

# NES STORYTELLING STARTER KIT

## A Beginner Storyteller's Bibliography - (Suggestions from LANES Storytellers 2015)

Your choice of stories can bring great success to your telling. However, it is often difficult for beginning storytellers to take stories in books and turn them into oral stories to present to audiences when they first begin to tell stories. It is sometimes recommended that a good starting place is to look for stories that have already been told with success by established storytellers. Collections of ready-to tell tales are available. Several are listed below. It is recommended that storytellers have the courtesy to site the source of the stories when they use them. Though most of the stories in the sources listed are freely available, the tellers went to considerable work to craft them for use in their present forms. The following books include stories that have been told successfully by many beginning storytellers and advice on how to be a successful storyteller.

*Bruchac, Joseph:* **Tell Me A Tale: A book about storytelling.** Harcourt Brace and Company, 1997.

*Dailey, Sheila:* **Putting the World in a Nutshell: The Art of the Formula Tale.** H.W. Wilson, Bronx, New York, 1994.

*Davis, Donald:* **Telling Your Own Stories.** August House Publishers, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1993.

*De Las Casas, Dianne:* **The Story Biz Handbook.** Libraries Unlimited, Westport, Connecticut, 2008.

*Despain, Pleasant:* **Twenty-Two Splendid Tales to Tell.** August House Publishers, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1994.

*Ellis, Elizabeth:* **From Plot to Narrative.** Parkhurst Brothers Publishers, 2012.

*Geisler, Harlynn:* **Storytelling Professionally: The Nuts and Bolts of a Working Performer,** Libraries Unlimited, Inc. 1997.

*Gillard, Marni:* **Storyteller Storyteacher: Discovering the Power of Storytelling for Teaching and Living.** Stenhouse Publishers, York, Maine, 1996.

*Greene, Ellin:* **Storytelling Art and Technique,** Third Edition, R. R. Bowker, New Providence, New Jersey, 1996.

*Hamilton, Martha and Mitch Weiss:* **Children tell stories: Teaching and Using Storytelling in the Classroom,** Richard C. Owen Publishers, Katonah, New York, 2005.

*Hamilton, Martha and Mitch Weiss:* **Stories in my Pocket, Tales Children Can Tell.** Fulcrum Publishing, Golden, Colorado, 1996.

*Harrison, Annette:* **Easy-To-Tell Stories for Young Children,** National Storytelling Press, 1992.

*Holt, David and Mooney, Bill.* **Ready-To-Tell Tales and More Ready-To-Tell Tales,** August House, 1994, 2000.

*Lipman, Doug:* **Improving Your Storytelling: Beyond the Basics for All Who Tell Stories in Work or Play,** August House, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1999

*Livo, Norma and Sandra Rietz:* **Storytelling: Process and Practice,** Libraries Unlimited, 1986.

*MacDonald, Margaret Read:* **Storyteller's Startup Book: Finding, Learning, Performing and Using Folktales,** August House, 1993.

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- MacDonald, Margaret Read: Twenty Tellable Tales, Audience Participation Folktales for the Beginning Storyteller. H.W. Wilson Company, 1986.
- Maguire, Jack: The Power of Personal Storytelling, Spinning Tales to Connect with Others. Tarcher Parigee, 1998.
- Maguire, Jack: Creative Storytelling, Choosing, Inventing and Sharing Stories for Children, McGraw Hill, 1985
- Mooney, Bill: The Storyteller's Guide: Storytellers share advice for classroom, Boardroom, Showroom, Podium, Pulpit and Center Stage, August House, Inc., Little Rock, AR., 1996.
- Pearmain, Elisa: Once Upon a Time: Storytelling to Teach Character and Prevent Bullying (Character Development Group, 2006) *Lessons from 99 Multicultural Folktales for gr K-8*. .
- Rydell, Katy, Editor: A Beginner's Guide to Storytelling. National Storytelling Press, Jonesborough, Tennessee, 2003
- Sawyer, Ruth: The Way of the Storyteller, Penguin, 1975. (out of print, but available through Alibris On-Line Bookstore)
- Schimmel, Nancy. Just Enough to Make a Story: a Sourcebook for Storytelling, Berkeley, CA: Sisters Choice Press, 1982, 1989.
- Tashjian, Virginia, Juba This and Juba That. Little, Brown & Co. 1969. Reprints by other co.
- Thompson, Stith: One Hundred Folktales. Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Indiana, 1974.
- Yashinsky, Dan: Suddenly They Heard Footsteps, Storytelling for the Twenty-First Century, University Press of Mississippi, Jackson, MS, 2006.
- Yolen, Jane. Favorite Folktales from Around the World, Pantheon, New York, New York, 1986.

## Three others for business storytellers:

- Dietz, Karen & Silverman, Lori: Business Storytelling for Dummies  
David Hutchens: *Circle of 9 Muses*  
Simmons, Annette: The Story Factor

## And this is a FYI article:

- Story of My Life/ How Narrative Creates Personality -Julie Beck, The Atlantic, August 2015  
<http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2015/08/life-stories-narrative-psychology-redemption-mental-health/400796/>

## Additional resources:

[www.storybug.net](http://www.storybug.net)

The Art of Storytelling in 125 podcasts features interviews with professional storytellers with Eric Wolf <http://www.artofstorytellingshow.com/past-guests/>  
[www.ted.com/talks/tags/storytelling](http://www.ted.com/talks/tags/storytelling) these TED Talks explore the topic of Storytelling

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An important note from Simon Brooks: “Make sure, that as a story collector, you write down the source of the story on your own notes. I cannot think how many times I have regretted not doing this when I first started!”