Folktales in Books

The best way to find folktales is to look for collections or anthologies. The library has a large number of these. They may be collections of tales from around the world, like *Best-loved Folktales of the World*, or from a single country, like *Irish Folktales* or *The Magic Egg and Other Tales from the Ukraine*.

To locate a collection, do a SUBJECT search in the Online Catalog on one or more of the following terms: folklore; legends; tales; fables; fairy tales; mythology. Unfortunately, these terms are used almost interchangeably, and so folktales may be found under any one of them. Look especially for country subdivisions.

Folktales on the Internet

Extensive collections of folktales are available on the Internet. The following sites are especially useful:

- **Tales of Wonder: Folk and Fairy Tales from Around the World**
  (members.nbci.com/darsie/tales/index.html)
- **Legends**
  (www.legends.dm.net)
- **Folklore and Mythology Electronic Texts**
  (www.pitt.edu/~dash/folktexts.html)
Reference Books
The Library has a good collection of reference works that might help place your particular folktale in some kind of historical and cultural context. You may make photocopies of appropriate sections.

General

*Encyclopedia of Fable* (Ref PN980 .S66 1998)
*Encyclopedia of Folklore and Literature* (Ref PN41 .E48)
*Folk Groups and Folklore Genres* (Ref G66 .F65 1986)
*Folklore: an Encyclopedia of Beliefs, Customs, Tales, Music, and Art* (Ref GR35 .F63)
*Myths* [analysis of mythical themes from around the world] (Ref BL315 .M95)
*Myths and Legends of the World* (Ref BL311 .M97 2000)
*Nursery Rhymes and Tales: their Origin and History* (Ref GR498 .A53 2000)

Special Topics

*A Celebration of Customs & Rituals of the World* (Ref GT85 .I54)
*The Folklore of World Holidays* (Ref GT3930 .F65)

Countries and Regions

*African Ceremonies* (Ref GN645 .B4 1999)
*Dictionary of African Mythology* (Ref BL2400 .S24 2000)
*Soul of Africa: Magical Rites and Traditions* (Ref BL2400 .M855 2000)
*Asian Mythologies* (Ref BL1005 .D5313 1993)
*Celtic Mythology* (Ref BL900 .G66 1997)
*Greek and Roman Mythology A to Z* (Ref BL715 .D26 1992)
*Norse Mythology A to Z* (Ref BL850 .D34 1991)

Periodical Articles

In *Library Lynx*, click on the *Articles* button. From there select *Expanded Academic*. This database has a large number of scholarly articles dealing with folklore. For best results, do a *keyword* search (blue panel on the left). Enter search phrases like the following:

- folklore and africa
- folklore and nigeria
- folklore and africa and nature
- folklore and birds