p. : col. ill. ; 250 mm.



### A014.08 Virgin books edition, 2007

**Publication Details:** Virgin Books; New edition edition (5 April 2007)

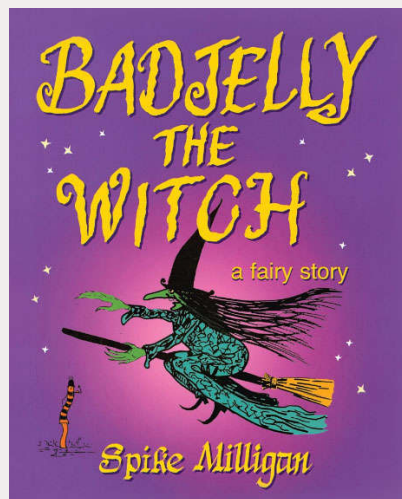
**Format:** Hardcover

**Illustrations:** Spike and Jane Milligan

**Cover Design:** Design 23, hand coloured by Hugh Callow

**Identifier:** ISBN-10: 1852279656 ISBN-13: 978-1852279653

**Physical Description:** 60 pages, 24.6 x 20.1 x 1.5 cm



### A014.09 Virgin books edition, 2015

**Publication Details:** Virgin Books (Ebury Publishing), London; New edition edition (29 Jan 2015)

**Format:** Paperback

**Illustrations:** Spike and Jane Milligan

**Cover Design:** Design 23, hand coloured by Hugh Callow

**Identifier:** ISBN-10: 0753556820 ISBN-13: 978-0753556825 BNB: GBB500892

**Physical Description:** 64 pages, 240 x 195 x 4 mm 221 g

**Publication price:** £14.99

## A014.10 Penguin New Zealand edition, 2018

**Publication Details:** Publisher, Penguin Group New Zealand, Limited, 2018 New edition (2018)

**Format:** Hardback

**Illustrations:** Spike and Jane Milligan

**Cover Design:**

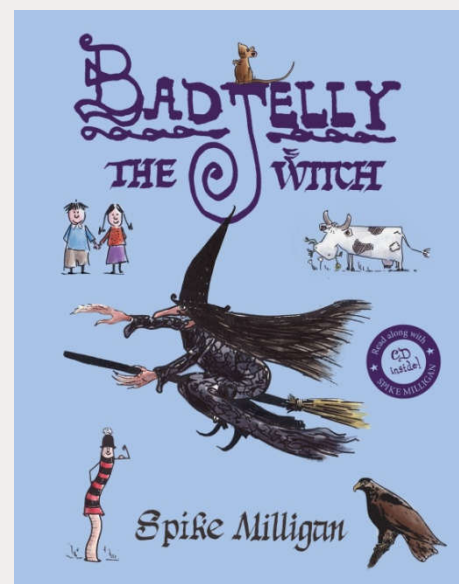
**Identifier:** ISBN-10: 0143772287 ISBN-13: 9780143772286

**BNB:** GBB500892

**Physical Description:** 56 pages, 245 x 202 x 12 mm

**Publication price:** NZ\$28

**Notes:** comes with an audio CD of the famous BBC radio play, starring Spike Milligan, which regularly played on Radio New Zealand's Sunday morning children's programme. This new edition celebrates the 45th anniversary of the beloved story's first publication.



## Other media

### Audio

1974 - *Badjelly the Witch* LP

Audio Book on cassette and Cd – various see Worldcat for a list.

### Television

2000 - *Badjelly the Witch* BBC and Ragdoll Productions had collaborated on a film based on this novel in December 2000. Spike Milligan, the book's writer, narrated the movie.

### Theatre

Play - *Badjelly The Witch* written by Alannah O'Sullivan in 1985 from the book by Spike Milligan, Music by Geoff Davidson.

### Badjelly the Witch, the play. - 1985

**Title:** *Badjelly the Witch* by Spike Milligan; adapted as a play for children by Alannah O'Sullivan. (National Library of New Zealand Catalogue)

**Author:** Alannah O'Sullivan

**Publication Details:** Playmarket, Wellington, N.Z., 1985

**Series:** Playmarket New Zealand theatrescripts

**Format:** Paperback

**Identifier:** ISBN-10: 0908607199

**Physical Description:** 38 p.; 21 cm

In 2010/11, there was a production in London created by the Chickenshed Theatre Company called "*Badjelly's Bad Christmas*", with *Badjelly the Witch*, along with many other characters created by Milligan such as Sir Nobonk and King Twytt, as the main characters. Spike's daughter Jane was one of the actors in this production.

### DVD

*Bad Jelly The Witch* By Roadshow Entertainment 2009.

This seems to have been a popular play in New Zealand. Presumably it was performed soon after it was written in 1985 and references online show that the play has been performed almost each year since then, the last performance was in July 2019. Wikipedia says it is the most licensed New Zealand Play. Perhaps it was the interest these performances excited that resulted in the book being