

This was so much fun. I found faeries that I like!

First, Alberon is shown receiving his comeuppance in the [Trung Trang Cave](#)<sup>1</sup> of Vietnam. He is dressed in the borrowed robes and accouterments from [this painting](#).<sup>2</sup> Although the laurel-leaf crown Napoleon wore was made of solid gold, our Alberon is wearing [St. Edward's Crown](#),<sup>3</sup> which looks more impressive at a glance. I can't get over his wonderfully irritating [face](#).<sup>4</sup> And we mustn't forget the [Hairless Chinese Crested Dog](#)<sup>5</sup> that Minka found at Flodie's (below).



As for the faeries, I stumbled across [these images](#) on Wikimedia Commons, which led to the discovery of [The Book of Fairy Poetry](#).<sup>6</sup> It is available for viewing or downloading from the Internet Archive (that last link), but I hope some day to find a physical copy. All of the faeries thronging Alberon were taken from this book.

Starting at the front left corner, the faerie playing with a Portuguese man o' war is [Lirope the Bright](#).<sup>7</sup> The Polonti faerie with bat wings and his adoring companion are Salamander (fire) and Dusketha (earth) discussing their natures with (the unseen) Breama (water) and Zephyr (air) according to the poem [Song of Four Fairies](#) by John Keats. The blue boy on Alberon's shoulder is Oberon from Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. That's Puck sitting on the head of Alberon's scepter. Below him, in the nautilus boat, is one of the *Fairies on the Sea Shore* by L.E. Landon, another poem in the book. And I love them all.

Robin Hardy  
May 9, 2024

PS. I am not claiming copyright on this illustration.

1. Photographed by [Jakub Halun](#) on Wikimedia Commons
2. *Napoleon I in Coronation Robes* via Wikipedia
3. Part of the Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom, via Wikimedia Commons. Photographed by [Firebrace](#).
4. Photographed by [Ludovic Migneault](#) on Unsplash
5. Photographed by [Tommy Gildseth](#)
6. Edited by Dora Owen, illustrated by Warwick Goble, published in 1920
7. This poem by Michael Drayton is in the book.