

## Folk Tales from Kids' World

### *A Bibliography*

Every year and every place, stories are told that have been told over and over.

- By a bard sitting beside a roaring fire.
- By a parent to a child.
- By a teacher to students.
- By a friend to a friend.

#### **What is a folk tale?**

A folk tale is a timeless, placeless story that arises from the lives, the beliefs, and the imaginations of the people. It is timeless yet it explains many times. It is placeless yet it seems to happen in many places. It is anonymous yet its author is everybody.

Help in preparing this bibliography came from Lin Arnett, Children's Librarian with the Tulsa City-County Library System. Two general bibliographic sources for folk tales are recommended by Lin Arnett.

*The Storyteller's Sourcebook* by Margaret Read MacDonald, published in association with Gale Research in 1982. 016.398d M14s

*Index to Fairy Tales, 1978-1986, Including Folklore, Legends, and Myths in Collections* published in Metuchen, New Jersey by Scarecrow Press, 1989. This is a supplement to the standard reference volumes used to locate folk literature in children's books, *Index to Fairy Tales, 1949-1972* and *Index to Fairy Tales, 1973-1877*. Jr016.3982

#### **Folk Tales**

*Note that most folk tales are found at 398.2 in the stacks at the library. Go there to look for more books. If a "j" is in front of 398.2, it is in the children's department.*

#### **ARMENIA**

Hogrogian, Nonny. *Rooster Brother*. New York: Macmillan, 1974. 398.2 H67 **A clever boy frustrates three bandits who stole his rooster.**

## **AUSTRALIA**

Parker, Catherine Somerville (Field). *Australian Legendary Tales*. Selected and edited by H. Drake-Brockman, illustrated by Elizabeth Durack. New York: Viking Press, 1966. p. 15 “Dinewan the Emu and Gooble-gubbon the Turkey.” 398.2 P223 **A concise comment on social snobbery and maternal vanity.**

## **BOLIVIA**

Courlander, Harold. *Ride with the Sun*. New York: Whittlesey House, 1955. p. “The Coming of Asin.” 398.2 C83r **This is a legend from the Pilaga Indians about those who abused a stranger because of his appearance.**

## **BRAZIL**

Cole, Joanna. *Best-loved Folktales of the World*. New York: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1982. p. 774. “The Deer and the Jaguar Share a House.” 398.2 B464 **Friends are unwilling or unable to change their ways to retain their friendship.**

## **CANADA**

Martin, Eva. *Tales of the Far North*. New York: Dial Books, 1986. p. 41. “Little Golden Sun and Little Golden Star.” 398.2 M363t **A theme in folklore in Canada is the deep and mysterious forest, a constant threat to well being. From this setting comes a tale about truth, deceit, and forgiveness.**

## **CHEROKEE NATION, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Bruchac, Joseph. *The First Strawberries*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1993. 398.2 B831f **A quarrel between the first man and the first women is reconciled when the sun causes strawberries to grow out of the earth.**

## **CHINA, PEOPLES REPUBLIC**

Wang, Rosalind C. *The Fourth Question: Chinese Folktale Retold*. New York: Holiday House, 1991. 398.2 W185f **A young man named Yee-Lee journeys to the Wise Man of Kunlun Mountain to discover the reason for his poverty.**

## **CHINA, REPUBLIC, TAIWAN**

Chen, Cora. *Tales from a Taiwan Kitchen*. New York: Dodd, Mead, 1976. p. “Good Neighbors Come in All Sizes.” 398.2 C42t **A variation of the Aesop Fable “The Dove and the Ant.” An ant and a wood pigeon teach us that one good turn deserves another.**

## **CZECH REPUBLIC, SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Horejs, Vit. *Twelve Iron Sandals and Other Czechoslovak Folk Tales*. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1985. p. 71. “Krakonos.” 398.2 H78tw **In the mountains of Bohemia there once lived many giants, but today only one is left. He is a powerful magician who can take many forms. He particularly loathes people who are stingy and false.**

## **ENGLAND, UNITED KINGDOM**

Evenden, Margery and David Frampton, David (Illustrator). *Of Sword and Sorcerers: the Adventures of King Arthur*. Macmillan Children's Book Group, 1993. 398.2 H660f  
Nine episodes in the Arthurian cycle, from the placing of the boy Arthur in Merlin's care to Arthur's departure for Avalon.

## **FRANCE**

Mayer, Marianna. *Beauty and the Beast*. New York: Four Winds Press, 1978. 398.2 M45be  
A kind and beautiful maiden releases a handsome prince from a spell which has made him an ugly beast.

## **GERMANY**

Bartos-Hoppner, Barbara. *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*. New York: J. B. Lippincott, 1987. 398.2 B285p  
The Pied Piper saves the village of Hamelin from rats, but when the town refuses to pay him, he extracts a terrible revenge.

## **GHANA**

Ardema, Verna. *Oh, Kojo! How Could You! An Ashanti Tale*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1984. 398.2 A11oh  
A young man finally gets the better of the tricky Anansi.

## **GREECE**

DeSpain, Pleasant. *Three-three Multicultural Tales to Tell*. Little Rock: August House, 1993. p. 43. "Damon and Pythias, a Tale from Ancient Greece." 398.2 D46t  
A story of great friendship.

## **GUATEMALA**

Barlow, Genevieve. *Latin American Tales: From the Pampas to the Pyramids of Mexico*. Chicago: Rand McNally, 1966. p. 126. "The Sacred Amulet." 398.2 B24L  
The quetzal is on Guatemala's coat of arms and its currency is the quetzal. The quetzal bird cannot be hunted in Guatemala.

## **HUNGARY**

Manning-Sanders, Ruth. *A Choice of Magic*. New York: P. W. Dutton & Co., Inc., 1971. p. 224. "Hans and His Master." 398.21 M31c  
A master is served even beyond death by a servant who is loving and virtuous.

## **INDIA**

Rose, Deborah Lee. *The People Who Hugged the Trees: an Environmental Folk Tale*. Niwot, Colorado: Roberts Rinehart, 1990. 398.2 R721p  
The story of Amrita Devi who centuries ago inspired an entire community to protect their environment.

## **IRELAND**

Danaher, Kevin. *Folktales of the Irish Countryside*. New York: D. White, 1970. . 31. “The Proud Girl.” 398.2 D19f **We have always heard it said that pride goes before a fall, and isn’t this story the proof of it?**

## **ISRAEL**

Freedman, Florence B. *Brothers*. New York: Harper & Row, 1985. 398.2 F875b.  
**Hard times on adjoining farms bring about parallel acts of kindness and celebration of how good it is for brothers to live together in friendship.**

## **ITALY**

Fox, Paula. *Amzat and his Brothers: Three Italian Tales*. New York: Orchard Books, 1993. p. 1. “Amzat and his Brothers.” 398.2 F833am **Clever Amzat and his cheerful wife have revenge over the two older brothers who seek to cheat them out of their place in the sun.**

## **JAPAN**

Titus, Eve. *The Two Stonecutters*. Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1967. 398.2 T54  
**Long ago in Japan there lived two brothers who were stonecutters, one content and one who wished to be rich, mighty, and powerful.**

## **KENYA**

Abrahams, Roger D. *African Folktales*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1983. p. 42. “The Three Tests.” 398.2096 A159af **A Swahili story in which the youngest brother demonstrates that one good turn deserves another.**

## **KOREA**

Han, Oki S. *Sir Whong and the Golden Pig*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1993. 398.2 H19s **When a stranger manages to get a loan of 1,000 nyung by giving a fake golden pig as collateral, he thinks he has outwitted the wise and generous Sir Whong.**

## **LEBANON**

Shurzynski, Gloria. *Two Fools and a Faker: Three Lebanese Folk Tales*. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1977. p. 4. “Don’t Beat Your Children Before They’re Born.” 398.2 S629t **A foolish shepherd makes himself miserable over troubles with his imaginary children.**

## **MEXICO**

Ardema, Gloria. *Pedro & the Padre: A Tale from Jalisco, Mexico*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1991. 398.2 D377L **In this Mexican folktale a lazy boy learns a lesson about lying.**

### **MUSCOGEE NATION, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Wood, Marion. *Spirits, Heroes & Hunters from North American Mythology*. New York: Schocken Books, 1981. p. 69. "The Big Turtle." J398.2 W85sp **This Creek Indian myth explains the important part the turtle played in the creation of the world.**

### **NETHERLANDS**

De Leeuw, Adele. *Legends & Folk Tales of Holland*. New York: T. Nelson, 1963. p. 119. "The Punishment." 398.2 D377L **In the year 1315 when there was a great famine in the land, two sisters acted very differently toward the poor and reaped their just reward.**

### **NICARAGUA**

Rohmer, Harriet. *Uncle Nacho's Hat = El Sombrero de Tio Nacho*. Emeryville, California: Children's Book Press, 1989. 468 R636un **A bilingual folk tale from Nicaragua about a well-meaning man who can't figure out how to make changes in his life until his niece, Ambrosia, shows him how.**

### **OSAGE NATION, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Caduto, Michael J. *Keepers of the Animals*. Golden, Colorado: Fulcrum Publishers, 1991. p. 31. "How the Spider Symbol came to the People." 398.209998 C115k **Grandmother spider taught the Osages the virtues of awareness, patience, and order in simple existence. Her web was a symbol of the interconnectedness of all living things.**

### **PERU**

Carpenter, Frances. *South American Wonder Tales*. Chicago: Follet Publishing Company, 1969. p. 27 "The Youth who Made Friends with the Beasts and the Birds." 398.2 C22s **A young man learns that it is wise to be kind to animals.**

### **PHILIPPINES**

Robertson, Dorothy Lewis. *Fairy Tales from the Philippines*. New York: Dodd, Mead, 1971. p. 63. "White Squash Boy." 398.2 R54f **The prayers of a man and his wife for a child were answered, but because they wanted more and more they lost everything they had been given.**

### **RUSSIA**

Sherman, Joseph. *Vassilisa the Wise: A Tale of Medieval Russia*. San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1988. 398.2 S553v **A clever and beautiful woman uses her wits to get her husband out of Prince Vladmir's prison.**

### **SAUDI ARABIA**

Hampden, John. *Endless Treasure, Unfamiliar Tales from the Arabian Nights*. .17. "Endless Treasure." J398.21 H18e **A great caliph learns that honesty is a treasure as is hospitality.**

### **SCOTLAND, UNITED KINGDOM**

Leodhas, Sorche Nit. *Claymore and Kilt: Tales of Scottish Kings and Castles*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1967. p. 99. "The Tale of a Debt Repaid." 398.22 A39

**The custom of hospitality in Scotland was governed by hard and fast rules that everyone was taught in childhood and respected all through life. Even if the person claiming hospitality was an enemy, he must be taken in, and between sundown and sunrise he was safe from harm.**

### **SENEGAL**

Courlander, Harold. *The King's Drum and Other African Stories*. New York: Harcourt, Brace & World, 1962. p. 19. "the King of Sedo." 398.2 C83k **A minstrel among the Wolof people of Senegal is called a gewel and his lute is known as a halam. Sabar the king was proud, but the song of his gewel put him in his place.**

### **TURKEY**

Walker, Barbara. *A Treasury of Turkish Folktales for Children*. Hamden, Connecticut: Linnet Books, 1988. p. 37. "Nasreddin Hoca, Seller of Wisdom." 389.2 W15t **Hoca is the Turkish term for a Muslim teacher either in a mosque or a classroom. Nasreddin Hoca becomes a merchant to please his wife and manages to harvest a rich return through ingenuity, fate, and luck.**

### **VENEZUELA**

Jagendorf, M. A. *The King of the Mountains: A Treasury of Latin American Folk Tales*. New York: The Vanguard Press, Inc., 1960. p. 269. "Juan Bobo and the Old Tiger." J398.2 J18k **When Juan Bobo needed a friend, he discovered that small in size doesn't mean small in spirit.**

### **ZIMBABWE**

Young, Richard and Judy Dockery. *African-American Folktales for Young Readers*. New York: August House Publishers, 1993. p. 23. "The Sizimweh." J398.2 A258 **A group of young girls learn that the little boy they tease can quickly become a hero.**