

NEWSLETTER



Folktales, the wisdom of people

By Karinny Lemos

Let's go back a few years ago and have a nice talk around a campfire, where we were introduced to the magical world of the folk tales.



and beliefs, which can involve; paranormal characters, fairies and sometimes talking animals. That's why it's so fascinating! From generation to generation, we've been exposed to stories that can make you immerse in a local culture which is an excellent way to know deeply a country. Based on my experiences, I decided to make this article about some of them, so you can have a bite of this incredible world.

Technically, folktales are defined as stories that have been passed down from person to person for many years. It speaks about day to day life spoken by common people, so it is influenced by their culture



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ROMANIA



PRICOLICI

These are undead creatures who rise up from their grave to torment the people just like the strigoi. However, the creature takes the form of a ravenous wolf. People who have lived a life of sin are likely to become a pricolici as a curse.

Pricolici is a term use to separate them from the average werewolf. They are faster and stronger than the standard type. There are also stories that they can retain their sanity even after transforming.

How to Determine a Pricolici: The corpse should be facing down and there should also be some blood presence on their lips. Like the Doppelsauger, an infant who thumb sucked would have a chance of being this creature if he dies.

STRIGOI

The eponymous Strigoi in Romanian mythology are troubled spirits that are said to have risen from the grave. They are attributed with the abilities to transform into an animal, become invisible, and to gain vitality from the blood of their victims. Bram Stoker's Dracula has become the modern interpretation of the Strigoi through their historic links with vampirism.

Strigoi may have originated from the Latin terms strix and striga, the root of which relates to owls as well as for blood parasites such as the

Strigeidida. Cognates are found throughout the Romance languages, such as the Italian word strega or the Venetian word striga which mean "witch". In French, stryge means a bird-woman who sucks the blood of children. The name strigoi is related to the Romanian verb striga, which means "to scream".



One of the most plausible explanations for vampire myths is the disease porphyria, which occurred frequently in Transylvania. Porphyria is a blood-related condition where a vital function of blood cells is lost. This results in rapid tissue damage, giving the victim a ghastly pallor and enlarged teeth due to gum damage. The effects of porphyria are greatly amplified upon exposure to the sun, making sun light likely threat victims would try to avoid at all costs. It is also believed that certain strains of porphyria are associated with neurological conditions, which would result in insanity.

JAPAN

THE MOST FOOLISH TRAVELER IN THE WORLD

“Once upon a time, a foolish traveler went on a journey. Why was he foolish? Well, because he was tricked by everyone he met.”

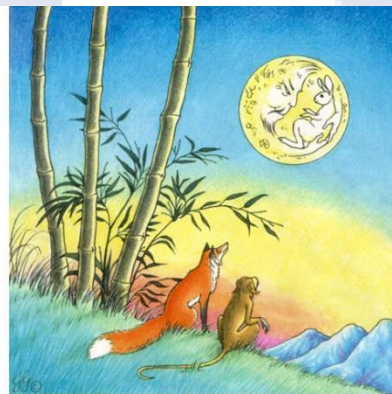


This tale is all about **charity**, telling the story of a traveler who helps everybody he met in his way, giving his money, his clothes, including parts of his own body. Because of that, everybody just tricked him to take advantage. In the end, he is left just with the head without the eyes with a little piece of paper saying “fool” that he couldn’t see, so he thought it was a beautiful gift. He cried with happiness and some say he’s still happy and smiling from whenever he is.



THE RABBIT ON THE MOON

This is the tale about a rabbit who lives in the moon. Japanese folk says that everynight if you look to the moon, you can see a rabbit pouding “mochi” (a tradicional japanese cake) to the Man on the Moon. They say it was a long time ago when the Man on the Moon disguised as a beggar came down to the earth and asked for some food. There was a fox who brought him some fish from the stream and a monkey who brought him some fruits from the trees. The rabbit who could just offer grass, decided to throw himself onto a fire to offer his meat to the beggar.



To honor the Rabbit's **kindness**, the Man on the Moon carried the Rabbit back to the moon to live with him.

THE FROG ON THE WELL

“A frog in a well cannot discuss the ocean, because he is limited by the size of his well...”



On a hot summer’s day a wise old turtle was out for a morning stroll. As he was meandering through a meadow, he came upon a frog who lived in a well. As he looks down into the well the frog boasts to the turtle: “I am the master of this well! I command everything here from corner to corner. Aren’t you impressed!?” The turtle then tells the frog about the ocean and blows the frog’s little mind.



That’s a tale about **motivation**. Sometimes we are so stuck on our own problems and responsibilities that we just forget to look around and find the innumerable opportunities that life is giving to us day by day.

PORTUGAL

THE LEGEND OF BARCELOS ROOSTER

Citizens had become upset by an unsolved crime so terrible it had people scared to leave their houses. An impoverished pilgrim had been passing through Barcelos in order to fulfill a promise he made during a Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, in Spain. Despite his explanation for being in Barcelos, he was still arrested and condemned to hang. He refused to go quietly and asked to be taken to the judge who sentenced him to death. The authorities granted his wish and brought him to the magistrate's house while he was having a banquet with friends.



The pilgrim swore his innocence and pointed to a cooked rooster on the table. He claimed that the rooster would crow at the hour of his hanging as proof. The judge ignored the statement of innocence. When the time for judgment came, the pilgrim went to the gallows to accept his punishment. Right before, the rooster stood upon the table in front of the crowd and crowed just as the pilgrim predicted. The judge realized the mistake he had made and rushed to save the pilgrim, he was found still alive with Santiago holding his feet saving him from his death sentence. Later, the pilgrim would return to Barcelos.



What does the rooster symbolize?

- faith,
- honesty,
- justice,
- and luck

“ANGEL HAIR”



It happened on November 2, 1959, after the passage of a UFO, an abundant shower of “angel hair” was recorded in the Portuguese city of Évora. Several fragments were collected and subjected to laboratory examination, but for about eighteen years the reports have been kept secret by the authorities. The report is signed by four scientists linked to the Center for Astronomical Studies and Unusual Phenomena of Porto, whose names are not disclosed. However, the story of the experiences and the photomicrographs made have been observed by numerous scientists from different countries, arousing the greatest interest because in one of the fragments examined it was identified as a “strange being”, totally unknown from terrestrial biology, which can become the first detected test of extraterrestrial life.

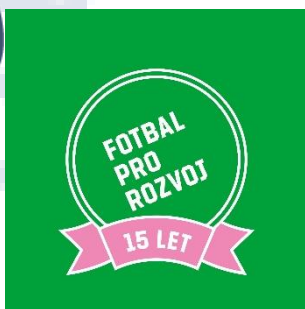


New Projects coming...



Imagine a place where you can have equality between all kinds of people. Where everybody have espace to speak and listen, have fun and learn, argue and be respected. This world can perfectly fit in football matches!

We are very excited to be part of this partnership between **DDM Kamarád** and **FOTBAL PRO ROZVOJ** with the project Football3, coming to Česká Třebová to put the kids together and share some important values for social living.



Football3 stands for fair play, teamwork, equality and respect. Those principles are as important in the game as the knowledge of football in this modality.

It was named after the 3 “half”-times of the match:

- In the first half, the two teams agree on the rules, the match takes place. In the second half and in the third “half” the two teams analyse the game together and agree on the number of fair play points for each team.

It is important to mention that there are no referees on the pitch. They are replaced by mediators who know football3 rules very well.

If everything goes the proper way they do not interfere in the course of the game.

Before the match, the mediators deliver a briefing for 2 members delegated from each team, and then, before the match starts, the mediators have a discussion with all the players of the teams to confirm fixed rules and agree on the optional rules that can be pretty much everything they agree on. This constructive discussions help to raise awareness of fair play moments, and look back on controversial situations, also facilitates the formation of good relations between the given groups.

By the end of the day, The bigger objective of football3 is to promote key life skills and empower youth to become leaders in their communities. With its strong emphasis on dialogue and conflict resolution, F3 provides players and mediators with knowledge and life skills.

This is why projects like this are so important in developing a youngster's character. Together we hope to be part of a team that aims for a fairer and respectful future for all!





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