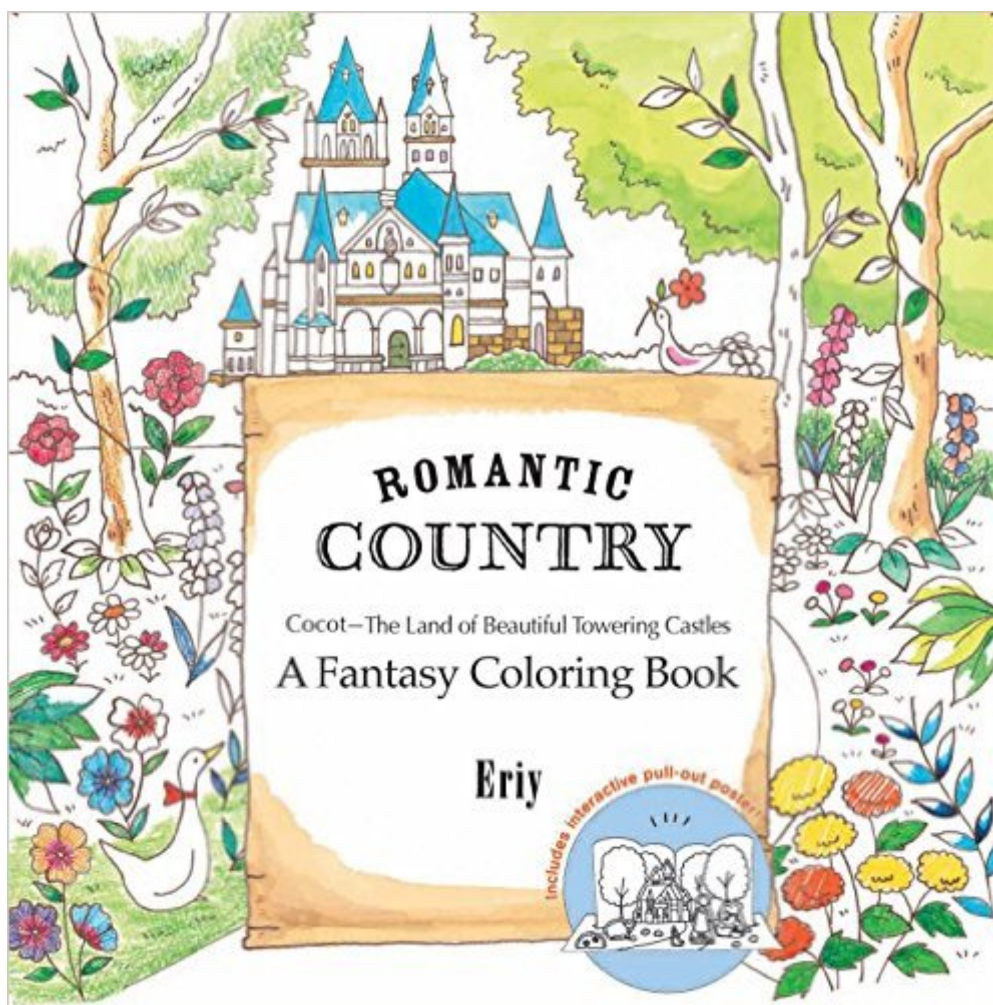


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Romantic Country: A Fantasy Coloring Book



Synopsis

Magnificent rural villages, prairies, forests, lakeside scenery and a beautiful towering castle await you and your colored pencils in *Romantic Country: A Coloring Book* by Japanese illustrator Eriy, who uses an ink-dipped toothpick to draw each intricate design. Inside are pages and pages of provincial delights for you to bring to life through coloring: delectable French pastries, magical forests filled with wildlife, charming town squares bustling with people-and so much more, sure to delight people of all ages. Perfect for fans of *Secret Garden* and *Enchanted Forest*, as well as those looking for a creative way to relax, *Romantic Country: A Coloring Book* will whisk you away to a black-and-white fantasy land that you can bring to colorful life.

Book Information

Paperback: 96 pages

Publisher: St. Martin's Griffin; Clr Csm Pa edition (March 1, 2016)

Language: English

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ISBN-13: 978-1250094469

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.5 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (112 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #12,987 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Â Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Coloring Books for Grown-Ups > Fantasy & Science Fiction #277 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies #1211 in Â Books > Humor & Entertainment

Customer Reviews

â œRomantic Countryâ • is the imaginary country that artist Eriy created in her childhood. Based on these designs, it is a charming and whimsical land to visit. The artist named this land Cocot. What is interesting about the designs is the back story on how the artist created them. Apparently, these were the first ink studies she had done and while she remembered to buy ink, she forgot to buy a pen! Being resourceful, she used what was on hand â “ a toothpick. Approximately 700 toothpicks were used to create the designs in the book. The unusual drawing tool gives the lines in the book a faded appearance and provides lines that vary in thickness. These add to the charm of the designs rather than detract from them. The artist tells the story about the town at the front of the book and then follows up with a detailed description the subject matter of each design at the back of the book. The fantasy land (and the book) are separated by their areas. There are several maps and five

chapters. In all, the story adds an event more delightful layer to the coloring book. It makes it a story book of coloring designs rather than simply a coloring book. The book has a removable dust cover. While there are no elements to color on the inside of the dust cover (a missed opportunity), there are areas to color on the actual brown cover which is attached to the book. The designs are printed on both sides of non-perforated cream colored paper. The ink tones seem almost sepia in nature but it may be because of the toothpick tool. The binding of the book is sewn rather than glued, so you can remove a few pages at a time by snipping a few threads. Eleven of the designs spread across two pages and, in my book, align very well. Fifty-eight designs are printed on one page.

It was love at first sight when I first saw the cover for Romantic Country: A Fantasy Coloring Book online (way back in December 2015!) and read the book's brief description. Now that the book is in my hands, I love it even more! I'm still squealing but I need to catch my breath, focus, and write up a proper and intelligible review for you to read. Romantic Country: A Fantasy Coloring Book is a unique one-of-a-kind coloring experience. I have seen no other book like this – both in art technique (more on that below) and concept. Not only can you escape to another time and place while you color, but EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS COLORING BOOK is absolutely BRILLIANT. I'll start at the beginning. Romantic Country: A Fantasy Coloring Book is filled with coloring pages from Cocot – The Land of Beautiful Towering Castles. "What is this place called Cocot?" you ask. Well, when Eriy was a child she used to fantasize about an imaginary land – it was filled with cute animals, plants, a castle with a princess, a forest with a witch – but above all, it was a pleasant place to live. Romantic Country is filled with tangible imagery for you to color from Eriy's fantasyland, Cocot. But in addition to imagery, there are WORDS too! There is a WHOLE PAGE filled with WORDS to tell you all about Cocot. It sounds absolutely divine: "Somewhere in the world there is a small country that doesn't even exist on maps. It is surrounded by the richness of nature – beautiful forests and expansive lakes. There are also old townscapes and farm villages where time seems to stand still. This land will surely leave you with a memorable impression of its various unique buildings and majestic castles. Cocot is the name of this magical land."

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