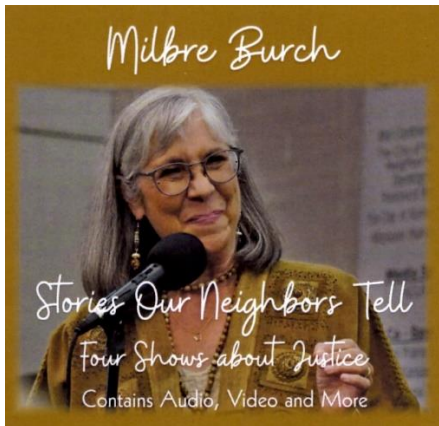


# The 2024 *Storytelling World* Resource Awards

Below are the 2024 awards in random order. Note that for this final awards year, the previously required five-year publication date limit was lifted. Any storytelling resource that had not been nominated in past years was eligible for consideration.

## Winners



### Stories Our Neighbors Tell: Four Shows about Justice

by Milbre Burch

Kind Crone Productions, [www.kindcrone.com](http://www.kindcrone.com)

A USB drive (both audio and video) suitable for adults and teens that includes the following:

--*Tales from Beyond the Ban: Folktales from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Syria, Sudan, and Yemen*

--*Sometimes I Sing*, an original character monologue (set in 1901) about domestic violence.

--*Changing Skins: Tales about Gender, Identity, and Humanity*, showcases the wealth and persistence of transgender folktales and folkways around the world, and other current issues.

--*Lucille Says*, a monologue written for the virtual Remembrance and Renewal storytelling festival.

Commentaries for all shows are included.

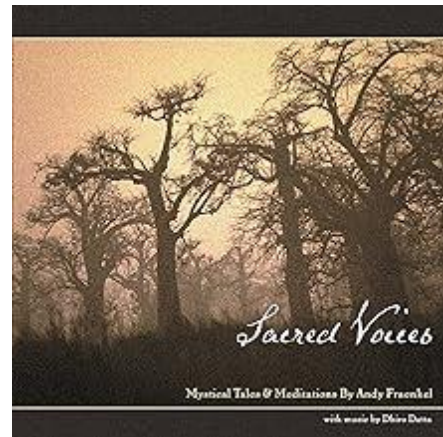


### Cuentos from the Americas

by Jasmin Cardenas

[www.jasmincardenas.com](http://www.jasmincardenas.com)

A collection of ancient myths, legends, folktales & music. (In both Spanish and English)

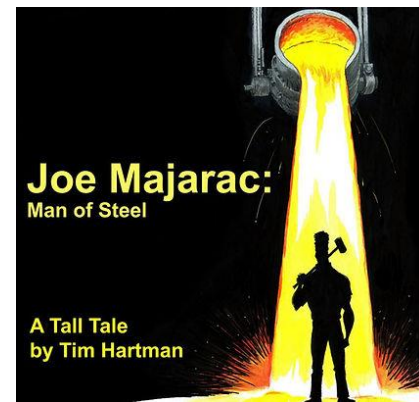


### Sacred Voices: Mystical Tales & Meditations

by Andy Fraenkel

[www.mahabharata-project.com/order/](http://www.mahabharata-project.com/order/)

A storytelling journey into some of the world's sacred traditions.

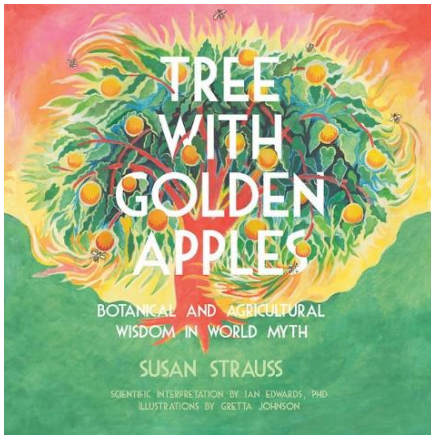


### Joe Majarac: Man of Steel

by Tim Hartman

[www.timhartman.com](http://www.timhartman.com)

When steel ruled the “rust belt” of America, and clouds of smoke lay thick over its valleys and towns, a giant’s footsteps could be heard echoing through the dusty streets. Tim brings to life the powerful legend of Joe Majarac with the standards of heroism, self-sacrifice, and loyalty that Joe personified. (Joe Majarac was to the steel industry what John Henry was to the railroads.) This was designed as a history-based program for grades K-6.

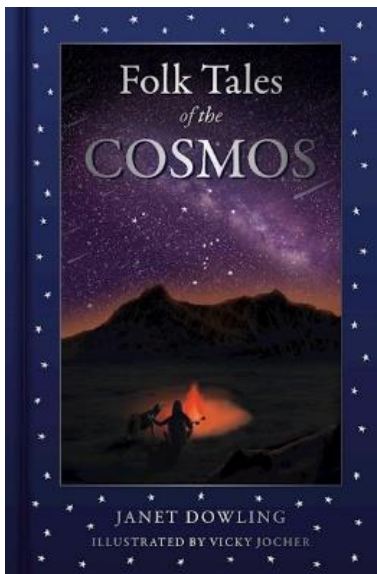


## Tree with Golden Apples: Botanical and Agricultural Wisdom in World Myth

by Susan Strauss

Fulcrum Publishing, [www.fulcrumbooks.com](http://www.fulcrumbooks.com)

A collection of folktales that offer simple slices of folk wisdom and science connections. Based on the wisdom of the chlorophyll molecule, which has twelve points, this book is filled with twelve myths from world cultures revealing both the beauty and truth offered by the plant kingdom—by Nature. Each myth is followed by a short scientific vignette and is aided by short explorations of the storyteller's art that can enhance sharing and telling. Two additional anecdotes demonstrate how archetypes can be observed moving through our personal experiences and are not exclusively the domain of myth and science.



## Folk Tales of the Cosmos

by Janet Dowling

History Press, [www.thehistorypress.co.uk](http://www.thehistorypress.co.uk)

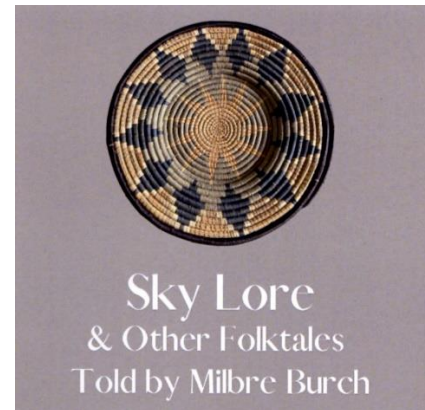
A compelling collection of folk tales of the night sky. This book explores different stories from other cultures for the same stars that helped the ancients in planting, navigating, preparing for winter, and knowing when the beasts migrate across the plains.



## Earthsong: A Celebration of Mother Earth, by Heather Forest

Story Arts, Inc., <https://tinyurl.com/bp6rttw4>

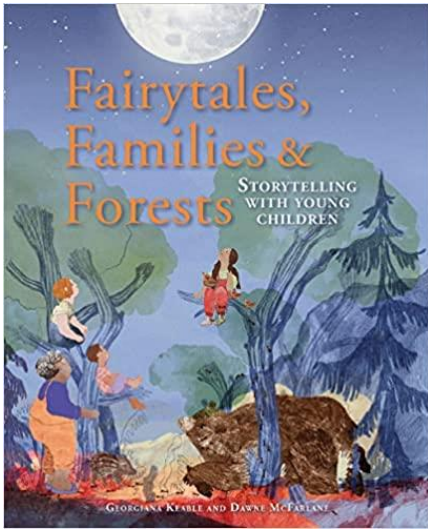
This USB drive holds a fifty-three minute virtual performance of EARTHSONG, a musical monologue for adults about planetary ecology written and composed by storyteller Heather Forest and directed by Megan Wells. Forest's musical compositions and storytelling take listeners through the cosmological, geological, and anthropological history of life on Earth. Spiced with both science and whimsical humor, it celebrates Mother Earth, inspires reverence for the web of life, and encourages planetary citizenship.



## Sky Lore & Other Folktales, by Milbre Burch

Kind Crone Productions, [www.kindcrone.com](http://www.kindcrone.com)

A collection of Burch's retellings of oral tales in USB drive (audio) format, suitable for elementary-school-age children through adults. The first group includes an introduction and eight folktales (from Japan, Brazil, China, Botswana, Ukraine, Turkey, West Africa, and Estonia), and provides folkloric explanations of the presence of clouds, stars, solar and lunar eclipses, the moon's sheen and its placement in the sky, the rising of the sun, and the origin of the Milky Way. (Lesson plans are included.) The second group is an assortment of tales from Taiwan, Brittany (France), Haiti, the US, and Turkey.

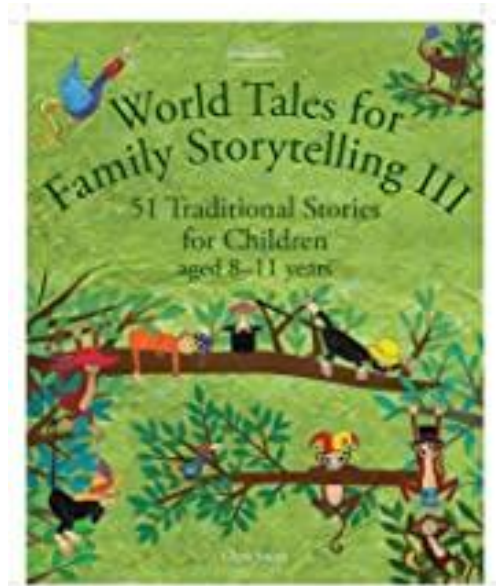


### **Fairytale, Families & Forests**

by Georgiana Keable and Dawne McFarlane

Hawthorn Press, [www.hawthornpress.com](http://www.hawthornpress.com)

A jam-packed book filled with stunning stories, singing games, and rhymes of nature for ages 0-7 years. Extensive information concerning telling for this age group is included.

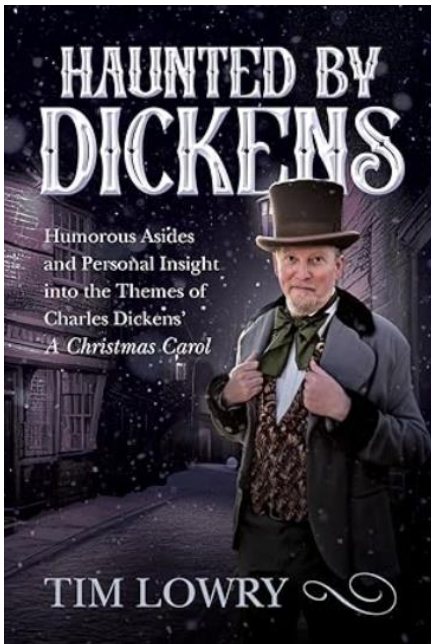


### **World Tales for Family Storytelling III**

by Chris Smith

Hawthorn Press, [www.hawthornpress.com](http://www.hawthornpress.com)

A collection of 51 traditional stories for children aged 8-11 years. The stories are crafted in a manner for adults to tell to children or for the children to learn and tell to others.



### **Haunted by Dickens**

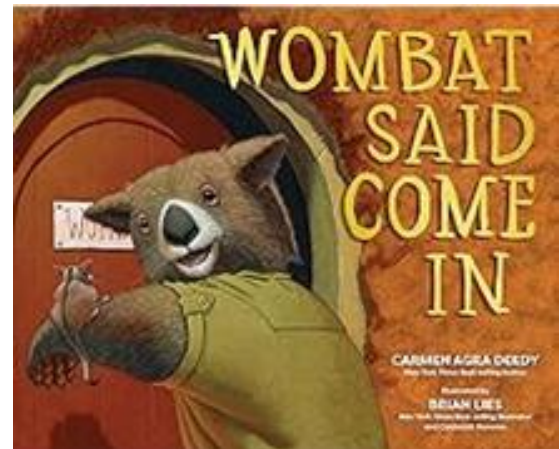
by Tim Lowry

Amazon, <https://a.co/d/3tJH2iW>

Humorous asides and personal insight into the themes of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. From ghosts and geezers to hope for all humanity, this is the most iconic holiday story ever told. In a mere 30,000 words or so, Dickens' characters are at their best and worst during the merriest of seasons.

Lowry has performed this over 150 times (more than

Dickens himself), and he shares an abundance of information about his performance experiences and about the story itself.



### **Wombat Said Come In**

by Carmen Agra Deedy

Peachtree, [www.peachtree-online.com](http://www.peachtree-online.com)

The story of a kindhearted wombat who offers refuge to a range of animal creatures needing shelter from an Australian bushfire. Young listeners can learn the importance of fellowship and empathy, and older readers can get a glimpse of the unique environmental challenges presented by the country's annual bushfire season.



## Put Your Shoes On & Get Ready!

by Raphael G. Warnock

Penguin Random House

[www.penguinrandomhouse.com](http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com)

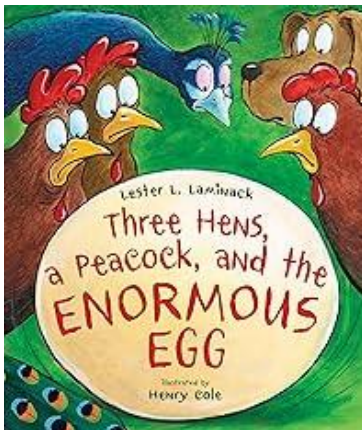
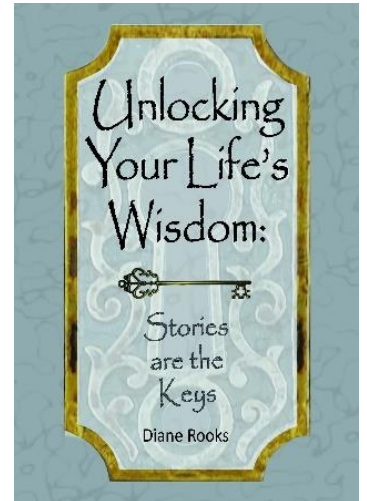
The inspirational story of how Raphael Warnock became a pastor and the first Black senator from Georgia.

## Unlocking Your Life's Wisdom: Stories Are the Keys

by Diane Rooks

LAD Publishing, [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com)

A collection of stories filled with memories and life lessons. Diane Rooks explores the experiences in her life that helped her learn important information leading to understanding and growth. Readers can be inspired to look back at their own lives to discover significant events that influenced their life's journey. Such changes aren't always obvious at the time they occur, but looking back at them can reveal the wisdom learned with each one—especially for those who take the time to tell a story about it. Each chapter looks at a different time period, starting with pre-school stories and progressing to current times. Some lessons are humorous, some are touching, and some are tragic, but all of them are opportunities for healing and growth. Even though such an examination can be difficult and rocky at times, the results can make the journey worthwhile.



## Three Hens, a Peacock, and the Enormous Egg

by Lester L. Laminack

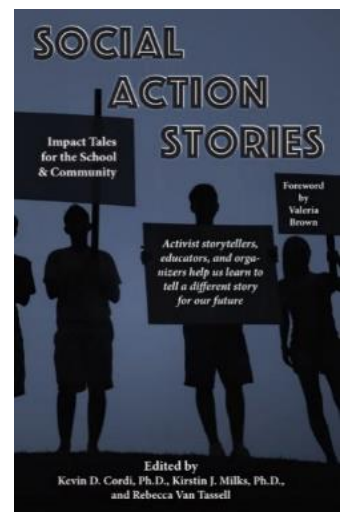
Peachtree, [www.peachtree-online.com](http://www.peachtree-online.com)

A sequel to Laminack's earlier barnyard story of three hens and a peacock. In this book for very young listeners, the animals work together to rescue an enormous egg that has fallen from a truck in the road in front of their farm. The story addresses the challenges that can confront groups who are trying to work together for a common purpose.

## Social Action Stories

Parkhurst Brothers, [www.parkhurstbrothers.com](http://www.parkhurstbrothers.com)

A collection of social action stories by authors/tellers: Michael Williams, Lyn Ford, Sherrill Knezel, Kevin Cordi, Loren Niemi, Brittany Brazzel, Beverly Stuckwisch, Dan Yashinsky, Ursula Wolfe-Rocca, Sabrina Joy Stevens, Wendy Welch, Anne Schwartz, Sherry Norfolk, Alejandra Ivanovich, Jennifer Rudick Zunikoff, Kit Golan, Adelina Aragon, Rebecca Van Tassell, Kirstin Milks, and Christy Marie Kent. (Edited by Cordi, Milks, and Van Tassell)



# Honors



## Perpetual Calendar

CD by Andy Offutt Irwin

[www.andyirwin.com](http://www.andyirwin.com)

A collection of stories and original songs for all ages. Two stories relate to childhood, and a longer story describes an older woman making her way through societal changes while finding comfort from her dearest friends and extended family.



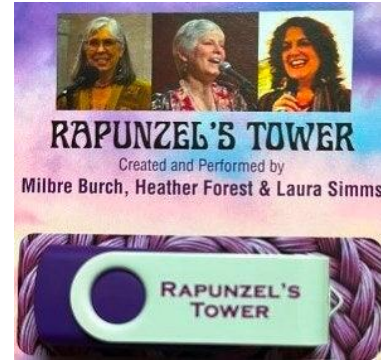
## Simple, Clever & Wise

CD by Laura K Deal

[www.LauraDeal.com](http://www.LauraDeal.com)

A collection of eight folktales from around the world that feature at least one of three character types.

Some are unsophisticated, others have their wits about them, and some succeed because of their kind and generous hearts. This collection will appeal to older children and adults. Two of the stories were recorded live at the Women's Storytelling Festival, produced by Better Said Than Done (in March 2023). Parental guidance is suggested for the live recordings.



## Rapunzel's Tower

by Milbre Burch, Heather Forest, Laura Simms

<https://tinyurl.com/3vmmtucj>

A treasure for story crafters, especially those analyzing various versions of well-known tales to achieve their own creation. Highly recommended:

Explore the provided 43-page .pdf file first.

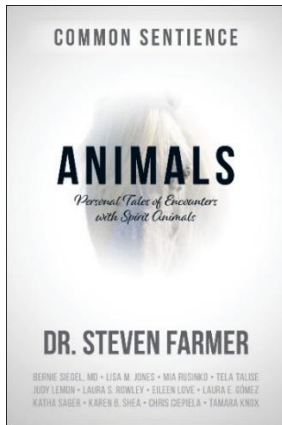
This resource is composed of four unique versions of the classic Grimm's fairytale *Rapunzel* reimagined as story, song, and poetry. The USB drive, accessible in cars or on computers, contains a 56-minute virtual video concert, an audio track, and a commentary and bibliography by the artists. The commentary provides a backstage look at three experienced artists' processes, and it offers practical insights into revisioning classic stories for contemporary listeners.



## Two Youths, Two Girls and a Mirror

by Richard Martin, [www.tellatale.eu/tales/videos/](http://www.tellatale.eu/tales/videos/)

An Iraqi folk tale of two young people learning one of life's most important lessons. It is a sample story in a collection of more than 140 traditional tales performed by Richard Martin. The gallery is a free and permanent resource with a new recording uploaded each month. This collection showcases a wide variety of tales from around the world, told mostly in English and a few in German. The tales range from the comic to the profound, and source notes and pedagogical suggestions are provided. Information for the ages of listeners is offered, along with a variety of additional items of interest for story performers.

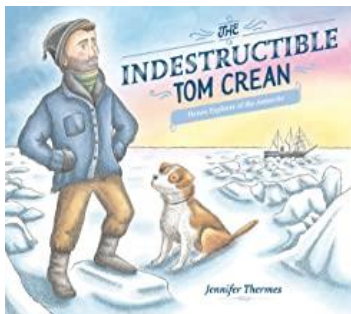


## **Animals: Personal Tales of Encounters with Spirit Animals**

Collected by Steven Farmer

Sacred Stories Publishing, [www.sacredstories.com](http://www.sacredstories.com)

A collection of 35 true stories about profound encounters with the animal world. The intent is to share with mature thinkers how these spiritual allies can guard, aid, heal, and guide others in the most unexpected and delightful ways as they learn how to receive wisdom and insight via the animal kingdom. Contributors are: Steven Farmer, Laura S. Rowley, Bernie Siegel, Tela Talise, John Paul (Eagle Heart) Fischbach, Emily McCay, Judy Lemon, Laura E. Gomez, Katha Sager, Mia Rusinko, Chris Ciepiela, Thomas C. McGarrity, Karen B. Shea, Tamara Knox, Eileen Love, Katheen Crow, Saryon Michael White, Joanne Halverson, Gina Drellack, Misa Myers, Stephanie Red Feather, Yolanda Tong, Adair Wilson Heitmann, Robert V. Gerard, Samantha Roe, Stacy Corely, Lisa Marie Byars, Nancy Proulx, Anne Cederberg, Helen Brennand, Florentine Bisschops, Kate Neligan, Lisa M. Jones, Szilvia Bartha, and Dan and Sara Beaupre.



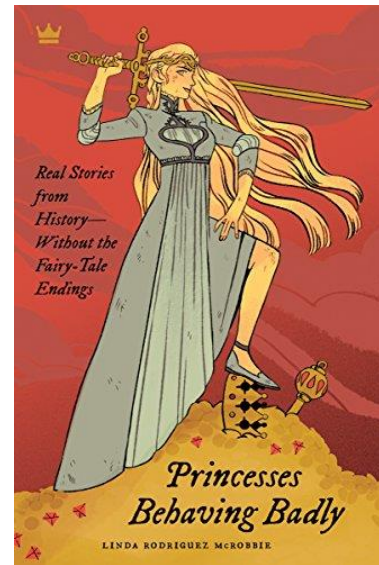
## **The Indestructible Tom Crean**

by Jennifer Thermes

Penguin Random House

[www.penguinrandomhouse.com](http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com)

The incredible true story of Tom Crean as he and his crew explored the Antarctic. His heroic acts of courage, perseverance, and teamwork are mind-boggling.

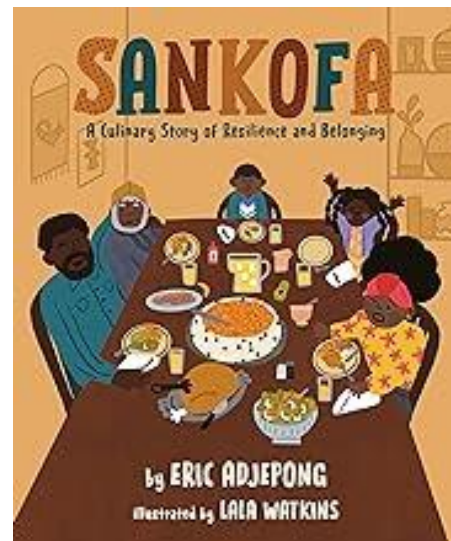


## **Princesses Behaving Badly**

by Linda Rodriguez McRobbie

Quirk Books, [www.quirkbooks.com](http://www.quirkbooks.com)

“Miniature biographies” from history—without the fairy-tale endings. This book offers numerous descriptions of princesses’ lives that could be crafted into tellable stories. The narratives encompass the work of many dedicated historians who strived to offer accurate information about these extremely unusual women.



## **Sankofa**

by Eric Adjepong

Penguin Workshop, [www.penguinrandomhouse.com](http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com)

A culinary story of resilience and belonging. For a potluck lunch at his school, young Kofi has been tasked to bring a dish that best represents his family’s culture. With the help of his grandfather, he learns about his people’s resilience in the face of hardship and how food has always been an integral part of their culture.

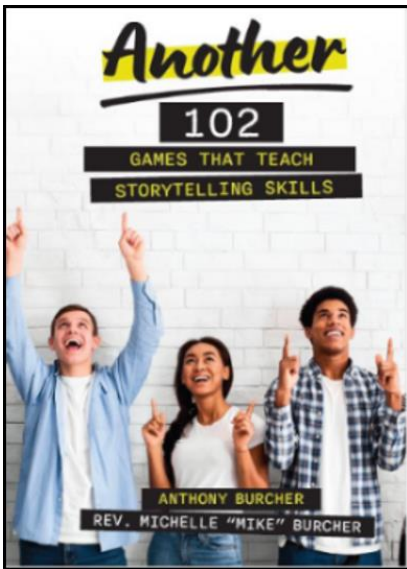


## Arletis, Abuelo, and the Message in a Bottle

by Lea Aschkenas

Star Bright Books, [www.starbrightbooks.com](http://www.starbrightbooks.com)

The story (based on a true happening) of two strangers connecting through a message in a bottle. Their experience inspired a visit that forged a lasting friendship that expanded both their worlds.



## Another 102 Games That Teach Storytelling Skills

by Anthony and Michelle “Mike” Burcher

Healthy Learning, [www.healthylearning.com](http://www.healthylearning.com)

A collection of games and activities for helping students to become comfortable speaking in front of a group, to discover new or lost personal stories, or to challenge experienced storytellers. This is a sequel to the Burchers’ first storytelling games book.



## Munawwar and Abdul-Hayy: What My Worst Enemy Taught Me About Gratitude

A story from the book, *Fight Flight, or Freeze: A Love Story*, by Jim Enderle

Red Engine Press, [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com)

The story of a Navy Hospital Corpsman deployed to Iraq who discovered that a detained al-Qaeda militant had obtained his family's address, and the emotional aftermath.

This story is also available as a TEDx Talks episode: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7SIuC87ANg&t=189s>



## Baptism at Second Creek

by Donna Marie Todd

<https://donnamarietodd.com>

A redemption story from the hills of West Virginia, filled with images of snake handlers, poverty, fire and brimstone preachers, and old gospel songs. This personal narrative came from a seed memory Donna

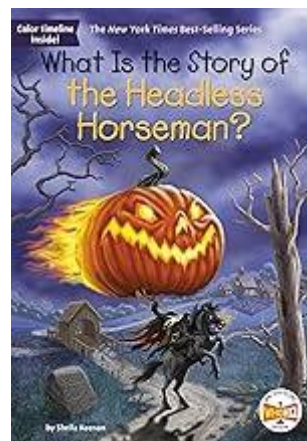
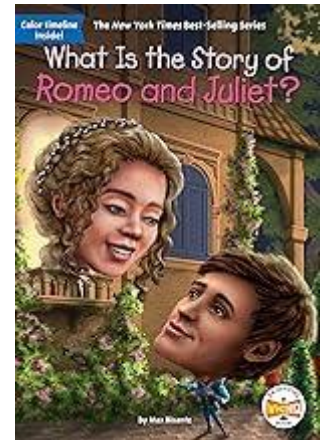
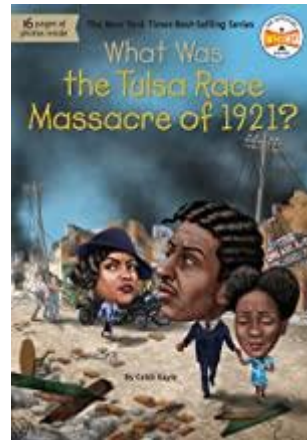
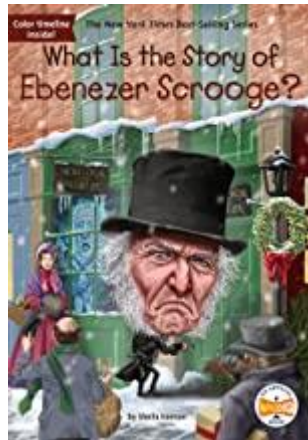
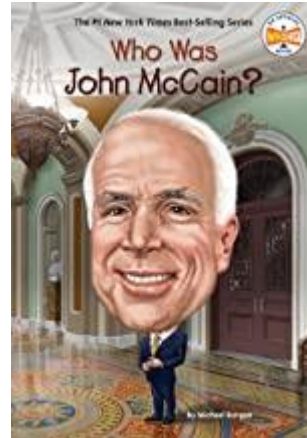
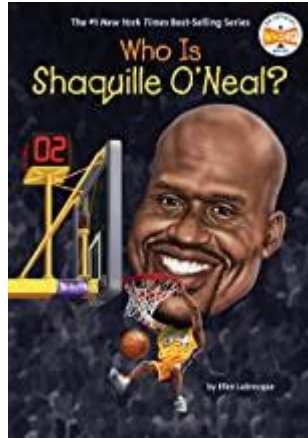
Marie has from the early days of her father’s ministry as a United Methodist pastor in the hills of West Virginia. Her story’s intent is to remind us that God sees us through the eyes of deep love and that salvation comes when we seek and are ready to claim God’s “forever love” as our own.

## Honored Items for Story CRAFTERS

Special Note: A frequent request received from *Storytelling World* readers has been for us to suggest resources containing information for crafting new stories. The resources below provide samples of this type of information. As is, they are not yet tellable stories, but they offer text for varied and creative compositions.

Check out the Penguin site for numerous additional titles that might relate to the person or experience you want to showcase.

Penguin Workshop, [www.penguinrandomhouse.com](http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com)



**Thank you for your participation and involvement in this awards program for the last 30 years! We hope all of you continue exploring the magic of storytelling!**