Story Starters

Use these as the first line of your story or scene.

1. The well accepted more than coin these days.
2. Fear of magic drove them to fill in the old well.
3. Smooth white bricks encircled the pond.
4. On quiet summer evenings the water fairies came out.
5. It had once held a mermaid, but now housed sleepy fish.
6. He'd picked the coin up, now he had to grant the wish.
7. Tumbled bricks marked where it had once stood.
8. Peering out of the pool were two sea-green eyes.
9. She grew up bathing in magic and steeped in enchantment.
10. The curse came from the lake bottom.
11. The last element he needed was stagnant wishes.
12. No one knew where the magic came from but they knew where it pooled.
13. Fresh water worked best for spells of cleansing.
14. His ancestors had tapped the mermaid in the cave.
15. A teardrop worked as well as a coin to invoke a wish.
16. Three offerings for three wishes, that was the rule.
17. Overtime the spring began to resemble a temple altar.
18. The miracles associated with the lake drew hundreds of people.
19. The Lady of the Lake hadn't surfaced in years.
20. Magic can be paid for with old-fashioned money.
21. They built a house around the wellspring.
22. Fairy's water, his grandmother had called it.
23. She claimed her beauty came from a spring fed by moonlight.
24. Pools of water developed an eerie glow under the rising moon.
25. All the terrible wishes I'd made, and this was the one that came true.
26. New wishes bubbled to the surface every morning.
27. I didn't even think about it, just handed over my last coin for a promise.
28. A new sign hung over the garden gate: wild wishes, do not enter.
29. If he could capture a fairy, he could grant a few wishes.
30. Her grandmother cautioned her to be careful about every wish.
31. Sea fairy or mermaid, she lived at the bottom of the lake and granted wishes.
32. Magic cared about intent, not spoken desire.
33. Overnight the city's wishes became glimmering raindrops.
34. No one knew the old fountain had power in it.
35. Like water, magic had a cycle to follow.

36. The unleashed magic flooded into the valley below.
37. Coins that had been passed around enough carried motes of magic.
38. Magic dripped off her fingertips.
39. The sharp smell of dark magic rose from the puddle.

Dialogue Prompts

Write the rest of the conversation. Bonus: How many of these can you use in the same conversation?

1. "I shouldn't have tossed it in, but I did."
2. "How does one retrieve a wish from the well?"
3. "Wishing harm and doing harm might be the same in this case."
4. "No one ever explains the rules of wells and pools anymore."
5. "I think anyone dropping good coin in a well is a fool."
6. "Never drink from a fairy's cup, they do something even to water."
7. "Magic like that is as good or bad as rainfall."
8. "There's just as much magic in dewdrops as there is in that fountain."
9. "The last fountain of youth you found turned out to be made of yak spit."
10. "It's impolite, but if you think she's a mermaid just spill a little water on her."
11. "Can't make a wish on stagnant water anymore than you can drink it."
12. "I got my use out of the coin, same as you."
13. "We're not granting wishes, we're granting power."
14. "I'm not about to break a magic spell by any means."
15. "Fairy bites or bee stings, they mean nothing."
16. "How did you get out of the well?"
17. "If it's a spell you want, go visit the old pond."
18. "Drink enough and everything becomes a dream."
19. "I have enough left to pay for one more wish."
20. "He's not a wizard, he just maintains the wizard's pond."
21. "Wishes can't be traded like rare coins."
22. "My parents said their wishes came true."
23. "Every star wants to grant a wish."
24. "Years ago, you used to be able to buy your dreams."
25. "Well magic feels a bit like cold water."
26. "You've splattered worse than curses in the kitchen."
27. "I think swimming through a magic pool is a bad idea."
28. "I'll throw a coin in there for every bottle you drink."

29. “That’s the cost of wishing for things we can’t have.”
30. “I’ve never known a more gullible magician.”
31. “The same water in that well was used on the vegetable garden.”

Word Lists

Write about the connection between these three words. Bonus: use these with any of the above prompts.

1. Dream, soft, falling
2. Hopes, greenery, trace
3. Lilac, dew, unsettled
4. Power, mist, evening
5. Drifting, jingle, delighted
6. Dragonfly, shatter, skipping
7. Wood, thrive, seeping
8. Fluid, sweet, thrill
9. Fruit, wing, drop
10. Pair, frost, stumbled
11. Wish, glass, smooth
12. Childhood, bloom, amaze
13. Candle, prayer, gleam
14. Splash, shine, sinking
15. Slick, heartfelt, glowing
16. Wonder, clank, filled
17. Drip, shadow, daylight
18. Humid, unwind, action
19. Bless, compare, protect
20. Tale, damp, scattered
21. Sea, earn, arrange
22. Lake, flutter, fragile
23. Fountain, spotty, obtain
24. Bathe, different, lower
25. Locket, storm, used
26. Lively, fairy, unruly
27. Wilderness, moist, laugh
28. Waves, cloth, under
29. Rain, fragrance, ancient
30. Sponges, ball, picture

31. Sand, flowers, move
32. Misting, hovel, mossy